

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Fourth Session
(Fourteenth Lok Sabha)



(Vol. VII contains Nos. 1 to 10)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

Price · Rs 50.00

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

11.01 hrs.

Friday, March 11, 2005/Phalgun 20, 1926 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]

REFERENCE BY THE SPEAKER

Platinum Jubilee celebration of Dandi March

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : As the hon. Members are aware, on 12th March, 2005, the nation celebrates the platinum jubilee of the Dandi March. On this historic occasion, the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi alongwith a group of patriotic volunteers challenged the imposition of salt tax by the British Government. The non-violent protest through the medium of salt satyagraha had an appeal across regional, class and ethnic boundaries throughout the country.

On this occasion, we recall the spirit of idealism and self-sacrifice that characterized our freedom struggle and pay our tributes to the memory of the Father of the Nation and the non-violent satyagrahis whose heroic efforts led to the Independence of the country.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Formulation of National Policy on Subsidies

+

*121. SHRI B. VINOD KUMAR :

SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been consistent increase in subsidies in the initial years of the post reform period;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the amount of subsidy provided, sector-wise during the last three years;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to reduce subsidy in fertilizers, petroleum and foodgrains;

(d) whether Union Government propose to formulate National Policy on subsidies;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the impact of such policy on the consumers?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (f) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Central Government subsidies, as a proportion of GDP has not consistently increased in the initial years of the reform period. On the other hand it fell steadily between 1990-91 and 1995-96. The details of the subsidies, since 1990-91, is given in the table below:—

Year	Total Subsidies	of which		Total Subsidies	of which	
		Food	Fertilizer		Food	Fertilizer
		(Rs. crore)			(As per cent of GDP)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1990-91	9133	2450	4389	1.61	0.43	0.77

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1991-92	10183	2850	5185	1.56	0.44	0.79
1992-93	10824	2800	5796	1.45	0.37	0.77
1993-94	11805	5537	4562	1.35	0.64	0.53
1994-95	11854	5100	5769	1.17	0.50	0.57
1995-96	12666	5377	6735	1.07	0.45	0.57
1996-97	15499	6066	7578	1.13	0.44	0.55
1997-98	18540	7900	9918	1.22	0.52	0.65
1998-99	23593	9100	11596	1.36	0.52	0.67
1999-2000	24487	9434	13244	1.26	0.49	0.68
2000-01	26838	12060	13800	1.28	0.58	0.66
2001-02	31210	17499	12595	1.37	0.77	0.55
2002-03*	43533	24176	11015	1.77	0.98	0.45
2003-04*	44256	25160	11847	1.60	0.91	0.43
2004-05(RE)*	46514	25800	15662	1.50	0.83	0.50
2005-06(BE)*	47432	26200	16254	1.36	0.75	0.47

* Includes subsidy on petroleum.

Source: Expenditure Budget Volume 1, various issues

Note: Includes only explicit subsidy relating to food, fertilizer, petroleum, grants to NAFED for MIS/PPS, import/export of sugar edible oils etc., interest subsidies and others, recorded in the Budget.

(c) Based on the recommendations of the expert bodies appointed by the Government and assessment of impact by various organisations, the system of subsidization in all the three areas i.e. food, fertilizer and petroleum, have been changed in the last few years. Targeted Public Distribution System, which targets food subsidy to the poor (people below poverty line), has been in operation since 1997. Fertilizer subsidy is being restructured in a phased manner since April 1, 2003 on the lines recommended by

the Expenditure Reforms Commission. Consequent upon dismantling of the administered price mechanism of petroleum products, petroleum subsidies have been included in the Budget from 2002-03.

(d) to (f) The National Common Minimum Programme (NCMP) lays down the broad framework of policies of the Government. Targeting subsidies sharply at the poor and truly needy like small and marginal farmers, farm labour

and the urban poor is one important component of the NCMP. Towards this end, a report "Central Government Subsidies in India" was presented to the Parliament on December 23, 2004. Government proposes to evolve a national policy for targeting subsidies based on discussions and consultations with various stakeholders and after a careful assessment of impact of such a move on the consumers.

SHRI B. VINOD KUMAR : Mr. Speaker Sir, I have gone through the reply placed before the House.

The National Common Minimum Programme had targeted subsidy sharply at the poor and truly needy like small and marginal farmers. Towards this end, a Report was submitted by the Minister of Finance before this House on the last day of the winter Session which was titled "Central Government Subsidies in India". I have gone through the Report.

Sir, the social and economic services have been categorised under three-tier hierarchy, namely, Merit-I, Merit-II and non-Merit in terms of their desirability for subsidisation. Fertiliser subsidy and other subsidies to farmers do not figure in either Merit-I or Merit-II lists and presumably, they have been included under non-Merit category.

Sir, through you, I would like the Minister to please state the stand of the Government which it proposes to take on the categorisation of fertiliser and other agricultural subsidies in the wake of the vast multitude of farmers committing suicide.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, categorisation made by the National Institute is a categorisation based on what the economists call as the externalities of subsidies. So, I do not think we need to gauge whether it should be Merit-I or Merit-II or non-Merit. There are all technical terms which economists use based on the externalities of subsidies. What you need to ask is the policy of the Government and what you would like to be the policy of the Government. I have placed the Paper. We have had discussion in the Consultative Committee. I would be very happy if the hon.

Speaker fixes a discussion on the Paper so that we could discuss all these matters. But the Government policy has been spelt out in my Budget speech that we believe that subsidies offer a measure of protection to the poor and we believe that food subsidies and fertiliser subsidies must continue given the context of our economic development.

SHRI B. VINOD KUMAR : Since our subsidies on agricultural inputs are way below the prescribed levels under the WTO Treaty, is it not desirable to give more subsidy to agricultural inputs such as fertiliser and other inputs?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : We are providing subsidies on fertilizers. If the hon. Member will kindly look at Annexure - 3.1 of Volume-I of the Expenditure Budget - copies are available to all the hon. Members - he will find that on page 72, the subsidies for fertilizers are listed under major subsidies and in the Budget for 2005-06, the subsidy for indigenous urea fertilizer will be Rs.10,110 crore. For imported urea fertilizer, it is Rs.944 crore. Then, in the sale of decontrolled fertilizer, Budget 2005-06 provides concession to the farmers to the tune of Rs.5200 crore. So, we are providing subsidies on fertilizers which are inputs to farmers.

SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to request the hon. Minister to kindly inform in detail the sectors in which the Government proposes to cut sharply the subsidies and the manner in which the Government plans to help the small farmers and the poor.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : No decision has been taken so far. All that the Government has done is that it has placed a paper on the Table of the House for discussion. I have said that no decision will be taken until all stakeholders are consulted and until careful deliberations are done.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : Sir, in the answer given by the hon. Minister, he has mentioned that the Government proposes to evolve a National Policy for Targeting Subsidy. My question is this: How does the Government envisage a policy of targeting subsidy? Does

the Government believe in the list of BPL families provided by the State Governments? Mostly these numbers are exaggerated. Even from a prosperous district like Balasore, from where I come, the figure is 84 per cent.- So, my question is this: What policy does the Government like to adopt in order to prepare a correct BPL list?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, it is unfortunate that in some States, perhaps in some districts of some States, the numbers are exaggerated. As the hon. Member says, an exaggerated number of BPL families means that subsidies are not being targeted towards the poor. The non-poor are perhaps benefiting from these subsidies. These are matters in regard to which the Central Government can do little. The State Governments should themselves realise that exaggerated figures of BPL numbers is a drain on the resources of the people and the State as a whole. The hon. Member should, in fact, address this issue in his constituency, in his district, and prevail upon his Government to do a revision of the people who are receiving cards to which they are not entitled to. I think he should address this complaint to his own Government and see that these numbers are brought down.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : We are doing that. We are helping you in this regard.

MR. SPEAKER : This is the kind of camaraderie which is needed.

SHRI PRABODH PANDA : Sir, the hon. Minister is aware of the fact that the developed countries, particularly the G-7 countries, are providing large subsidies in the agriculture sector, whereas in our country the subsidy is less in the agriculture sector. Subsidy helps the commodities in reaching the market at a cheaper rate. So, for the international market as well as for the national market, more subsidies in the agriculture sector are required. Is the Government envisaging more subsidies in the agriculture sector so that we could compete with others in the international market?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, I thought that the Question was about subsidies to farmers so that they

could have subsidies in the inputs, which is the fertilizer subsidy. There is another form of subsidy, which is given through determining appropriate procurement price. An appropriate procurement price is also one form of subsidy. It is the producers' subsidy. An appropriate subsidy in fertilizer is an input subsidy. These two subsidies are being provided.

What the hon. Member wants is export subsidy in order to make the Indian products competitive in the world markets. I think, as a policy, that is a debatable proposition. Some subsidies are indeed being provided from time to time.

For example, when we had to draw upon the huge reserves of foodgrains that had been built up a couple of years ago, some subsidy had to be provided so that our products were competitive in the world market. But for the medium to long term, I do not believe that subsidising export is a way to make your product competitive in the world market.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : The small farmers' agricultural produces including plantation produces are very much competitive for exports. For example, our pepper and cardamom are there. We produce the best quality pepper and cardamom in the world, but as the price abroad and here is the same, we are not in a position to export. In the case of natural rubber, this happened two years back. The then Government allowed a subsidy for export which really was helpful for the farmers. Will the Government think of a subsidy for plantation produces like cardamom and pepper and even for tea and coffee?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I said that it may become necessary in the short term. In respect of specific crops, in a specific year, we provide a certain subsidy in order to dispose of accumulated stocks. When that happens, yes, of course, the Government of the day will consider whether it is necessary to provide some short term support. But about the long-term policy, I have already articulated my view. In the medium to long-term, subsidy for exports is not the way to make your product competitive in the world market.

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Minister has made the policy clear on that.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, a lot has been said about subsidies here but whatever has been told about subsidies, it reflects that there has been a constant decline in subsidies on fertilizers while the subsidies on foodgrains are increasing be it a little or more. Hon. Finance Minister recently attended G-77 summit wherein he voiced difficulties being faced by developing countries in providing subsidies as a result of excessive amount of subsidies given by the developed countries on agriculture.

Mr. Speaker, Sir under the present system of providing subsidy in India, the benefit of subsidy is not directly passed on to the farmers but to the companies and those companies do not transfer this facility to farmers. I would like to know from the hon. Finance Minister whether the Government propose to review the present system of subsidy on foodgrains or fertilizers so that it could reach the farmers directly.

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I think the hon. Member has made a very valuable point. Fertilizer subsidy today is given to the producer of fertilizers. There is a complaint that these subsidies are not entirely passed on to the consumer of fertilizers, namely, the farmer. I raised this issue in the Consultative Committee. This issue has been flagged in the Report which I placed before Parliament. I think the whole House must deliberate on this issue. We must find a way in which whatever subsidies we give to fertilizers are really available to the farmers who use the fertilizers. There is the Dr. Alagh Committee which is now looking into the matter. It will make its recommendation for the next phase of the fertilizer subsidy beginning, I think, on the 1st of April, 2006. But I share the concern that the present system of subsidising fertilizers perhaps requires a rethinking.

SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI : What are the steps taken by the Government to standardise the subsidy policy and coordinate the same with the State Governments? What are the steps taken by the Government to support the farmers through right subsidy at right time? ... (Interruptions)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : On the farming sector, we are providing subsidy to fertilizers. We are providing a kind of producer subsidy through the procurement price. These are the two subsidies which account for the bulk of the subsidies given by the Central Government. For example, in the current year, 2004-05, according to the Revised Estimates, the Food Subsidy will be Rs. 25,800 crore and the Fertilizer Subsidy will be Rs. 15,662 crore.

The policy adumbrated in the NCMP is that while subsidies must be given, – and I believe subsidies must be given in a poor country like ours – they must be targeted to the really needy and the poor. I think the problem that we face today is not whether we should give subsidies or not. That is not the issue. Subsidies should be given, but the issue is how do we target the subsidies to the really needy and the really poor.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU : We have to strengthen the delivery system.

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it seems that some of the food grains producers in the farming sector are suffering losses. I come from the paddy growing State of Kerala. In my State, paddy producing is a loss making effort for farmers. But they are producing food grains and they are feeding the society. In view of this, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government will come forward to provide a special package to cope up the loss incurred by farmers while producing food grains.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, I am not an expert on the cost of production of food grains. But what little I know is that there is no reason why production of food grains or particularly production of paddy should result in a loss

in a normal year. I agree that it may happen, perhaps, in a year of drought and in a year of unseasonal rains. But the way in which we ensure that the farmer gets the price that he deserves is the procurement price. The Minister of Agriculture and I have discussed this matter and I have referred to this in my Budget speech. The proposal is to decentralise procurement so that more procurement takes place in more States and therefore the procurement price which the Government announces is available to more farmers in more States. It is not that we are saying that the existing procurement should, in any way, be impaired, but decentralised procurement is one way to address the problem raised by the hon. Member.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as per the information given by hon. Finance Minister in regard to subsidy on food, a major portion of subsidy is provided through procurement component. The Government procurement takes place on the basis of Minimum Support Price under Support Price Scheme. Now it is being observed that at the time when this policy interview it was proper from the viewpoint of attaining self-sufficiency in the field of food production. But its benefit has been accruing to Haryana and Punjab in respect of wheat and to Punjab and Andhra Pradesh in respect of rice and paddy, respectively. In several states like Bihar and Orissa production is gradually becoming surplus. However despite several efforts procurement is not taking place properly there. As a result, the benefits of the support price scheme does not accrue to the farmers. He has stated right now that the Government have taken measures for decentralised procurement. It is existing already and is not a new measure. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government propose to review the price support scheme keeping in view the fact that the benefit of this scheme does not reach the farmers of a particular area. Rather, the farmers of the entire country should get this benefit and for this purpose, whether they would formulate an income insurance scheme so that the farmers across the country could get an accrued income. Therefore,

I would like to know whether the Government would extend this policy after holding a detailed discussion in this regard.

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, the hon. Member has raised two issues which, I believe, are distinct issues. The manner in which we give support to the farmer is the procurement price mechanism and I entirely agree with him that procurement must take place in more States, more must be procured in more States and then distributed in those States. Now, the bulk of the procurement takes place in a handful of States. That is why, if you will recall, in the Budget Speech I said that decentralised procurement is the way forward and I believe the Ministry of Agriculture is working on that. I am sure the Minister will, at an appropriate time, make a Statement to that effect or the hon. Member can ask him a question. But I support the idea of decentralised procurement.

The other aspect which the hon. Member referred to is, I believe, – if I understood him correctly – is the income insurance scheme. But that is an insurance scheme which will assure the farmer an income and compensate him in case the amount for which he has insured does not materialise as income. As we have said, different insurance schemes are under experimentation. The one that we have now is the Crop Insurance Scheme. We have extended it to Rabi and Kharif crops this year. We have a Weather Insurance Scheme which is being experimented. No final conclusions have been arrived at. The report has been received. This is under study in the Ministry of Agriculture. But, I think, the insurance scheme is very distinct from the Procurement Price Scheme which is the scheme in force today in order to ensure that the farmer gets the producer's subsidy.

MR. SPEAKER : Q.No. 122 – Shri Mansukhbhai D. Vasava – Not present.

Shri M. Anjan Kumar Yadav – Not present.

Q.No. 123 – Shri Dinsha Patel – Not present.

Shri Jashubhai Dhanabhai Barad – Not present.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : It is a very important question
...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : What can I do?

[English]

I am as unhappy as you are. I am also unhappy that the hon. Members are not present after putting questions. This is a matter which concerns the entire House. So much of time and money has been spent in preparing answers. The hon. Members also have been keen to get answers to their questions. I am sure they will also take note of the fact that the questions put by them have come on a particular day and they should be present to put questions. I can only express my unhappiness.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we will give a notice for Half-and-Hour Discussion on this subject.

MR. SPEAKER : Without the question, how can I allow an Half-an-Hour Discussion? You know the rules very well.

[Translation]

Loan to Farmers

+

*124. SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI :

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware that banks are still trying to attach properties of the farmers who are unable to repay the loans despite the moratorium announced by the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to formulate any specific scheme to provide loan to small and marginal farmers;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the amount of loan provided by banks to farmers during the last three years as on date, State-wise;

(f) the target fixed for agricultural loan during 2005-2006;

(g) the training provided to farmers for proper utilization of agricultural loan; and

(h) the steps taken by the Government to provide hassle free loan to farmers to obviate the role of money lenders?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (h) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) No such incident has been brought to the notice of the Government.

(c), (d) and (h) Banks are already providing loans to small and marginal farmers through Self Help Groups, Tenant Farmers Groups (TFG) and Kisan Credit Cards. Besides, necessary guidelines have been issued for debt relief to farmers in arrears, farmers in distress, treatment of account on rescheduling, one time settlement scheme for small and marginal farmers and guidelines on a scheme for redemption of debt of farmers from non institutional of sources. Further, the District Level Technical Committees (DLTC) have been instructed to fix realistic scale of finance and banks have been advised to waive margin/security requirements for agriculture loans upto Rs.50,000.

(e) The details of loans for agricultural and allied activities provided by banks during the last three years are at Annex.

(f) The target for agriculture credit for 2005-06 would be 30% more than the achievement of 2004-05.

(g) Apart from training to farmers by institutions of Ministry of Agriculture and State Governments, training is being provided to farmers by 1000 farmers club set up by NABARD under vikas Volunteer Vahini and several Rural Development and Self Employment Training Institutes set up by public sector banks.

Annexure-C

State-wise Ground Level Credit (GLC) disbursements under agriculture and allied activities during 2001-2002, 2002-03 and 2003-04

Sr. No.	Name of the States/UTs	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Chandigarh	38,769	17,848	37,245
2.	New Delhi	141,581	182,540	242,367
3.	Haryana	400,908	463,705	628,620
4.	Himachal Pradesh	25,658	31,358	38,232
5.	Jammu & Kashmir	4,960	5,746	6,619
6.	Punjab	611,309	762,380	914,790
7.	Rajasthan	258,347	281,911	313,996
	Northern Region	1,481,532	1,745,488	2,181,869
8.	Arunachal Pradesh	539	994	390
9.	Assam	7,318	10,127	19,129
10.	Manipur	142	405	580
11.	Megalaya	642	552	5,184
12.	Mizoram	357	684	544
13.	Nagaland	540	540	742
14.	Tripura	1,739	1,759	3,000

1	2	3	4	5
15.	Sikkim	368	325	425
	Northern Eastern Region	11,645	15,386	29,994
16.	Bihar	70,746	72,260	142,172
17.	Jharkhand	16,101	20,315	21,461
18.	Orissa	96,925	109,688	127,778
19.	West Bengal	144,881	184,244	212,944
20.	Andaman & Nicobar	578	382	385
	Eastern Region	329,231	386,889	504,740
21.	Madhya Pradesh	230,071	290,285	342,935
22.	Chhattisgarh	28,237	46,133	52,377
23.	Uttar Pradesh	560,667	618,123	810,833
24.	Uttaranchal	27,169	48,416	42,589
	Central Region	846,144	1,002,957	1,248,734
25.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	110	59	0
26.	Daman & Diu	33	24	0
27.	Gujarat	371,251	408,741	479,822
28.	Goa	2,444	2,124	3,938
29.	Maharashtra	592,991	503,275	528,487
	Western Region	966,829	914,223	1,012,247
30.	Andhra Pradesh	748,287	754,059	1,001,424
31.	Karnataka	433,752	466,361	532,800
32.	Kerala	260,619	302,961	377,502
33.	Lakshadweep	33	26	78

1	2	3	4	5
34. Pondicherry		4,073	5,341	6,970
35. Tamil Nadu		528,105	627,046	695,166
Southern Region		1,974,869	2,155,794	2,613,740
Total		5,610,250	6,220,737	7,591,324
Other Bonds*		5,700		
Private Sector Commercial Banks*		425,412	585,255	1,023,008
RIDF (Contributed by banks)*		163,182	149,985	83,747
Grant Total		6,204,544	6,955,977	8,698,078

*State-wise data and available.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Finance Minister to the fact that India is primarily an agricultural country and that several schemes were launched by the previous NDA Government from the economic development point of view to provide loans to the farmers and when I raised a question in regard to loan given to farmers under those schemes, the hon. Minister replied that those farmers are unable to repay the loans, the property of such defaulting farmers is being attached, as a result of which several farmers are compelled to commit suicide. In this regard I would like to submit that the hon. Finance Minister does not have a list specifying the places where the farmers were compelled to commit suicide, but I would like to place those figures in the House. There are approximately 2200 such farmers who have committed suicide, 560 in Maharashtra, 500 in Kamataka 350 in Kerala and 250 in Punjab.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Minister can deal with this question. You do not have to deal with that.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI : The figures which I have got, clearly manifest that the loan schemes are implemented for the economic development of farmers but as mentioned by him, there are district level technical committees which are competent to waive off farmer's loan in case he is unable to repay the loan due to any reason but I would like to know the circumstances under which the farmers have been compelled to commit suicide. When they were unable to repay the loan why was their loan not waived off?

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, it is a matter of great concern and shame to us that farmers are driven to the extreme step of suicide. I do not think we can quarrel on the proposition that this must be avoided at all cost. It is no use finger pointing that this has happened in the last month or this has happened in the last quarter. Other fingers can be pointed that this happened in the last year, this happened two years ago, that is not the point.

The point really is, if the institutional credit does not go to the farmer, he is compelled to borrow from indigenous moneylenders at exorbitant rates. Therefore, on 18th of June last year – I believe it was widely welcomed by all sections of the House – we announced a policy where we will, over a period of time, sharply increase the flow of agricultural credit and also sharply increase the number of farmers who borrow from banks. I do not think anybody can quarrel on that. Even my distinguished friend cannot quarrel.

Now, what have we done? For the current year, we set an indicative target of Rs. 1,05,000 crore. Let me tell you, I am confident, that on 31st of March, we would have disbursed Rs. 1,08,500 crore. We would have exceeded

the target. That is not enough. Next year, I have set another target of another 30 per cent over Rs. 1,08,500 crore, which means Rs.1,40,000 crore will go as agricultural credit. I am doing my best and I appeal to all of you to please work with me, please work with us, please go round your constituencies and if there are problems, please bring them to my notice.

Secondly, we had four crore farmers getting institutional credit. The number this year will be close to 4,60,00,000. Next year, I have again suggested a target of another 50 lakh farmers to be brought to institutional credit. But ten crore farmers are there in this country. I wish, I could jump from four crore to ten crore in one step. I cannot do that. We are trying to do it both ways, to bring more farmers into the institutional borrowing net, take them away from the clutches of moneylenders and step up sharply the flow of agricultural credit at the rate of 30 per cent a year so that in three years, the total credit is doubled. I am doing my best and ask your support.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI : As stated by the hon. Finance Minister right now that he intends to disburse loans to approximately 4 crore farmers through institutional bodies like banks. It is his target. Alongwith this, banks are also given a target but do they disburse loans as per the fixed target? I feel sorry to state that very high reaching targets are fixed by the Government, but I would like to know how far the efforts are made by the Government to achieve that target cent per-cent. On the one hand, farmers are illusioned that the Government is ready to disburse loans to four crore farmers but on the other hand when it comes to actual disbursement of loan then only one crore fifty lakh farmers are provided with loan which is like a drop in the ocean. Similarly, lot of ambitious schemes are formulated but what kind of efforts are made to implement those schemes? It seems we are far from reality. I would like to ask what kind of scheme the Finance Minister has to bridge the gap between target and disbursement.

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, the previous Government reported that in 2003-04 about Rs. 80,000 crore was lent by commercial banks, RRBs and cooperative banks to farmers. They gathered the information from certain sources. I gather the information from the same sources and the same sources tell me that on 31st March this year, as against Rs.80,000 crore in the previous year, we would have lent Rs.1,08,500 crore. If I believe the sources from which their Government gathered figures, they must believe the sources from which my Government gathered figures.

The point is, we are stepping up the number of farmers who are coming into the banking system. We are also stepping up the amount of credit. I am monitoring it. You are welcome to share with me whatever information you have about any deficiency in any area, and I promise I will take action.

[Translation]

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to remind the hon. Minister that there used to be a lot of furore in the House over such incidents of suicides during the regime of the NDA Government. During the discussion after his first budget speech, I had submitted that the incidents of suicide by farmers have not stopped. Rather, such incidents have increased after this Government assumed power. He has himself admitted that the farmers are committing suicide because they are in the clutches of money lenders. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please ask the question.

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am asking a question only. Hon. Finance Minister has told the House just now that directions have been issued to banks to save the farmers from money lenders and a provision of huge funds is being made for providing loan to farmers through banks to save them from the clutches of money lenders.

I would like to tell him as to why the farmers go to money lenders for loan, they go to money lenders because they do not get loan from banks...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You put your question please.

[Translation]

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA : Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, just now the Finance Minister said that the banks have been asked to help farmers in availing loans and provide relaxation in the rules but I would like to bring this to the notice of the hon'ble Minister that banks are not giving any relaxation in the rules. Majority of the farmers are illiterate which is why they are unable to take loans from banks. They mortgage their land and even their daughters to the money lenders for loan, which is a sad thing...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : What is the question? Please put the question. This is not a debate.

[Translation]

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA : Just now the hon'ble Finance Minister said that no such incidents of farmers not getting loans from banks have come to his notice. I would like to ask him whether he will make efforts to get information about such incidents.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to ask a last question. The hon'ble Finance Minister has said in his reply that 1000 farmers' clubs have been formed to train farmers through NABARD. I would like to know the names of the states where these farmers, clubs have been formed because when I go to my constituency I do not find any single farmers' club where training is provided by NABARD. He may please inform us about the states where they have formed these farmers' clubs.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You put a question briefly. We are all having long prefaces, but there is no question.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, I do not believe in finger-

pointing. I believe year after year some number of farmers commit suicide and I am extremely sorry for that. But I do not believe in finger-pointing by saying 'A' is to blame or 'B' is to blame. All I am pointing out is that if there are 10 crore farm families in India—there were only four crores then, now they are four-and-a-half crores and hopefully, by the end of March, there will be 4.60 crores who are covered by the institutional credit system—that means, another five-and-a-half crore families are still dependent on non-institutional credit.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, you have said that.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : That is why some farmers will be in the clutches of moneylenders. I am trying to expand the amount of credit as well as the number of farmers who come under the institutional credit system. But I would appeal to the farmers to please go to banks and apply. The credit system is expanding rapidly at the rate of about 30 per cent a year. We will do our best to see every farmer gets credit. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : I have already got 35 names. Please cooperate a little. Speak quickly and ask the question.

[English]

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN : This is a very important subject.

MR. SPEAKER : I know that. But then we must have Question Hour for three hours.

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY : Sir, we are hearing the assurances given by the Finance Minister, particularly for the agricultural community. Shri Chidambaram had given a lot of assurances in his Budget speech also. But I happened to be the Chairman of the Finance Committee for two years and I had toured the whole country to know the farmer's plight. The hon. Prime Minister was then a member. The Agriculture Minister was also a member. What we found was that whatever the Finance Minister assures in this House or whatever order he gives to the banks is not being implemented. They never cared for it. For example, out of the priority sector advances, the bank has to give definitely 18 per cent to agriculture. I went to

Lalujji's State. I found that not even two per cent was given there.

In the case of Orissa also, it is not even two per cent.

MR. SPEAKER : This information must be available to the hon. Minister.

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY : I have given it in the Report also.

MR. SPEAKER : Very good. Please put your question. You are a senior Member.

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY : He is now saying that 30 per cent is going to be the enhancement over what they had given last year. Does it mean that they are going add 5.4 per cent to the existing 28 per cent meant for the priority sector? Or, are they going to add 30 per cent to the level of two per cent prevailing in Bihar? The agriculturists are a neglected lot in the banks. The banks never care for the agriculturists.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Janardhana Reddy, this is not a debate. Please put your question.

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY : This is not a new development. This has been taking place earlier too.

MR. SPEAKER : It is all right. This is Question Hour. Please put your question.

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY : I would like to know from the hon. Minister of Finance what is the programme to educate the bankers and to motivate them towards agriculturists and to make them care for the farmers. This kind of a neglect is not there in the banks at the higher levels; it is there only at the lower levels. I would like to know from the hon. Minister what his programme is for educating the bankers.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I thought I made it quite clear that the 30 per cent increase is an increase in the volume of agricultural credit given by commercial banks, RRBs and co-operative banks. In the current year, the 30 per cent works out to approximately Rs. 1,08,500 crore and we have achieved that target. In the next financial year, we are adding 30 per cent to this, which takes

it to approximately Rs. 1,40,000 crore. A 30 per cent increase in a year is a significant increase. It is not an addition to the 18 per cent that is there. The idea is that the total farm credit should increase by 30 per cent every year for three years. We have achieved it in the current year and I am confident we should achieve it next year also. Simultaneously, we are trying to bring in more farmers into the institutional net. As I have said, the target was 50 lakh. That target would be exceeded in the current year and I have fixed an equivalent target for the next year.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Ramdas Athawale. You would have to put only the question. There should be no preface. Otherwise, I would disallow it.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the interest rate on the loan given to the farmers is very high whereas the production cost of farmers is also high. My question is that the interest rate is very high on the loan given to small farmers, Dalit tribals or other small farmers with less than 5 acres not land. Will the Hon'ble Finance Minister pressurise the banks to charge an interest rate of 4 per cent on the loan given to the small farmers. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please put your question.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : What does the Government propose to do in this regard?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I am noticing everybody but I also have a list with me.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Last year, the commercial banks were lending at an average rate of about nine per cent. In the current year, commercial banks are lending at 8.5 per cent. In the co-operative banks sector, because of the high spreads that are being charged at the State, that

is, at the apex co-operative bank level, the district level and the primary level, in many States, it goes up to as much as twelve per cent. However, in some States, for example, in Karnataka earlier and now in Tamil Nadu and I also believe in Orissa, the State Governments have stepped in to give a subsidy and bring down the interest rate to six per cent to seven per cent. The co-operative bank pricing structure is under the control of the State Governments. The NABARD gives refinance at a rate between 5.25 per cent and 5.75 per cent. It is because at the State co-operative bank level, the district co-operative bank level and the primary level the spreads are high, the interest rate builds up to about 12 per cent. I think, this question must be addressed to the State Governments. I have urged the State Governments to ensure that the spreads are reduced.

As far as commercial banks are concerned, many years ago, we gave up interfering with the price mechanism. We review it constantly. This year, we were able to bring it down by a half per cent. I believe, there is still scope for reduction. The spreads are still wide; and, I believe, with competition and more efficiency by reducing the spreads, the lending rates could be brought down.

But as a policy, we do not interfere with the price mechanism of banking.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to tell the hon'ble Minister that right now there were talks about farmers committing suicide, but for the farmers who take loan from banks, the production from crops takes 5-6 months, and sometimes due to famine or rains they suffer heavy losses, whereas the limit given to the farmers is only 90 days, how can they return the loan in 90 days, therefore, this limit should be of one year at least will the Government consider this issue?

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I am not aware of this 90 days limit. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : The NPA limit is only 90 days. Are you going to increase it?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : He says that before it becomes NPA, something has to be done. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I understood your question to mean that the repayment period was 90 days. NPA is a matter of classification. The Reserve Bank's guidelines have now been issued as to how NPAs should be classified. But I do not have the exact formulation here. But in case of agricultural loans, I believe that the normal NPA classification does not apply. There is a separate classification. I do not have the information on the correct formulation. I will send it to you. The NPA classification for agricultural loans is different from the normal NPA classification for non-agricultural loans. But I will send you that information.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : But are you going to increase it up to one year? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : First, let me look at it and I will send it to you. Then, you come back to me. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Mohan Rawale, he has responded to you.

(Interruptions)

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME : Every corner of the House is concerned about the banking credit to the marginal and poor farmers. But the grassroot reality is something different though 30 per cent more credit is proposed for the next year. In real terms, the credits are not reaching the poor farmers and banking personnel are harassing the people by taking so many pleas. So, for non payment of credits, the properties of small farmers are being attached many times and it has been going on.

So, that is why, I think, my hon. colleague has put a very correct question. I want to mention here that small, marginal and poor farmers have been targeted. But what about the rich peasantry and the rich landlords about non-payment of bank loans? So, I would like to know the number of properties of the rich farmers attached. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You want to know whether there is any discrimination in that. You should give a particular reference.

(Interruptions)

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME : This is a big question today. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : He will issue instructions.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : This question does not concern about what action the Government has taken against rich farmers who are defaulting in repayment of loans. This question is about agricultural credit. I have gathered almost 40 pages of information. But if you want to have an answer as to what action is being taken, then please put a separate question and I will answer. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : There is a general feeling that there is discrimination in choosing the targets.

[Translation]

PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR : The Minister has written in his reply that the banks were advised to provide relaxations in margin/security on agriculture loan upto rupees 50 thousand. As has been discussed in this House that the rate of interest on loan is too high which compels the farmers to commit suicide. Whether the Government will consider to bring a Bill in the House to control the different rates of interest prevailing in different state's Cooperative Sector banks, they have a four tier system, there is state Cooperative bank. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : He said that. Please put your question.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR : In that situation, where State Cooperative bank is one link after that there is District Cooperative Bank Branches and primary cooperative societies are also there. Is there any scope

of reducing the interest rate in this sector? Secondly, he has mentioned about giving a loan of upto rupees 50 thousand but presently 50 thousand rupees are not sufficient for anything. A loan of Rs.50 thousand is too meagre for even one or two acres of land. In that context will he increase its limit upto rupees two lakhs? will he make the interest rates uniform in Cooperative banks like the Nationalised Banks?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : He has already answered that.

PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR : Sir, he has not fully answered it.

MR. SPEAKER : Let him choose to answer.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, given the average size of holding of small and marginal farmers, our experience shows that they borrow only about Rs. 50,000 and that is why that limit has been fixed with no margin and no security. It is only the bigger farmer who requires more than Rs. 50,000 per crop. These are crop loans. On interest rate of cooperative banks, I have just answered that the spread is high at the apex cooperative bank level, at the district cooperative bank level and at the primary cooperative bank level. Why are the spreads high? It is because they are burdened by NPA, poor management, poor lending practices and inefficiencies. Some state Governments have addressed this issue, like I gave the examples of Karnataka, Orissa and now Tamil Nadu and may be there are other State Governments which are addressing this issue.

This issue of spread in the cooperative bank lending system and reducing the spread and bringing down the interest rates is an issue that must be squarely addressed by the state Governments because NABARD is refinancing at very reasonable rates of between 5.25 and 5.75 per cent.

MR. SPEAKER : It is the same question and the same answer.

[Translation]

PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR : I had asked whether the hon'ble Finance Minister would increase the limit upto Rs. 2 lakhs.

PROF. RAMGOPAL YADAV : Hon'ble Minister is aware of all the details of loans given to farmers and the Reserve Bank of India has such directives that at least 18 per cent of the total loan should be given to the farmers. Is it a fact that more than 60 per cent of nationalised and commercial banks are not able to achieve this target? When farmers are given loan they face many problems due to technical reasons. My second question is that NABARD gives loan to banks at a very low rate of interest and the banks in turn charge 9 to 12 per cent from the farmers which is too high. The Agriculture Committee too has made recommendations many times that it should be in single digit, infact it would be good if it remains around 6 to 7 per cent. The hon'ble Minister has said that Cooperative banks are a state issue. Will he issue instructions to the Nationalised and Commercial Banks to ensure that farmers avail loan at 7 or 8 per cent rate of interest.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav, he has already answered that.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, I have already answered this question. On the first part of the question, I concede some banks do not meet the target of 18 per cent. The shortfall is put in the RIDF and it flows back to the agricultural sector in the form of rural infrastructure loans. As on 31.3.2004 as against 18 per cent target, the public sector banks achieved 15.41 per cent. There is still a gap and we are trying to close the gap. I will do my best.

SHRI M. SHIVANNA : Mr. Speaker Sir, Canara Bank is distributing loans in Karnataka State to the farmers to buy tractors. They are also providing loans to women self help groups (SHG) in a large scale to enable them to take up a number of social activities. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether Centre has formulated any method to enable these farmers and the SHGs to repay these loans in small and easy installments?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA) : You reply in Tamil regarding self-help groups.

..... Translation of the speech originally delivered in Kannada.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, this question is about self-help groups. Again, this does not arise out of the main question. But let me tell you that we started with an indicative target of about 1.85 lakh additional self-help groups to be credit-linked in the current year. We have exceeded the target and we have fixed a huge target of 2.5 lakh next year and I am confident we will exceed that target also, including in Karnataka, where let me tell you, self-help group system is working very well compared to many other States.

MR. SPEAKER : Let us give some respite to the Finance Minister. Let us go to Q. No. 125. All other Ministers are sitting idle. Let them do some work.

[Translation]

Import of used Clothes

*125. SHRIMATI KARUNA SHUKLA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware that the domestic textile industry has suffered huge losses on account of the import of used clothes from abroad.

(b) whether this has resulted in huge loss of foreign exchange also;

(c) whether the Government propose to impose restrictions on the import of used clothes; and

(d) if so, the details of the action being taken by the Government in this regard?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA) : (a) and (b) The imported used clothes compete unfairly with the domestic garment industry. The downstream spinning & weaving industry is also affected, as the local fabrics are not used. The import of used clothing have increased from Rs.17.46 Crore in 1998-99 to Rs.278.62 Crore in 2003-04.

(c) and (d) The Government has already imposed restrictions on the import of used clothes by bringing them under the 'Restricted list of Imports' vide Notification

No. 7/2004-09 dated the 27th October, 2004 issued by Department of Commerce.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KARUNA SHUKLA : Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to ask the Minister whether any person can import used clothes without Government's permission. If not, who gave the permission for this and when?

SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, earlier this import was under OGL and as I said we issued a notification on behalf of Commerce Department on 27th of October, 2004 to put a restriction on this. It has been restricted and removed from OGL, it has not been barred. We have put the restrictions according to the demands received.

SHRIMATI KARUNA SHUKLA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have clearly asked as to who gave the permission and when. If someone permitted the imports wrongly, will the Government take any action against such officials.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : It was in OGL. He said that.

[Translation]

SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA : It is not so. Anyone who wanted to import used clothes could do so under open licence. But when we received complaints we put restrictions upon that. We did not bar it.

[English]

By application they may have permission regarding import.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KARUNA SHUKLA : I want to know whether he would restrict it or not.

[English]

SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA : No, it is restriction. By application we may permit them.

SHRI ALAKESH DAS : Sir, I want to know whether the Government will consider that certain domestic textile industry has suffered huge losses which have been incurred on account of import of used cloth from abroad. In the year 1998-99 it amounted to Rs.17.46 crore. But it increased in 2003-2004 to Rs.278.62 crore. In the year 2004, in the restricted list of imports, used cloth has been provided. I just want to know about yarn. Whether the ban on foreign yarn has come in.

MR. SPEAKER : This is on used clothing. Mr. Minister, can you answer on yarn also?

SHRI ALAKESH DAS : Sir, that is also affecting the domestic market. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA : There is nothing in that, but we will stop that also.

MR. SPEAKER : You would stop him also. You have got your reply.

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, just now, the hon. Minister of Textiles told that in India there is a restriction on the import of used clothes. I would like to say that fine cloth is being imported in the name of non-used cloth which is adversely affecting our textile industry. Non used i.e. fresh cloth is entering the domestic market in the name of used cloth and he has told about restricting it. But there is a need to take stringent measures in this regard. I would like to ask as to what steps are proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard.

SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA : It is not so. We face problems while imposing import duty due to WTO. The Government can not impose high import duty. But we have put restrictions to prevent entry of fresh clothes.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to tell that import of used clothes has caused huge losses to our domestic textile industry. We produce good quality of clothes in our country, be it cotton or synthetic. I would like to know the reasons for importing used clothes and also, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to check it.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : He has answered it.

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR : Further, what steps are proposed to be taken by the Government for promotion of Indian textile industry?

SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have already replied to it. That import was carried out under OGL.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You say that you are giving the same answer.

[Translation]

Power Generation

+

*126. SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN :

SHRI TAPIR GAO :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of power in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with per capita demand and supply of power in each State;

(c) the reasons for shortage of power.

(d) the shortfall registered in power generation capacity during the last three years, State-wise;

(e) whether the Government is contemplating to allocate more funds to power deficit States;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) the target fixed and achievement made in adding power generation capacity during the last three years, State-wise; and

(h) the target fixed for the Tenth Five Year Plan and achievements made in this regard so far, State-wise?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) to (h) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement

(a) There is an overall power shortage in the country. The shortages vary from State to State, region to region, season to season and hour-to-hour. The average energy shortage in the country declined from 8.8% in 2002-03 to 7.1% in 2003-04 and 6.8% in 2004-05 till December 2004.

(b) State-wise power supply position in the country during April-December, 2004 is given in Annexure-I enclosed. State-wise annual per capita energy requirement and energy availability during the year 2004-05 (upto December '04) is given in Annexure II enclosed.

(c) The main reasons for shortage of power are:—

(i) Growth in demand for power outstripping the growth in generation and capacity addition.

(ii) Shortage of peaking power in the grid.

(iii) Low Plant Load Factor of a number of thermal generating units mostly in the State sector.

(iv) Inadequate sub-transmission and distribution network in some States.

(v) High Transmission and Distribution losses.

(vi) Poor financial position of State Utilities which does not enable them to raise the resources necessary for making required investments to create adequate generation capacity.

(vii) Low hydro generation in the Northern Region, this year, mainly due to reduced inflows and relatively less snowfall/snow-melt in the catchment areas.

(d) The targets and achievement of capacity addition during the last three years are as follows:

(Figures in MW)

	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05 (Upto Feb., 2005)
Target	4109	5202	5246
Achievement	2872*	3952**	3644***

* Shortfall is mainly due to non-commissioning of Dabhol Project (1444 MW)

** Shortfall is mainly due to non-commissioning of Hydro projects Dulhasti (390 MW) and Tehri HEP (1000 MW).

*** Shortfall is mainly due to non-commissioning of Akrimota Thermal Power Project (250 MW), Dulhasti Hydro Electric Project (390 MW) and Tehri Hydro Electric Project (750 MW).

State-wise shortfall vis-a-vis target of capacity addition during the last three years given in Annexure III enclosed.

(e) and (f) Planning Commission allocates funds on power sector as proposed by the State Governments on their Annual Plans for on-going power development programmes such as generation, transmission, distribution, renovation & modernization, rural electrification etc. It does not allocate funds merely based on power deficit for the States. However, the Ministry of Power has initiated various steps to revive the poor financial health of SEBs/Power Utilities. The Ministry of Power has signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)/Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) with States on power sector reform envisaging support of Central Government subject to States progressing satisfactorily on agreed reform agenda. The Union Government, in order to help the State Utilities is providing funds under the Accelerated Power Development and

Reforms Programme (APDRP) for investment in identified distribution areas for, inter-alia, reducing technical losses and improving the quality of supply and also for incentivising, reduction of cash losses through grants. Public Sector Undertakings under the administrative control of the Ministry of Power like Power Finance Corporation, Rural Electrification Corporation provide funds for investments in the Power Sector.

(g) State-wise target fixed and achievement made in adding power generation capacity during the last three years is given in the Annexure III enclosed.

(h) A capacity addition target of 41,110 MW has been set for the 10th Plan. The details are given in the table below:

(Figures in MW)

Source	Central	State	Private	Total
Hydro	8742	4481	1170	14393
Thermal	12790	6676	5951	25417
Nuclear	1300	—	—	1300
Total	22832	11157	7121	41110

As against the above target, a capacity of 10468 MW has been added till 28.02.2005. The details are given in the table below:—

(Figures in MW)

Source	Central	State	Private	Total
Hydro	2700	1074	300	4074
Thermal	4130	1846	418	6394
Nuclear	0	0	0	0
Total	6830	2920	718	10468

State - wise target fixed and capacity added in the 10th Plan is given in the Annexure-III enclosed.

Annexure-I**Actual Power Supply Position**

(Fig. In MU net)

State	December, 2004				April, 2004-December, 2004			
	Requirement	Availability	Surplus/Deficit (-)		Requirement	Availability	Surplus/Deficit (-)	
Region	(MU)	(MU)	(MU)	(%)	(MU)	(MU)	(MU)	(%)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Chandigarh	89	86	-3	-3.4	899	895	-4	-0.4
Delhi	1596	1578	-18	-1.1	16509	16362	-147	-0.9
Haryana	1802	1655	-147	-8.2	16980	16012	-968	-5.7
Himachal Pradesh	348	328	-20	-5.7	2986	2953	-33	-1.1
Jammu & Kashmir	733	642	-91	-12.4	5930	5573	-357	-6.0
Punjab	2396	2070	-326	-13.6	26941	24570	-2371	-8.8
Rajasthan	2760	2754	-6	-0.2	21198	21116	-82	-0.4
Uttar Pradesh	4504	3452	-1052	-23.4	39177	31217	-7960	-20.3
Uttaranchal	424	386	-38	-9.0	3461	3362	-99	-2.9
Northern Region	14652	12951	-1701	-11.6	134081	122060	-12021	-9.0
Chhattisgarh	997	949	-48	-4.8	8706	8578	-128	-1.5
Gujarat	5511	4745	-766	-13.9	44541	39200	-5341	-12.0
Madhya Pradesh	3759	2979	-780	-20.8	24685	22070	-2615	-10.6
Maharashtra	8596	7066	-1530	-17.8	67663	60526	-7137	-10.5
Daman & Diu	97	97	0	0.0	830	830	0	0.0
Dadar & Nagar Haveli	177	177	0	0.0	1321	1321	0	0.0
Goa	188	188	0	0.0	1576	1576	0	0.0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Western Region	19325	16201	-3124	-16.2	149322	134101	-15221	-10.2
Andhra Pradesh	4165	4104	-61	-1.5	37214	37049	-165	-0.4
Karnataka	3246	3029	-217	-6.7	25307	24151	-1156	-4.6
Kerala	1127	1111	-16	-1.4	9372	9271	-101	-1.1
Tamil Nadu	4116	4062	-54	-1.3	34512	34368	-144	-0.4
Pondicherry	129	129	0	0.0	1153	1153	0	0.0
Lakshadweep	2	2	0	0.0	17	17	0	0.0
Southern Region	12783	12435	-348	-2.7	107558	105992	-1566	-1.5
Bihar	655	524	-131	-20.0	5371	4969	-402	-7.5
DVC	812	798	-14	-1.7	6801	6739	-62	-0.9
Jharkhand	326	320	-6	-1.8	2672	2620	-52	-1.9
Orissa	1203	1183	-20	-1.7	10395	10339	-56	-0.5
West Bengal+Sikkim	1732	1678	-54	-3.1	17431	17190	-241	-1.4
Aandaman and Nicobar Islands	16	14	-2	-12.5	146	122	-24	-16.4
Eastern Region	4728	4503	-225	-4.8	42670	41857	-813	-1.9
Arunachal Pradesh	14	14	0	0.0	118	118	0	0.0
Assam	310	292	-18	-5.8	2889	2739	-150	-5.2
Manipur	50	49	-1	-2.0	417	408	-9	-2.2
Meghalaya	124	112	-12	-9.7	1031	929	-102	-9.9
Mizoram	23	22	-1	-4.3	174	163	-11	-6.3
Nagaland	29	29	0	0.0	248	244	-4	-1.6
Tripura	58	51	-7	-12.1	538	494	-44	-8.2
North Eastern Region	605	565	-40	-6.6	5412	5091	-321	-5.9
All India	52093	46655	-5438	-10.4	439043	409101	-29942	-6.8

Note : As Lakshadweep and Andaman and Nicobar Islands system are stand alone, the figures in respect of these are not included in the regional as well as All India.

Peak Demand/Peak Met

(Fig. in MW net)

State	December, 2004				April-December, 2004			
	Peak Demand	Peak Met	Surplus/Deficit (-)		Peak Demand	Peak Met	Surplus/Deficit (-)	
Region	(MW)	(MW)	(MW)	(%)	(MW)	(MW)	(MW)	(%)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Chandigarh	175	163	-12	-6.9	224	224	0	0.0
Delhi	3168	3064	-104	-3.3	3558	3490	-68	-1.9
Haryana	3512	3111	-401	-11.4	4037	3621	-416	-10.3
Himachal Pradesh	678	609	-69	-10.2	678	615	-63	-9.3
Jammu & Kashmir	1235	1085	-150	-12.1	1251	1151	-100	-8.0
Punjab	5073	3817	-1256	-24.8	7122	5559	-1563	-21.9
Rajasthan	4244	4244	0	0.0	4414	4414	0	0.0
Uttar Pradesh	7059	5523	-1536	-21.8	7877	6268	-1609	-20.4
Uttaranchal	802	780	-22	-2.7	846	794	-52	-6.1
Northern Region	25373	22764	-2609	-10.3	26834	24125	-2709	-10.1
Chhattisgarh	1727	1564	-163	-9.4	1789	1670	-119	-6.7
Gujarat	9319	7122	-2197	-23.6	10162	7427	-2735	-26.9
Madhya Pradesh	5944	4420	-1524	-25.6	5944	4846	-1098	-18.5
Maharashtra	14600	11295	-3305	-22.6	14708	11709	-2999	-20.4
Daman & Diu	155	155	0	0.0	200	200	0	0.0
Dagar & Nagar Haveli	281	281	0	0.0	391	391	0	0.0
Goa	349	349	0	0.0	356	356	0	0.0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Western Region	31085	23400	-7685	-24.7	31085	24049	-7036	-22.6
Andhra Pradesh	6989	6867	-122	-1.7	7957	7843	-114	-1.4
Karnataka	5815	5099	-716	-12.3	5927	5360	-567	-9.6
Kerala	2387	2279	-108	-4.5	2427	2292	-135	-5.6
Tamil Nadu	7257	7129	-128	-1.8	7365	7275	-90	-1.2
Pondicherry	200	200	0	0.0	230	230	0	0.0
Lakshadweep	6	6	0	0.0	6	6	0	0.0
Southern Region	21842	20622	-1220	-5.6	23075	21928	-1147	-5.0
Bihar	905	805	-100	-11.0	980	980	0	0.0
DVC	1315	1315	0	0.0	1347	1315	-32	-2.4
Jharkhand	550	550	0	0.0	572	555	-17	-3.0
Orissa	2135	2135	0	0.0	2195	2150	-45	-2.1
West Bengal + Sikkim	3923	3823	-100	-2.5	3923	3823	-100	-2.5
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	35.5	31	-4.5	-12.7	35.5	31	-4.5	12.7
Eastern Region	8445	8250	-195	-2.3	8445	8320	-125	-1.5
Arunachal Pradesh	52	52	0	0.0	54	54	0	0.0
Assam	620	565	-55	-8.9	659	621	-38	-5.8
Manipur	101	97	-4	-4.0	103	103	0	0.0
Meghalaya	264	180	-84	-31.8	264	207	-57	-21.6
Mizoram	65	64	-1	-1.5	69	64	-5	-7.2
Nagaland	74	71	-3	-4.1	74	71	-3	-4.1
Tripura	146	110	-36	-24.7	188	159	-29	-15.4

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
North Eastern Region	1161	1045	-116	-10.0	1247	1128	-119	-9.9
All India	87906	76081	-11825	-13.5	87906	77281	-10625	-12.1

Note : As Lakshadweep and A & N Islands systems are stand alone, the figures in respect of these are not included in the regional as well as All India figures.

Annexure-II

Per Capita Energy Requirement and Availability During April 04-December 04

State/System	Per-capita Energy Requirement	Per-capita Energy Availability
	April - December, 2004 (kWh)	(kWh)
1	2	3
Chandigarh	936	932
Delhi	1,105	1,095
Haryana	767	723
Himachal Pradesh	477	471
Jammu & Kashmir	549	516
Punjab	1,069	975
Rajasthan	355	354
Uttar Pradesh	224	178
Uttaranchal	390	379
Chhattisgarh	399	393
Gujarat	843	742
Madhya Pradesh	388	347
Maharashtra	672	601

1	2	3
Daman & Diu	4,911	4,911
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	5,621	5,621
Goa	1,098	1,098
Andhra Pradesh	476	474
Karnataka	464	443
Kerala	287	283
Tamilnadu	541	539
Pondicherry	1,144	1,144
Lakshadweep	266	266
Bihar	62	57
Jharkhand	260	256
Orissa	274	273
W.Bengal + Sikkim	234	231
A & N Islands	389	325
Arunachal Pradesh	104	104
Assam	104	98.
Manipur	168	164
Meghalaya	430	387
Mizoram	188	176
Nagaland	119	117
Tripura	163	149

Annexure-III

State - wise 10th Plan capacity addition target vis-a-vis achievements

(Figures in MW)

Region/ State	10th Plan		2002-03		2003-04		2004-05*		2002-05**				
	Target	Target	Achieve- ment	Excess(+) Shortfall(-)	Target	Achieve- ment	Excess(+) Shortfall(-)	Target	Achieve- ment	Excess(+) Shortfall(-)			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Northern Region													
NHPC	1,090				690	300	-390	670		-670	1,360	300	-1,060
NJPC	1,900				1,500	1,500					1,500	1,500	
NTPC	1,700								500	+500	0	500	+500
THDC	2,400	250		-250	1,000		-1,000	750		-750	2,000		-2,000
NLC	250										0		
Delhi	226	226	226	0							226	226	
Haryana	500							500			500	500	
Himachal Pradesh	562		200	+200	100	100					100	300	+200
Jammu & Kashmir	450										0	0	
Punjab	1,168										0	0	

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Rajasthan	660	75	75	75	445	445	445					520	520	
Uttaranchal	704											0		
Uttar Pradesh	710											0		
Total (NR)	12,320	551	501	501	-50	3,735	2,345	-1,390	1,920	1,000	-920	6,206	3,846	-2,360
Western Region														
NPC	1,080													
NTPC	2,480													
NHPC	37													
NHDC	1,520					250	500	+250	500	375	125	750	875	+125
Gujarat	2,382	125	100	100	-25	107	107		600	350	250	832	557	-275
Maharashtra	1,944	1,444			-1,444							1,444		-1,444
Madhya Pradesh	1,573	35	35	35								35	35	
Chhattisgarh	420											0		
Total (WR)	11,436	1,604	135	135	-1,469	357	607	+250	1,100	725	-375	3,061	1,467	1,594
Southern Region														
NLC	920	420	210	210	-210	210	210					630	420	210
NPC	220											0	0	

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
NTPC		1,000	500	500					500	500		1000	1,600	
Andhra		3,055	378	378		150	150					528	528	
Pradesh														
Karnataka		1,297	210	210			15	+15	165	110	-55	375	335	-40
Kerala		100										0	0	
Tamilnadu		684	344	344		203	100	-103	323	70	-253	869	514	-355
Pondicherry		100										0		
Lakshadweep		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total (SR)	7,376	1,852	1,642	1,642	-210	563	475	-88	988	680	-308	3,402	2,797	-605
Eastern														
Region														
DVC		1,960							210	210		210	210	
NHPC		1,710										0	0	
NTPC		3,980		500	+500	500	500		1,000	1,000		1,500	2,000	+500
Bihar		135										0	0	
Jharkhand		330	8		-8							8	0	-8
Orissa		150	6	6								6	6	
West Bengal		670										0	0	

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
North Eastern Region														
NEEPCO	585				25	25						25	25	
Assam	138											0	0	
Meghalaya	132											0	0	
Manipur	18	18	18									18	18	
Mizoram	103					23		-23	23	23		46	23	-23
Nagaland			8	8								8	8	
Tripura	42	42	42	42								42	42	
Total (NER)	1,018	68	68	68	25	48	25	-23	23	23	23	139	116	-23
A & N Island	25	20	20	20					5	6	+1	25	26	+1
Total (All India)	41,110	4,109	2,872	2,872	-1,237	5,202	3,952	-1,250	5,246	3,644	-1,602	14,557	10,468	-4,089

*April, 2004-February, 2005

**Upto February, 2005

MR. SPEAKER : Q.No. 126. Now, another Minister should be troubled.

Not much time is left. Please be brief.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is an acute shortage of power in the country and there is a wide gap in demand and supply thereof. I would like to ask the hon. Minister about the funds allocated in the current budget for the purpose of power generation. He himself is aware that there is a serious power crisis in the country and power generation is less. So far as I know, no provision has been made for this purpose in the current Budget whereas the previous NDA Government had allocated adequate funds. I would like to ask as to what kind of assistance is to be provided by the Government to the state Governments on this count especially to Rajasthan, where power crisis is quite serious and famine has further worsened the situation.

[English]

SHRI P.M. SAYEED : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is admitted that there is power shortage in the country. Hon. Members are aware that we had started from 1,362 megawatts and have now reached 1,16,000 and odd megawatts; and from *per capita* consumption of 15 units, we have now reached 592 units. Sir, it was mainly because the achievement of Eighth and Ninth Plans' targets was even below 50 per cent. That is the problem of the Indian power industry. Sir, we had achieved our target almost hundred per cent during the Seventh Plan when late Rajiv Gandhi was the Prime Minister.

Sir, now, in the Tenth Plan, we have fixed a target of 41,110 megawatts. In all probability, we will reach the target. In order to avert the crisis created on account of Eighth Plan and Ninth Plan, we have tried to improve the generation sector, the transmission sector and also the distribution sector.

Sir, you are aware of plant load factor in the generation sector. In 1992-93, it was 57 per cent and now it is over

74.0 per cent. Improvement of one per cent in plant load factor means we save Rs.2800 crore whereas we have now made an improvement of 17 per cent. That is in the generation sector.

MR. SPEAKER : He wants Rajasthan to get more power. Uncorrected / Not for Publication.

SHRI P.M. SAYEED : Sir, we are also paying attention to Rajasthan. You know that 'distribution' is in the Concurrent List. Every State has to have 'distribution'. As in the case of other deficit States, the Government of India is giving utmost attention to Rajasthan. We assist all the deficit States, wherever they are, by taking power from the surplus areas of East and North-East where we have a robust power grid system and thereby, their difficulties in Rajasthan are being paid attention to.

The Rajasthan Chief Minister has also contacted me on this issue. We have reallocated it for them from the quota, and provided it to them as well.

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, I have got one announcement to make. We have already informed all the hon. Members, through the Bulletin, that the hon. Members who wish to put any questions or wish to speak must occupy their respective seats. It will be strictly enforced from Monday onwards.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Duty Evasion

*122. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA :
SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of duty evasion through misuse of export incentive schemes as detected by various agencies during the last three years in Delhi and other metros;

(b) the number of cases pending for disposal without issue of show cause notice;

(c) the preventive measures being adopted in the form of policy changes or Amendments to the relevant Act;

(d) whether a system of computerised networking among intelligence agencies viz. DRI, CEIB, ED, RI, etc. is in place to pre-empt the economic crimes committed; and

(e) if not, whether a time frame could be fixed for the above purpose?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (e) 1491 cases of evasion of duty through misuse of export promotion schemes have been detected by the various agencies during 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04 and April 2004-February 2005 in Delhi and other metros. Out of these, in 1108 cases, show cause notices have been issued and the same are at the various stages of adjudication, appeals etc. In 383 cases, show cause notices have not been issued, as the investigations are yet to be completed.

Changes in the policy and amendments in the relevant Acts are made from time to time to prevent misuse of export promotion schemes. In fact, there are in-built safeguards in the schemes to prevent their misuse. Some of these are as follows:—

- (i) Licences issued under Advance Licensing Scheme are subject to actual user condition and are non-transferable.
- (ii) Capital goods imported under Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme are subject to actual user condition till the fulfillment of export obligation.
- (iii) In the case of specified export items of sensitive nature under Duty Free Replenishment Certificate Scheme the exporter is required to give declaration with regard to technical characteris-

tics, quality and specification in the Shipping Bill. This has been done to ensure that the inputs to be imported under the Scheme have nexus with the goods exported.

- (iv) Value caps have been fixed for various export items under the Duty Entitlement Passbook Scheme to help prevent misuse by over-invoicing. In respect of products where the credit entitlement is 10% or more, the amount of credit is restricted to 50% of the Present Market Value (PMV).
- (v) All Industry Rates of Drawback for most of the products have been expressed in terms of weight to preclude the possibility of misuse through over-invoicing. Wherever ad valorem rates are there, drawback caps have been imposed.

Apart from the safeguards provided in the Schemes, other steps taken to prevent their misuse are:—

- (i) Enhancing the effectiveness of intelligence-based checks by the Directorate General of Revenue Intelligence (DRI).
- (ii) Special targeting of risk-prone commodities and exporters for critical examination of the goods/declarations.
- (iii) Critical verification of market value of export goods.
- (iv) Parameter-based selection of export consignments for examination and scrutiny. Higher examination norms for goods exported to sensitive destinations.

At present, there is no computerized networking among the various intelligence agencies. However, the intelligence agencies interact with one another as and when required. The interaction is need-based. Besides, the Central Economic Intelligence Bureau (CEIB), through the medium of Regional Economic Intelligence Committee

(REIC) meetings, provides a forum for exchange of information among the various intelligence agencies.

[English]

**Special Economic Package for
Various States**

*123. SHRI DINSHA PATEL :
SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some States are facing crisis in respect of financial resources;

(b) if so, the details of the States;

(c) whether the Union Government have received requests from the Chief Ministers of various State Governments for financial assistance to resolve their financial crisis;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Union Government thereon, State-wise, particularly in respect of Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (e) The State Governments had submitted memoranda to the Twelfth Finance Commission (TFC) indicating their financial position and requirements of funds for the period 2005-10. TFC has given its recommendations after considering these memoranda and other fiscal parameters. These recommendations have been accepted by the Government. The total transfer of funds from the Centre to the States during this period is estimated to increase from Rs.434905 crore during 2000-2005 to Rs.757514 crore during 2005-10. In so far as Gujarat is concerned, the total transfer of funds is estimated to increase from Rs.12261 crore during 2000-2005 to Rs.25609 crore during 2005-10.

Transmission and Distribution of Power

*127. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR :
SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether privatization of transmission and distribution of power in various States have helped in saving electricity;

(b) the manner in which the creation of National Power Grid Corporation helped in regulating the transmission and distribution of power in the country;

(c) whether the Government is taking effective measures to minimize the theft and loss of electricity during transmission and distribution of power; and

(d) the total Hydro and Thermal power generation, during the last three years, separately, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) The privatization of transmission has not taken place in the country so far. The privatization of distribution of power has taken place in Orissa in 1999 and in Delhi in July 2002.

In Delhi, the Aggregate Technical and Commercial (AT&C) losses have shown reduction as compared to the loss level before privatization are as under:

Name of the Utility	Aggregate Technical and Commercial losses (%)		
	2001-2002*	2002-03	2003-04
BSES Rajdhani Power Ltd.	48.10	47.40	45.06
BSES Yamuna Power Ltd.	57.20	61.89	54.29
North Delhi Power Ltd.	48.10	47.79	44.86

*before privatization

In Orissa, loss reduction after privatization is as under

Year	Aggregate Technical and Commercial losses (%)
1	2
1998-1999*	62.28

1	2
1999-2000	56.85
2000-2001	56.06
2001-2002	60.48
2002-2003	51.60
2003-2004	49.71

*before privatization

(b) Creation of Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd (PGCIL) has given an opportunity for optimum utilisation of the hydro and thermal resources in the country. It has enabled the central transmission system to grow to around 49,250 ckt. kms. of transmission lines and 84 sub-stations with 47,621 MVA transformation capacity in 2004-05 as compared to 23,000 ckt. kms. of transmission lines and 39 sub-stations with 13,200 MVA transformation capacity in 1992-93 when PGCIL was formed. The inter-regional power exchange capacity, which was practically non-existent (barring very few links) when PGCIL was formed, has now reached the figure of 9,500 MW. It is planned to be enhanced to 30,000 MW by year 2012.

With the development of important inter-regional links, the inter-regional power exchange in energy terms has touched 22,000 Million Units equivalent to Rs.4,400 Crore in value in 2003-04. Power deficit regions are now receiving more power and surplus regions (presently Eastern Region) are able to optimize their generating capacities resulting in financial & economic benefit to both the regions.

(c) Yes, Sir. The Electricity Act, 2003 provides a legal framework for stringent action against theft of electricity. Several States have taken initiatives to minimize theft and reduce loss of electricity during transmission and distribution.

(d) A statement showing the state-wise total power generation including hydro, thermal and nuclear power during the last three years is enclosed.

Statement

Statewise total Generation in MU for the years
2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04

Name of the State	Year		
	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
1	2	3	4
Delhi	7952	8780	10593
Haryana	8175	8908	9792
Himachal Pradesh	8374	8735	11753
Jammu & Kashmir	5558	5983	7270
Punjab	23866	23690	25581
Rajasthan	18988	21861	23045
Uttar Pradesh	74787	73837	74335
Uttaranchal	3326	3770	3904
Gujarat	44446	48281	47284
Madhya Pradesh	30324	33338	33296
Chhattisgarh	24740	24305	24249
Maharashtra	65319	65147	67371
Andhra Pradesh	51172	56713	57732
Kerala	8874	8092	7723
Karnataka	24851	24105	25040
Tamil Nadu	45419	4596	46670
Pondicherry	250	285	277
Bihar	5244	5585	6376
Jharkhand	6606	7047	6758
Orissa	18690	15635	23828

1	2	3	4
West Bengal	32653	35802	38519
Sikkim	383	390	381
A & N Islands	0	0	0
Assam	2857	2756	3093
Meghalaya	794	822	731
Manipur	569	553	504
Tripura	844	901	1083
Nagaland	145	121	164
Arunachal Pradesh	41	199	984
Mizoram	0	0	0
Total	515247	531607	558336

Note: Includes generation of existing central sector.

Inquiry on Black Monday

*128. SHRI K.S. RAO :

SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has ordered an inquiry in the last year's sensex crash on May 17, dubbed "Black Monday" by media in the aftermath of the Lok Sabha election results:

(b) if so, whether the inquiry has been completed;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) the action taken against the persons/companies found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) took up an inquiry into the market movements to examine the role and involvement of major

market players, such as, the Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs), brokers, clients etc. from the point of view of their trading in cash and derivatives segments.

(b) Yes, Sir. The investigations have since been completed.

(c) Pursuant to findings of investigations, appropriate proceedings have been initiated in terms of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) Act, 1992 and SEBI Regulations. Show cause notices have so far been issued to 12 entities.

(d) This will depend on the outcome of the proceedings initiated as in 'c' above.

Safe Drinking Water

*129. SHRI ANANT GUDHE :

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN :

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a major part of rural India is still deprived of safe drinking water;

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

(c) whether the Government proposes to set a time-frame to make safe drinking water available to rural areas;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the funds allocated/released/utilized for different water supply schemes during the last year, the current year and that proposed for the rest of the Tenth Five year Plan Period;

(f) whether the Government has launched any programme for supporting rural water supply in desert areas of the country;

(g) if so, the details thereof, state-wise;

(h) whether the Government is contemplating to discontinue rural water supply programme based on target/ allocation; and

(i) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b) As per the Comprehensive Action Plan (CAP) prepared in 1999 to cover all rural habitations in the country with safe drinking water supply, and the subsequent coverage reported by States/UTs, 95.34% of the Country's, 14,22,664 rural habitations are fully covered with the stipulated norms of 40 litre per capita per day (lpcd) of safe drinking water supply. The state wise drinking water coverage position is given in the statement enclosed. The district wise coverage is not maintained at the central level.

(c) and (d) Water is a State subject. Central Government, however, supplement the efforts of the State Governments in providing safe drinking water in rural areas by rendering financial assistance and technical support through a Centrally Sponsored scheme, namely Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP). Tenth Plan envisages covering all rural habitations, including slipped back habitations, by the end of the plan period.

(e) The funds allocated and released under ARWSP are as under:

(Rs. in crore)

Year	Amount Allocated	Amount Released
2003-04	2585.00	2564.90
2004-05	3148.00	2542.40*

*As on 3.3.2005.

The outlay for ARWSP for the Tenth Five Year Plan period is Rs.13245 crore.

(f) and (g) Under Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP), there is a component namely ARWSP (DDP) for supporting rural water supply in the rural habitations existing in the seven States- Andhra Pradesh,

Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka and Rajasthan covered under the Desert Development Programme (DDP). The allocation made to these states under ARWSP (DDP) during 2003-2004 and 2004-2005 is as under:—

S. No.	State	Allocation made under ARWSP (DDP) Rs. In Lakh	
		2003-2004	2004-2005
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1424.00	676.40
2.	Gujarat	153.00	73.35
3.	Haryana	968.00	733.00
4.	Himachal Pradesh	8.00	11.20
5.	Jammu & Kashmir	65.00	366.60
6.	Karnataka	1208.00	1731.55
7.	Rajasthan	6174.00	8847.90
Total		10000.00	12440.00

(h) No, Sir.

(i) Does not arise.

Statement

Status of coverage position

S. No.	State/UT	Number of Habitations			
		NC	PC	FC	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0	0	69732	69732
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	245	656	3397	4298
3.	Assam	301	10691	59563	70555

1	2	3	4	5	6
4.	Bihar	0	0	105340	105340
5.	Chhattisgarh	0	0	50379	50379
6.	Goa	0	7	388	395
7.	Gujarat	0	52	30217	30269
8.	Haryana	0	0	6745	6745
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0	6891	38476	45367
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	678	2640	7866	11184
11.	Jharkhand	0	0	100096	100096
12.	Karnataka	0	5618	51064	56682
13.	Kerala	0	7573	2190	9763
14.	M.P.	0	0	109489	109489
15.	Maharashtra	346	23743	61841	85930
16.	Manipur	0	0	2791	2791
17.	Meghalaya	13	404	8219	8636
18.	Mizoram	0	112	695	807
19.	Nagaland	41	690	794	1525
20.	Orissa	0	0	114099	114099
21.	Punjab	906	1198	11345	13449
22.	Rajasthan	2785	0	91161	93946
23.	Sikkim	0	74	1605	1679
24.	Tamilnadu	0	0	66631	66631
25.	Tripura	0	0	7412	7412
26.	Uttar Pradesh	0	0	243508	243508

1	2	3	4	5	6
27.	Uttaranchal	34	274	30666	30974
28.	West Bengal	0	0	79036	79036
29.	A & N Islands	0	102	402	504
30.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	19	41	456	516
31.	Daman & Diu	0	0	32	32
32.	Delhi	0	0	219	219
33.	Lakshadweep	0	10	0	10
34.	Pondicherry	0	108	159	267
35.	Chandigarh	0	0	18	18
Total		5368	60884	1356031	1422283

Number of habitations uninhabited/
unpopulated/migrated/urbanised 381

Grand Total 1422664

NC: Not Covered (less than 10 lpcd), PC: Partially Covered (10 to less than 40 lpcd), FC: Fully Covered (40 lpcd or more)

PMGSY

*130. SHRI PRAKASHBAPU V. PATIL : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) State-wise details of roads constructed under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana as on date;

(b) whether any evaluation of the scheme has been undertaken by the Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the allocation/utilization of funds as on date, State-wise; and

(e) the agencies involved in construction of road?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (d) State-wise details of roads constructed and allocation/utilization of funds as on date under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) are given in the statement-I enclosed.

(b) and (c) No evaluation of the Scheme has been conducted so far since PMGSY was launched only in 2000-01. However, the Ministry of Rural Development commissioned a Quick Impact Assessment of the socio-

economic aspects of the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) on the lives of rural people in the States of Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. Key Findings of the Assessment are given in the statement-II enclosed.

(e) Statement-III indicating State-wise Nodal Departments & Executing Agencies involved in construction of road under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) is enclosed.

Statement-I

(Rs. in crore)

S. No.	State	Allocation	Amount Released	No. of road works	Length of road works (in km.)	No. of road works completed (upto Jan.,05)	Length of road works completed (upto Jan.05)	Exp. Upto (upto Jan.,05)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Andhra Pradesh	750	757.91	3733	9114.52	3001	6681.20	661.70
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	175	127.46	341	1021.73	315	1007.55	122.73
3.	Assam	375	452.01	808	2325.36	494	774.80	295.97
4.	Bihar	750	313.89	968	2219.85	261	707.40	242.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	435	549.59	1034	6013.03	416	2354.32	466.10
6.	Goa	25	10.00	90	178.16	70	156.86	5.17
7.	Gujarat	250	215.86	1200	2513.88	768	1623.62	172.95
8.	Haryana	100	107.92	85	1213.58	48	709.72	96.09
9.	Himachal Pradesh	300	315.66	743	3349.24	335	1301.00	195.03
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	100	75.00	178	635.27	36	82.93	40.97
11.	Jharkhand	550	353.92	501	2752.90	224	1229.75	304.64
12.	Karnataka	475	365.68	1709	5442.30	1233	4069.77	322.52
13.	Kerala	100	69.17	366	679.98	144	275.41	56.17

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1065	1424.44	2486	12182.00	1359	6359.70	1291.95
15.	Maharashtra	650	454.29	2158	5146.84	1379	2865.35	298.96
16.	Manipur	160	80.00	790	710.64	416	72.67	59.06
17.	Meghalaya	175	115.67	317	718.33	248	563.71	76.22
18.	Mizoram	100	118.11	80	1032.50	48	705.40	109.43
19.	Nagaland	100	88.95	185	1606.29	156	1203.11	80.06
20.	Orissa	875	878.54	2140	6417.92	1066	2604.60	562.99
21.	Punjab	125	127.40	516	1282.78	345	665.27	100.89
22.	Rajasthan	650	1137.89	3289	12400.71	2704	9405.28	1048.94
23.	Sikkim	100	70.97	81	1444.73	40	1267.31	46.77
24.	Tamil Nadu	400	353.14	2230	4196.89	1320	2246.56	277.47
25.	Tripura	125	76.60	247	619.68	194	416.61	49.00
26.	Uttar Pradesh	1575	1245.03	8599	15531.65	6415	10746.96	1016.80
27.	Uttaranchal	300	201.04	213	1227.39	102	385.78	111.52
28.	West Bengal	675	717.12	754	3982.50	374	1802.01	477.37
Total (states)		11460.00	10803.26	35841	105960.64	23511	62284.65	8589.47

Statement-II**PMGSY Impact Assessment Study**

The Ministry of Rural Development commissioned a quick independent assessment of the socio-economic impact of the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) on the lives of rural people in the States of Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. The study was conducted in the month of January to February 2004. The agencies who conducted the study were:—

Agency	States studied
1	2
Nodal Agency : TNS India Pvt. Ltd.	West Bengal
CMI Social Research Centre	Assam and Mizoram
Development Research Services	Madhya Pradesh
Agricultural Finance Corporation	Orissa

1	2
Santek Pvt. Ltd.	Himachal Pradesh Rajasthan
rites Pvt. Ltd.	Tamil Nadu
OASES	Uttar Pradesh

Key Findings of the Assessment

Impact on agriculture

- The construction of the PMGSY roads has greatly benefited the farmers. Prior to the construction of the PMGSY roads, farmers found it difficult to sell agricultural goods in the bigger markets that are located at a distance from their villages. Due to lack of transport, the farmers had to often physically carry the baskets of agricultural goods on their heads and could thus transport only a small amount of agricultural produce to the market. Also, a lot of travel time was lost. Thus, the whole process was not profitable. However, the construction of the PMGSY roads has resulted in increased and easier movement of farmers and their produce and has thus increased agricultural profit.
- PMGSY road connectivity has led to a better transport system during all seasons. Farmers mentioned that the problem of not being able to access the markets during monsoon has been solved by the construction of the roads. This impact has been greatly felt in the states of West Bengal, Himachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Assam etc.
- The PMGSY roads had a positive impact on the agricultural infrastructure as habitations are now using motorized equipments such as tractors, threshing machines for cultivation leading to a more efficient, time saving and profitable process of cultivation.
- The PMGSY roads have made it easier to transport chemical fertilizers, seeds and pesti-

cides. Increased use of these items was observed in Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh and West Bengal.

- Considerable change in cropping pattern was observed in the States of Himachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Tamil Nadu, with a switch from food crops to cash crops (such as ginger, jute, sugarcane sunflower).
- Change in cropping intensity as a result of increased agricultural trade was observed in case of crops like tomato, cauliflower, amla, harre, behar etc. in the post PMGSY road phase.
- An increase in the number of families rearing goats/sheep for commercial purposes was mentioned by beneficiaries in states of Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh reported. Many families had bought cycles after the construction of the road to be able to carry dairy products for sale in nearby towns.

Impact on employment generation

- After the construction of PMGSY roads, an improvement in the employment situation in terms of more job opportunities, more avenues for self-employment, etc. were observed. A lot of housewives mentioned that they have started small scale industries like making, pickles, padads, boris (lentil cakes) murir moa (puffed rice balls) etc.
- On-farm employment opportunities have increased due to shift from grains to cash crops and also multiple cropping particularly in the state of Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh and Mizoram.
- More people are going to nearby towns and villages for odd jobs like selling woods, vegetables, dairy products and locally made items like pickles, papad etc.
- Non-farm opportunities like opening of shops, small business, cottage industries has increased

in the States of Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh.

- Besides, road connectivity has led to expansion of local industries, which in turn has generated employment opportunities.

Impact on Industry

- There has not been much impact in the industrial sector in terms of new small industries as it is too early to measure change. However, an impact on the existing small industries was observed in terms of easier access to raw materials, availability of commercial vehicles to transport bulk product to the markets etc. This has led to economies of scale particularly in the state of Assam and Mizoram.
- Beneficiaries reported that the pottery and brick making industry of Orissa has benefited from the PMGSY roads.
- Perceived benefit of PMGSY roads was also reported in the cottage industries of Tamil Nadu, Handloom industry of West Bengal and Agro industry in Assam.

Impact on health

- There has been an overall improvement in access to the health facilities like PHC's, sub-centres and district hospitals in the States of West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Orissa, Tamil Nadu, Himachal Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh.
- Positive impact was observed with regard to increase in accessibility to preventive and curative health care facilities; better management of infectious diseases and attending to emergencies due to faster access to health facilities and increase in frequency of visits by health workers.
- Improvement in antenatal and post-natal care thereby decreasing obstetrics emergencies was

observed by beneficiaries in the States of Mizoram, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

- Beneficiaries of the above mentioned states also mentioned that road connectivity and an improved transport system had enabled families to opt for institutional deliveries in hospitals outside the village.
- Beneficiaries reported decrease in infant and child mortality especially in the States of Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. This has been possible due to easier and faster availability of health care facilities in the post PMGSY road phase.

Impact on education sector

- With the construction of PMGSY roads, there has been an improvement in the accessibility to education facilities. This has resulted in increased school enrolment and school attendance in all the States.
- Beneficiaries reported that the PMGSY road connectivity had led to an increase in the number of girls going to schools in the States of Assam, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal. Most parents mentioned that they were now more confident about sending their daughters to schools unescorted.
- Another noteworthy impact has been in terms of regular attendance of the teachers throughout the year and greater inclination of parents to send boys and girls for higher studies and college education.

Impact on social aspects

- The construction of the PMGSY road has led to an increase in frequency of visits by Government officials. This is likely to result in better implementation of various Government schemes and programs.

- There has been an increase in the visits of grass root level functionaries like health workers/ Auxilliary Nurse and Midwives (ANMs), Village Level Workers (VLWs) and Village Anganwadi Worker (VAWs) in the states of Orissa, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal.
- Beneficiaries also mentioned that with better road connectivity there has been an improvement in accessibility to the Banks and improvement of the Post and Telegraph facilities in all the States.
- Road connectivity has also enabled a quicker access to police services. This has ensured an improved law and order situation in some areas.
- A notable change as observed was that social network of villagers has widened in all the States Marriage alliance radius has increased substantially.
- The road connectivity has increased the mobility of women as they can now travel alone in buses and cycles. Many women mentioned that they have taken up small jobs (such in the as a anganwadi worker, daily wage labourer etc) in the post road phase.

Impact on transport facilities

- The benefits of rural connectivity has been felt most in Mizoram and Rajasthan where PMGSY roads have made it easier for the beneficiaries to cope with the difficult terrain.
- Beneficiaries in all the States mentioned that there has been an increase in ownership of bicycles and two wheelers especially in the States of Assam, Rajasthan, West Bengal and Tamil Nadu.
- Beneficiaries also mentioned that there has been an improvement in the public as well as the private transport system in all the States under study.

Impact on Urbanization

- Trend towards urbanization of an area as in immediate and direct impact of providing rural road connectivity was observed in course of the study. The study areas have seen some rapid changes from traditional to modern ways of life. For, instance, roads have drawn the villagers to the town entertainments; there has been increased use the ownership of television and other electrical gadgets.
- Penetration of cooking gas in the rural areas has been facilitated, with consequent beneficial impact on the health of women and more time for not having to collect firewood or make dung cakes, and due to faster cooking time of gas.
- The states of Mizoram, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal reported conversion of kuchcha houses to pucca houses.
- Beneficiaries in all the States mentioned that the most visible change was in term of sudden escalation of prices of land adjacent to the PMGSY roads. This had led to an increase in the sale of land for commercial purposes.

Impact on Poverty Alleviation

- A spin off benefit of PMGSY roads has been on the income level of the habitants benefiting from these roads. The roads, directly or indirectly have provided opportunities for on-farm and off-farm employments as well as self-employment.
- With the improvement in on-farm and non-farm employment opportunities, beneficiaries in all the states reported increase in their average household income.

The detailed report in respect of each of this state is available at the program website www.pmgysy.nic.in.

Statement-III**State-wise list of Nodal Department executing agencies and state-level Autonomous agencies under the PMGSY**

S.No.	State	Nodal Department	Executing Agency	State Level Autonomous Body
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Panchayati Raj and Rural Development	Panchayati Raj and Rural Development	AP State Rural Development Authority
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Public Works Department	Public Works Department	Arunachal Rural Road Development Agency
3.	Assam	Panchayat Rural Development	Public Works Department (Roads Wing)	Assam State Road Board
4.	Bihar	Rural Development	Rural Engineering Organisation*	Bihar Rural Roads Development Agency
5.	Chhattisgarh	Panchayati Raj & Rural Development	Rural Engineering Services	Chhattisgarh Rural Road Development Agency
6.	Goa	Rural Development	Rural Development Department	District Rural Development Agency
7.	Gujarat	Roads & Buildings Department	Roads & Buildings Department	Gujarat State Rural Road Development Agency
8.	Haryana	Public Works Department	Public Works Department (R&B)	Haryana State Roads & Bridges Development Corporation
9.	Himachal Pradesh	Public Works Department	Public Works Department	H.P. Gram Sadak Development Agency
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	Public Works Department	PWD & Rural Development Deptt.	Jammu & Kashmir State Rural Roads Agency
11.	Jharkhand	Rural Development	Rural Engineering Organisation	Jharkhand Rajya Gramin Path Vikas Pradhikaran
12.	Karnataka	Rural Development & Panchayati Raj	Rural Development Engineering Wing	Karnataka Land Army Corporation

1	2	3	4	5
13.	Kerala	Rural Development	Engineering Wing under PR Institutions.	Kerala State Rural Roads Agency
14.	Madhya Pradesh	Madhya Pradesh Rural Roads Development Authority	MP Rural Roads Development Authority	Madhya Pradesh Rural Roads Development Authority
15.	Maharashtra	Rural Development, Public Works Department	Zilla Parishad Works Department PWD	Maharashtra Rural Roads Development Association
16.	Manipur	Rural Development	Public Works Department	Manipur State Level Autonomous Agency for PMGSY
17.	Meghalaya	Rural Development	Public Works Department	State Rural Roads Development Agency
18.	Mizoram	Rural Development	Public Works Department	Mizoram Rural Road Development Agency
19.	Nagaland	Rural Development	Public Works Department (Roads and Bridges)	Nagaland Rural Road Development Agency (NGRRDA)
20.	Orissa	Rural Development	Rural Works Department	Orissa State Rural Road Agency
21.	Punjab	Public Works Department (Roads & Bridges)	Public Works Department (Roads & Bridges)	Punjab Roads and Bridges Development Board
22.	Rajasthan	Public Works Department	Public Works Department	Rajasthan Rural Road Development Agency
23.	Sikkim	Rural Development	Public Works Department (Roads and Bridges)	Sikkim State Rural Roads Agency
24.	Tamil Nadu	Rural Development (upto 2003-04 works) and Highways Deptt (from 2004-05 works)	Rural Development Engineering Wing **	Tamil Nadu Rural Housing & Infrastructure Development Corporation
25.	Tripura	Public Works Department	Public Works Department	Tripura Rural Road Agency
26.	Uttaranchal	Rural Development	Rural Development, Public Works Department	Uttaranchal Rural Road Development Agency

1	2	3	4	5
27.	Uttar Pradesh	Rural Development	1. Public Works Department, 2. Rural Engineering Services	Uttar Pradesh Grameen Sadak Vikas Abhikaran
28.	West Bengal	Panchyat & Rural Development	Zilla Paishad, Siliguri Mahakuma Parishad (SMP), Darjelling Gorkha Hill Council (DGHC)	West Bengal State Rural Development Agency (WBSRDA)

* Nominated Executing Agencies namely Central Public Works Department (CPWD), Nirman Bhavan, New Delhi; National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC); National Projects Construction Corporation Limited (NPCC); National Building Construction Corporation Limited (NBCC); IRCON International Limited (IRCON) have also been inducted in 2004-05.

**The State Government has transferred the responsibility for PMGSY to Highways Department from 2004-05.

Funds under Rural Employment Schemes

*131. SHRI V.K. THUMMAR :
SHRI B. MAHTAB :

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of schemes undertaken in rural areas with foreign assistance;

(b) the funds allocated/released under rural employment schemes during the last three years, State-wise and scheme-wise;

(c) the norms fixed for the above scheme;

(d) the funds utilized under each scheme during the last three years, scheme-wise and State-wise; and

(e) The achievements made in regard to women beneficiaries during the said period, scheme-wise?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) to (e) The details of the Schemes presently being implemented in the rural areas with foreign assistance in so far the Ministry of Rural Development is concerned are given in the statement-I enclosed.

The Ministry of Rural Development implements two major employment Schemes namely Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana for self-employment and Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) for wage-employment in rural areas of the country. During the current financial year a new Scheme namely National Food For Works Programme (NFFWP) has been launched in 150 most backwards districts of the country to generate supplementary wage employment and providing food security through creation of need based economic, social and community assets in these districts.

The funds under these Schemes are being allocated to the States/UTs on the basis of proportion of rural poor in a State/UT to the total rural poor in the country as per the estimates prepared by the Planning Commission on the basis of Survey conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO).

The State wise and year-wise Central funds released, total funds utilized and women beneficiaries assisted under Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) and Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) during the last three years (2001-02 to 2003-04) are given in the statement II and III enclosed.

Statement-I**Details of Foreign assistance Rural Development Projects**

S. No.	Name of the Projects	Project Cost	Amount of Loan/Grant
1	2	3	4
I. World Bank Aided District Poverty Initiative Projects (Funded by IDA) (Amount in US \$ Million)			
1.	Andhra Pradesh, District Poverty Initiatives Project	134.800	111.000
2.	Andhra Pradesh, Rural Poverty Reduction Project	275.000	150.000
3.	Madhya Pradesh, District Poverty Initiatives Project	134.700	110.100
4.	Rajasthan, District Poverty Initiatives Project	124.800	100.500
5.	Chattisgarh, Rural Poverty Reduction Project	129.350	112.560
II. World Bank and Asian Development Bank (ADB) funding for Rural Road Sector Projects (Rs. in Crore)			
1.	Rural Roads Sector Projects (RRSP-I) funding ADB Madhya Pradesh & Chhattishgarh	2000.00	0.000
2.	Rural Roads Sector Projects (RRSP-II) funding ADB West Bengal, Assam & Orissa	2500.00	0.000
3.	Rural Roads Sector Projects funding World Bank Jharkhand, Rajasthan, H.P., U.P. & Bihar * = For Rajasthan State.	2000.00	134.5*
III. World Bank Assisted Rural Water Supply and Environment Sanitation Projects (Amount in US \$ Million)			
1.	Kerala Rural Water Supply & Environment Sanitation Project	89.80	65.50
2.	Second Karnataka Rural Water Supply & Environment Sanitation Project	193.40	151.60
3.	Second Maharashtra Rural Water Supply & Environment Sanitation Project	268.65	181.00
IV. Department for International Development (DFID) Funded Projects (Rs. in Crore)			
1.	Andhra Pradesh Rural Livelihood Project (APRLP)	320	320.00
2.	Western Orissa Rural Livelihood Project (WORLP)	230	230.00
3.	Madhya Pradesh Rural Livelihood Project (MPRLP)-Phase-I	114.87	114.87

1	2	3	4
V.	Tree Growers Cooperative Projects Funding by Canadian Cooperative International Development Agency (CIDA) (Rs. in Crore)		
	In Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh & Uttaranchal	45.99	45.99
VI.	Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) Funding Project (Rs. in Crore)		
	Attappady Wasteland Comprehensive Environmental Conservation Project	219.31	176.89
VII.	European Community Funding Projects (Rs. in Crore)		
	Haryana Community Forestry Project	126.00	97.80
VIII.	Bilateral Funded Rural Water Supply & Sanitation Projects (Rs. in Crore)		
	DANIDA assisted Karnataka Integrated Rural Water Supply and Environmental Sanitation Project	51.00	39.00
	RWSS Project-Phase-II in Karnataka under Danish Assistance	35.20	20.60
	JIBC (formerly OECF) aided Kerala Water Supply Project	1787.45	1519.38
	Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project with financial assistance from Govt. of Germany through KFW in Maharashtra.	107.18	6.21
	Bolpu-Raghunathpur Water Supply, Sanitation and Health Education funded by German through KFW in West Bengal	156.00	61.57
	DANIDA assisted Water Supply and Sanitation Project Tamil Nadu.	43.00	34.02
	Integrated Water Supply, Sanitation and Community participation Programme with financial assistance from Govt. of Germany through KFW in Rajasthan	402.30	
	Integrated Water Supply, Sanitation and community participation Programme in Ratangarh-Sujangarh & Bungi-Rajgarh Section of Churu Distt. In Rajasthan-Phase-II.	405.08	
	Netherlands assisted Rural Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Project in Gujarat		
	The Netherlands assisted Community-managed water and sanitation programme in Earthquake-affected villages of Gujarat Project.		
	The Netherlands assisted Institutional support to WASMO in Gujarat Project.		

Statement-II

Central Funds Released, Total Funds Utilised and Employment Generated for Women under the Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) During 2001-02 to 2003-04

S.No.	State/UTs	During 2001-2002			During 2002-2003			During 2003-2004		
		Central Funds Released (Rs. in Lakhs)	Funds Utilized (Rs. in Lakhs)	Employment Generated For Women (Lakhs Nos.)	Central Funds Released (Rs. in Lakhs)	Funds Utilized (Rs. in Lakhs)	Employment Generated For Women (Lakhs Nos.)	Central Funds Released (Rs. in Lakhs)	Funds Utilized (Rs. in Lakhs)	Employment Generated For Women (Lakhs Nos.)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	19933.07	28025.37	110.75	24380.17	28944.18	139.74	23995.50	33965.38	167.40
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1148.79	1032.03	4.14	824.26	1427.27	7.33	1560.75	1257.74	5.28
3.	Assam	26986.25	23249.33	49.81	22496.96	27332.23	49.21	29681.01	41422.14	72.27
4.	Bihar	38402.38	33718.59	87.48	26727.42	44312.74	108.77	34203.10	48593.41	108.36
5.	Chhattisgarh	10781.22	14489.65	141.97	12013.04	15827.20	132.46	12023.34	16805.85	107.05
6.	Goa	168.92	195.16	0.93	75.04	70.57	0.20	110.36	78.92	0.23
7.	Gujarat	7339.16	7396.69	19.91	6942.87	9069.84	59.73	9654.67	13596.10	92.14
8.	Haryana	5697.71	6106.45	23.83	5610.37	9206.71	32.64	5599.45	7442.93	19.55
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1853.52	2342.70	1.75	2046.00	1827.04	1.24	2394.67	3256.44	2.25
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	2860.56	2970.86	0.00	2051.61	3894.86	0.00	10803.04	4195.30	0.00
11.	Jharkhand	25471.80	28593.78	78.45	17584.68	32556.04	79.90	26675.15	40280.58	92.32
12.	Karnataka	15090.25	19708.71	87.50	17429.04	24293.34	151.76	19428.39	24748.91	172.94
13.	Kerala	6732.96	9892.17	23.37	7665.17	7710.51	21.53	8696.74	10065.14	34.75

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
14.	Madhya Pradesh	24533.33	31835.80	171.01	26872.02	33324.50	202.43	26705.26	38744.86	212.79
15.	Maharashtra	28941.41	35469.28	153.49	28960.58	38213.83	159.27	31212.10	47411.11	202.71
16.	Manipur	922.18	287.16	0.00	669.80	1257.14	3.71	1331.40	1071.19	3.73
17.	Meghalaya	1669.37	2256.35	8.29	1905.92	1833.13	8.90	2055.44	2716.95	11.15
18.	Mizoram	639.38	806.96	3.56	573.88	869.41	4.67	757.86	801.68	4.55
19.	Nagaland	1446.04	737.61	3.69	667.28	1111.86	3.81	1168.08	1170.55	135.68
20.	Orissa	23698.71	31226.43	136.50	27406.55	32947.22	173.14	24743.95	38608.74	206.66
21.	Punjab	2116.18	2596.04	0.50	3848.98	4157.25	0.46	4620.05	6055.59	0.26
22.	Rajasthan	11395.97	17566.16	60.50	14904.76	20514.24	153.38	13860.68	22075.62	108.44
23.	Sikkim	597.19	449.75	1.77	439.18	478.25	2.53	703.55	760.00	2.97
24.	Tamilnadu	20101.92	24019.57	96.34	21161.09	24467.54	166.67	23318.54	33602.53	188.03
25.	Tripura	3680.47	4563.24	19.22	3850.07	4211.48	27.12	3991.89	5959.21	33.67
26.	Uttanchal	4449.27	4447.51	7.45	4398.54	5031.26	3.33	5355.75	7492.65	16.95
27.	Uttar Pradesh	67553.49	63989.71	114.70	66092.08	91865.03	175.59	65695.85	111863.13	181.91
28.	West Bengal	24279.42	21076.39	37.00	20649.89	30040.03	83.20	21453.96	31604.04	91.54
29.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	96.21	78.14	0.06	42.32	0.00	0.00	97.40	23.77	0.07
30.	D & N Haveli	89.98	3.86	0.02	61.40	0.00	0.00	41.13	0.00	0.00
31.	Daman & Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
32.	Lakshadweep	25.89	17.51	0.11	0.00	5.79	0.30	28.57	2.59	0.00
33.	Pondicherry	164.82	58.00	0.11	112.61	200.97	1.12	136.13	101.69	0.47
All-India		378867.82	419206.96	1444.20	368463.58	500001.46	1954.14	412103.79	595774.74	2276.12

Statement-III

Central Funds Released, Total Funds Utilised and Employment Generated for Women under the Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) During 2001-02 to 2003-04

S. No.	State/UTs	During 2001-2002			During 2002-2003			During 2003-2004		
		Central Funds Released (Rs. in Lakhs)	Funds Utilized (Rs. in Lakhs)	Women Swarozgaris Assisted (In Nos.)	Central Funds Released (Rs. in Lakhs)	Funds Utilized (Rs. in Lakhs)	Women Swarozgaris Assisted (In Nos.)	Central Funds Released (Rs. in Lakhs)	Funds Utilized (Rs. in Lakhs)	Women Swarozgaris Assisted (In Nos.)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3068.31	6240.76	62859	3736.02	5800.68	56847	3942.42	5631.80	66814
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	106.34	185.57	472	78.06	162.50	321	139.60	176.17	338
3.	Assam	3328.48	2989.44	5246	2802.61	3587.09	35229	5313.00	7417.91	26207
4.	Bihar	3348.37	10600.77	33997	3493.34	10822.77	24801	5488.81	11216.49	26467
5.	Chhattisgarh	1467.21	3887.90	3362	1968.76	3510.70	4068	2025.44	2975.36	4181
6.	Goa	25.00	28.94	672	17.65	40.18	252	17.65	51.31	123
7.	Gujarat	885.51	2349.05	5987	1403.27	2006.46	6798	1508.00	2415.12	8304
8.	Haryana	679.48	1480.58	7614	827.79	1317.00	6431	932.06	1437.07	7009
9.	Himachal Pradesh	286.16	764.93	4980	348.62	593.07	3222	304.77	642.77	4606
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	342.81	716.22	7146	350.44	650.91	4493	427.45	842.03	2674
11.	Jharkhand	1196.01	4892.33	21678	1801.02	3939.38	10867	2817.41	4711.54	26864
12.	Karnataka	1659.33	5147.38	26390	2686.99	4882.43	26963	2777.12	4711.28	36163
13.	Kerala	1039.64	1998.68	14397	1266.55	2062.58	13875	1435.18	2054.13	15650

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
14.	Madhya Pradesh	3425.29	7583.71	18709	4232.53	7402.90	16489	4397.14	7040.11	17373
15.	Maharashtra	3842.09	10288.29	31414	5579.85	8239.25	32007	5712.39	8839.88	40019
16.	Manipur	13.02	NR	NR	0.00			56.75		
17.	Meghalaya	83.38	305.43	112	27.51	86.88	857	117.12	161.90	2284
18.	Mizoram	64.17	101.77	2270	77.47	84.03	291	99.96	138.00	866
19.	Nagaland	69.98	337.85	645	83.15	184.01	658	157.80	105.63	744
20.	Orissa	2744.13	6138.55	19842	4181.99	5499.02	21149	4553.07	6699.20	38667
21.	Punjab	325.37	635.92	2348	391.58	668.22	3376	444.25	671.96	3634
22.	Rajasthan	1759.38	3462.03	15807	2143.41	2917.62	12657	2261.24	3157.57	13635
23.	Sikkim	82.38	231.06	542	95.33	129.80	264	110.76	230.30	509
24.	Tamilnadu	2713.06	5445.97	50785	3290.35	5068.76	54860	3690.70	5852.91	60048
25.	Tripura	622.08	1170.46	9090	599.65	975.63	2532	696.74	967.15	2203
26.	Uttanchal	496.90	1559.69	4931	667.95	1305.22	3830	686.02	1356.48	5871
27.	Uttar Pradesh	6316.37	15536.66	30422	7126.87	14721.83	30470	11756.85	19564.60	44899
28.	West Bengal	78.26	2865.13	3969	1121.19	5355.23	8302	2617.59	5298.25	12765
29.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	12.50	23.33	128	0.00	14.41	29	0.00	4.24	143
30.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	0.00	NR	NR	0.00			0.00	6.16	48
31.	Daman & Diu	0.00	3.17	48	0.00	1.34	5	0.00		
32.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.10	0	0.00	0.70	1	0.00	2.53	10
33.	Pondicherry	28.93	60.32	29	53.64	80.67	669	25.00	44.91	706
All-India		40109.94	97031.98	385891	50455.59	92111.27	382613	64512.29	104424.76	469824

[Translation]

**Short Supply of Coal to Thermal
Power Projects**

*132. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :
SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether power generation by thermal power plants has come down due to shortage of coal in the country as reported in the Dainik Jagaran, dated 10.01.2005;

(b) whether power generation targets of the thermal power plants was lower last year, particularly in Rajasthan;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the names of the thermal, hydel and atomic power plants in the country which could not meet their power generation targets;

(e) the names of the most affected power stations in the country due to shortage of coal; and

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

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a)
Yes, Sir. There has been a reported generation loss of 1497.56 MUs on account of coal shortage in the current year (April, 2004 – January, 2005).

(b) The electricity generation targets set for the thermal power plants in the country as well as for Rajasthan during the year 2004-05 are 486372 MUs and 16650 MUs respectively as compared to 472650 MUs and 15891 MUs for previous year, i.e. 2003-04.

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

(d) The list of the thermal, hydel and nuclear

power stations that could not meet their generation targets in the current year (April, 2004 - January, 2005) is given in the statement enclosed.

(e) As per information available, Talcher Super Thermal Power Station, Farakka Super Thermal Power Station and Kahaigaon Super Thermal Power Station of National Thermal Power Corporation Ltd. have been most affected due to shortage of coal.

(f) The steps being taken by the Government to overcome the shortage of coal are as follows:—

(i) Monitoring :

— A group of officers headed by Secretary (Coordination) in the Cabinet Secretariat review the infrastructure constraints including supply of coal to thermal power plants in the country.

— A sub-group headed by Joint Secretary, Ministry of Coal reviews supply of coal to critical power stations having stocks to less than 7 days and take corrective measures.

(ii) Alternatively, coal is also dispatched from the mines other than the linked mines to the power stations facing shortage of supply.

(iii) Actions have been initiated by select power generation utilities for import of coal.

(iv) Opening of new coal blocks by Public Sector Undertaking under the administrative control on Ministry of Coal.

(v) Allocation of captive coal block to the power utilities.

(vi) Application of clean technology such as Integrated Gasification Combined Cycle for coal having high ash content, which would reduce consumption of coal.

Statement

A List of Thermal Power Stations, which could not meet their targets during the current year (April'04-Jan'05)

Station	Target MU	Actual MU	Shortfall MU	% of Target
1	2	3	4	5
National Thermal Power Corporation				
Farakka STPS	9008	7956.56	1051.44	88.3
Anta GT	2431	2353.91	77.09	96.8
Kawas GT	3282	2237.01	1044.99	68.2
Kayamkulam GT	1664	246.95	1417.05	14.8
Neyveli Lignite Corporation				
Neyveli-II	8045	7269.12	775.88	90.4
Damodar Valley Corporation				
Durgapur	1508	1212.44	295.56	80.4
Bokaro-B	2457	1999.12	457.88	81.4
Mejia	4071	3780.11	290.89	92.9
North Eastern Electric Power Corporation				
Kathalguri GT	1313	1294.33	18.67	98.6
Indraprastha Gas Power Corporation Ltd.				
Rajghat	706	579.28	126.72	82.1
IP GT	1523	1319.87	203.13	86.7
Haryana Power Generation Company Ltd.				
F Bad Ext	769	743.82	25.18	96.7
Panipat	5154	4982.39	171.61	96.7
Punjab State Electricity Board				
GNDTP	1775	1701.51	7349	95.9

1	2	3	4	5
Uttar Pradesh Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Limited				
Obra	4978	4498.06	479.94	90.4
H'Ganj B	613	561.82	51.18	91.7
Anpara	9716	9449.14	266.86	97.3
Gujarat Electricity Board				
Gandhi Nagar 1-4	3262	2758.88	503.12	84.6
Kutch Lig.	815	718.29	96.71	88.1
GMDCL				
Akrimota LIG.	135	0	135	0.0
GSECL				
Gandhinagar-5	1369	1277.97	91.03	93.4
Dhuvaran CCP	588	571.48	16.52	97.2
GSEGL				
Hazira CCP	963	945.34	17.66	98.2
A E Co.				
Sabarmati	2200	2168.97	31.03	98.6
GTEC				
GTE Corp	3719	2968.82	750.18	79.8
MTGPCL				
Amarkantak	166	141.5	24.5	85.2
Amarkantak Ext	952	838.39	113.61	88.1
Chhattisgarh State Electricity Board				
Korba-III	834	721.11	112.89	86.5
Korba West	4660	4589.27	70.73	98.5
Maharashtra State Electricity Board				
Nasik	5148	4829.25	318.75	93.8

1	2	3	4	5
Koradi	5776	5543.22	232.78	96.0
Transmission Corporation of Andhra Pradesh				
Pedapuram CCGT	1322	975.11	346.89	73.8
Jegrupadu GT	1337	1174.06	162.94	87.8
Kondapalli GT	2093	1853.04	239.96	88.5
LVS Power GT	205	0	205	0.0
Godavri GT	1250	1158.59	91.41	92.7
Kerala State Electricity Board				
Brahampuram DG	227	101.97	125.03	44.9
Kojikode DG	299	123.18	175.82	41.2
Cochin CCGT	918	85.78	832.22	9.3
Kasargode DG	119	13.75	105.25	11.6
Karnataka Power Corporation Ltd.				
Raichur	8946	8699.6	246.4	97.2
Yelhanka DG	293	170.34	122.66	58.1
Bellary DG	156	32.96	123.04	21.1
Tanir Bavi	1374	422.6	951.4	30.8
Torangallu Import	660	355.88	304.12	53.9
Belgaum DG	446	155.55	290.45	34.9
Tamil Nadu Electricity Board				
Ennore	1163	993.76	169.24	85.4
Mettur	6835	6750.86	84.14	98.8
North Chennai	3720	3330.97	389.03	89.5
Basin Bridge GT	126	31.36	94.64	24.9
Valathur GT	551	445.75	105.25	80.9
Kuttalam GT	540	510.08	29.92	94.5

1	2	3	4	5
Karuppur	65	0	65	0.0
Samayanallur DG	410	270.35	139.65	65.9
Neyveli TPS (Z)	1197	1005.9	191.1	84.0
PPNL CCGT	1001	429.92	571.08	42.9
Samalpatti DG	415	282.7	132.3	68.1
Valantharvi GT	178	0	178	0.0
Basin Bridge DG	902	621.16	280.84	68.9
Bihaar State Electricity Board				
Barauni	265	122.6	142.32	46.3
Jharkhand State Electricity Board				
Patratu	1041	609.62	431.38	58.6
Tenughat Vidyut Nigam Limited				
Tenughat	1255	1093.82	161.18	87.2
West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited				
Bandel	1975	1819.02	155.98	92.1
Calcutta Electricity Supply Corporation				
New Cossipore	408	404.04	3.96	99.0
Assam State Electricity Board				
Namrup ST	43	0.13	42.87	0.3
Namrup WHP	73	65.07	7.93	89.1
Lakwa GT	349	246.97	102.03	70.8
DLF	160	114.6	45.32	71.7
Electricity Department, Manipur				
Leimakhong DT	8	0	8	0.0
Electricity Department, Mizoram				
Bairabi DG	8	0	8	0.0

A List of Hydel Power Stations, which could not meet Their Targets during the current year (April 04-January 05)

Station	Target MU	Actual MU	% of Target
1	2	3	4
BBMB	8862	7426	83.8
West Yamuna Canal	266	248	93.3
Giri Bata	181	123	68
Sanjay Bhava	555	553	99.6
Bassi	266	242	99.1
Baspa	1290	1142	88.5
Malana	340	251	73.9
Baira Siul	657	501	76.4
Chamera	1885	1740	92.3
Chamera II	1234	1200	97.3
SJVN (formerly NJPC)	5744	4709	82
Upper Sindh	208	162	78.1
Uri	1917	1836	95.8
Shanan	483	461	95.5
Anandpur Sahib	590	478	81
Ranjit Sagar	1145	965	84.2
Mukerian	860	776	90.3
Rihand	775	449	57.9
Obra (H)	244	190	77.9
Khara	345	256	74.3
Khatima	172	158	92.2

1	2	3	4
Chibro (Yamuna)	780	527	67.6
Khodri	358	247	69.3
Dhakrani	161	115	71.4
Dhalipur	230	170	73.9
Kulhal	154	118	76.5
Ukai	658	378	57.5
Sardar Sarovar	278	149	53.7
Pench	310	229	73.9
Rajghat (MP)	90	70	78.4
Bansagar I	970	869	89.6
Bansagar II	75	65	87.1
Bansagar III	100	76	76
Birsinghpur	45	38	85
Hasdeobango	385	352	91.5
Vaitarna	81	67	83.1
Tiliari	76	10	13.2
T.B. Dam	177	135	76.6
Nagarjuna Sagar	1580	492	31.2
Nagarjuna Sagar RBC	150	48	31.8
Nagarjuna Sagar LBC	61	5	8.4
Pochampad	83	2	2
Sholayar	218	208	95.6
Shravathy	3420	3087	90.3
Kadra	259	204	78.6
Kodasali	220	174	79.3

1	2	3	4
Kalinadi	1710	1344	78.6
Kalinadi Supa	287	226	78.9
Liganamakki	178	157	88.5
Bhadra	77	36	46.6
Gerusuppa	358	357	99.8
Almatti DPH	123	118	96.3
Bhoiruka Hydro	120	102	84.8
Mettur Dam	37	25	66.8
Kosi	12	3	27.3
Subernrekha	206	148	72
Panchet	133	126	95.1
Hirakud	829	761	91.8
Rengali	724	682	94.2
Maithon	130	96	74.1
Teesta	105	86	81.7
Kopili	898	838	93.3
Kyredemkulai	134	111	83.1

A List of Nuclear Power Stations, which could not meet Their Targets during the current year (April 04-Jan' 05)

Station	Target MU	Actual MU	Shortfall MU	% of Target
Kakrapara	2413	2001	412	82.9
Kaiga	2409	2396	13	99.5
Madras Atomic Power Plant	1348	1195	153	88.7

Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme

*133. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK :

SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the States, where Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme is being launched and since when, Project-wise;

(b) the Central assistance/grants released to those States under the programme during each of the last three years;

(c) the demand made by various States under the programme during last three years; and

(d) the major achievements of APDRP with regard to aggregate, Technical and Commercial losses, commercial viability reduction in outages and interruptions and increase in consumer satisfaction in power sector since 2003?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP) was launched in 2002-03. Under the investment component, funds are provided for specific projects for upgradation and strengthening of sub-transmission and distribution system in densely electrified zones in urban and industrial areas in order to reduce aggregate technical and commercial losses. Till date, projects with an estimated cost of Rs.17612.36 crores were sanctioned under APDRP. A list of projects sanctioned under APDRP, state-wise is given in the statement-I enclosed. Under the incentive component of APDRP, 50% of the actual cash loss reduction effected is given as grant to such Utilities that reduce cash losses over the base year of 2000-01. An aggregate amount of Rs.955.58 crore has been released as incentive to the six states.

(b) APDRP was launched in 2002-03 and the funds released to the States under investment component are given in the statement-II enclosed and grants released

under incentive component are given in the statement-III enclosed.

(c) States desirous of availing assistance under APDRP are required to prepare Detailed Projects Reports (DPRs) and send the same to Ministry of Power through their Adviser-cum-Consultants (AcCs). Based on the recommendations of AcCs, the proposals are considered by the Steering Committee and decided on merits. The total cost of projects sanctioned to various States under investment component of APDRP during the last three years is given in the statement-IV enclosed.

(d) The achievements under APDRP are:

- i. 13 States have corporatised/ unbundled their SEBs.
- ii. 26 States have constituted State Electricity Regulatory Commission.
- iii. 18 States have issued tariff orders.
- iv. 18 States have reported reduction in transmission and distribution losses. Details of T&D losses of various States during the years 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03 are given in the statement-V enclosed.
- v. The States of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Haryana, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal have shown reduction in cash losses. The details are as under:

(Rs. In Crores)

S.No.	Name of State	Reduction in cash loss
1	2	3
1.	Maharashtra	275.78
2.	Gujarat	472.76
3.	Haryana	210.98
4.	Rajasthan	275.42

1	2	3
5.	Andhra Pradesh	530.22
6.	West Bengal	146.00
Total		1911.16

- vi. 100% feeder metering have been achieved in 17 states namely in Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Delhi, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamilnadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh & Uttaranchal. The metering status in all the States is given in the statement VI enclosed.
- vii. 100% consumer metering have been achieved in 4 states namely in Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka & Punjab. Overall 87% of the consumers have been metered in the country against 78% during the year 2000. The metering status in all the States is given in the statement-VII enclosed.

Statement-I

State Wise list of sub-Transmission & Distribution (ST&D) Improvement and Up-Gradation Projects Sanctioned under APDRP

(Rs. in Crore)

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Project Cost	Approval Date
1	2	3	4
1.	Sub-Transmission & Distribution (ST&D) Project in Hyderabad Circle	307.27	25-Sep-02
2.	ST&D Project in Hindupur Town	4.85	25-Sep-02

1	2	3	4
3.	ST&D Project in Guntakal Town	3.71	25-Sep-02
4.	ST&D Project in Dharamvaram Town	3.42	25-Sep-02
5.	ST&D Project in Tadipatri Town	3.50	25-Sep-02
6.	ST&D Project in Kadiri Town	2.28	20-Nov-02
7.	ST&D Project in Rayadurgam Town	1.14	20-Nov-02
8.	ST&D Project in Kukatpally Town	14.75	20-Nov-02
9.	ST&D Project in Mahbubnagar Town	5.80	20-Nov-02
10.	ST&D Project in Gadawal Town	1.82	20-Nov-02
11.	ST&D Project in Waanaparthi Town	1.77	20-Nov-02
12.	ST&D Project in Narayanpet Town	1.45	20-Nov-02
13.	ST&D Project in Miryalguda Town	2.37	20-Nov-02
14.	ST&D Project in Medak Town	1.56	20-Nov-02
15.	ST&D Project in Siddipet Town	4.36	20-Nov-02
16.	ST&D Project in Sangareddy Town	2.01	20-Nov-02
17.	ST&D Project in Zaheerabad Town	1.72	20-Nov-02

1	2	3	4
18.	ST&D Project in Sadasivapet Town	1.62	20-Nov-02
19.	ST&D Project in Nalgonda Town	5.47	20-Nov-02
20.	ST&D Project in Suryapet Town	3.58	20-Nov-02
21.	ST&D Project in Bhongir Town	2.38	20-Nov-02
22.	ST&D Project in Qutbullapur Town	24.03	20-Nov-02
23.	ST&D Project in LB Nagar Town	12.09	20-Nov-02
24.	ST&D Project in Malkajgiri Town	5.01	20-Nov-02
25.	ST&D Project in Shairlingampally Town	9.22	20-Nov-02
26.	ST&D Project in Kapra Town	9.02	20-Nov-02
27.	ST&D Project in Rajendranagar Town	9.99	20-Nov-02
28.	ST&D Project in Uppal Town	17.68	20-Nov-02
29.	ST&D Project in Tandur Town	4.41	20-Nov-02
30.	ST&D Project in Vikarabad Town	2.4	20-Nov-02
31.	ST&D Project in Anantpur Town	21.12	20-Nov-02
32.	ST&D Project in Kumool Town	14.66	20-Nov-02
33.	ST&D Project in Adoni Town	4.35	20-Nov-02

1	2	3	4
34.	ST&D Project in Yemmiganuru Town	1.78	20-Nov-02
35.	ST&D Project in Nandial Town	16.39	20-Nov-02
36.	ST&D Project in Eluru Circle	222.38	20-Nov-02
37.	ST&D Project in Kakinada Town	21.49	20-Nov-02
38.	ST&D Project in Rajamundry Town	24.93	20-Nov-02
39.	ST&D Project in Tuni Town	1.56	20-Nov-02
40.	ST&D Project in Alampuram Town	5.08	20-Nov-02
41.	ST&D Project in Samalkot Town	2	20-Nov-02
42.	ST&D Project in Pithapuram Town	1.27	20-Nov-02
43.	ST&D Project in Peddapuram Town	4.07	20-Nov-02
44.	ST&D Project in Mandapeta Town	3.83	20-Nov-02
45.	ST&D Project in RC Puram Town	2.86	20-Nov-02
46.	ST&D Project in Srikakulam Town	6.43	20-Nov-02
47.	ST&D Project in Palasa Town	1.89	20-Nov-02
48.	ST&D Project in Amadalavalasa Town	0.8	20-Nov-02

1	2	3	4
49.	ST&D Project in Ittchapatnam Town	1.07	20-Nov-02
50.	ST&D Project in Vishakapatnam Town	55.45	20-Nov-02
51.	ST&D Project in Anakapalli Town	4.50	20-Nov-02
52.	ST&D Project in Bhijmli Town	0.46	20-Nov-02
53.	ST&D Project in Vijaynagar Town	9.75	20-Nov-02
54.	ST&D Project in Bobbili Town	1.87	20-Nov-02
55.	ST&D Project in Parvatipuram Town	1.56	20-Nov-02
56.	ST&D Project in Saluru Town	1.65	20-Nov-02
57.	ST&D Project in Warangal Town	122.30	20-Nov-02
58.	ST&D Project in Nizamabad Town	4.89	20-Nov-02
59.	ST&D Project in Ramagundam Town	4.90	20-Nov-02
60.	ST&D Project in Karimnagar Town	4.91	20-Nov-02
61.	ST&D Project in Khanamam Town	4.77	20-Nov-02
62.	ST&D Project in Adilabad Town	4.46	20-Nov-02
63.	ST&D Project in Mancheri Town	3.71	20-Nov-02

1	2	3	4
64.	ST&D Project in Kophagudum Town	4.27	20-Nov-02
65.	ST&D Project in Jagital Town	3.89	20-Nov-02
66.	ST&D Project in Nirmal Town	3.87	20-Nov-02
67.	ST&D Project in Godhan Town	3.37	20-Nov-02
68.	ST&D Project in Palvonacha Town	3.24	20-Nov-02
69.	ST&D Project in Bellampathy Town	1.55	20-Nov-02
70.	ST&D Project in Mandamarry Town	0.95	20-Nov-02
71.	ST&D Project in Kamareddy Town	3.00	20-Nov-02
72.	ST&D Project in Sirpurkagh Town	1.53	20-Nov-02
73.	ST&D Project in Kototal Town	1.35	20-Nov-02
74.	ST&D Project in Ellundu Town	2.29	20-Nov-02
75.	ST&D Project in Bhainsa Town	1.23	20-Nov-02
76.	ST&D Project in Tirupati Circle	263.99	16-Jul-02
77.	ST&D Project in Cudappa Town	7.01	20-Nov-02
78.	ST&D Project in Prodaatur Town	6.16	20-Nov-02

1	2	3	4
79.	ST&D Project in Guntur Town	22.6	20-Nov-02
80.	ST&D Project in Tenalll Town	7.47	20-Nov-02
81.	ST&D Project in Narasaraopeta Town	4.19	20-Nov-02
82.	ST&D Project in Chilakalurpeta Town	3.08	20-Nov-02
83.	ST&D Project in Sattenapalli Town	2.23	20-Nov-02
84.	ST&D Project in Bapatla Town	2.7	20-Nov-02
85.	ST&D Project in Mangalgiri Town	2.82	20-Nov-02
86.	ST&D Project in Kunoor Town	2.69	20-Nov-02
87.	ST&D Project in Macheri Town	2	20-Nov-02
88.	ST&D Project in Repalletown Town	2.76	20-Nov-02
89.	ST&D Project in Nellore Town	14.24	20-Nov-02
90.	ST&D Project in Kavalli Town	2.47	20-Nov-02
91.	ST&D Project in Gudur Town	1.92	20-Nov-02
92.	ST&D Project in Markapur Town	2.18	20-Nov-02
93.	ST&D Project in Kandukuru Town	2.38	20-Nov-02

1	2	3	4
94.	ST&D Project in Vijayawada Town	23.60	20-Nov-02
95.	ST&D Project in Jaggipetah Town	1.84	20-Nov-02
96.	ST&D Project in Machellipatanam Town	6.53	
97.	ST&D Project in Gudivada Town	4.18	20-Nov-02
98.	ST&D Project in Nuzividu Town	3.10	20-Nov-02
99.	IT pilot for 1 circle each of 4 DISCOMs	12.90	20-May-03
100.	Kuppam Concentrated area	6.80	20-May-03
101.	Kuppam other area	15.20	20-May-03
Total		1511.10	

Bihar

102.	ST&D Project in PESU (East) Circle	43.85	16-Jul-02
103.	ST&D Project in Patna Circle	46.49	16-Jul-02
104.	ST&D Project in Muzzaffarpur Circle	63.55	16-Jul-02
105.	ST&D Project in PESU (West) Circle	46.63	25-Sep-02
106.	ST&D Project in Gaya Circle	80.35	25-Sep-02
107.	ST&D Project in Bhagalpur Circle	35.61	25-Sep-02
108.	ST&D Project in Chapra Circle	72.4	25-Sep-02

1	2	3	4
109.	ST&D Project in Darbhanga Circle	59.86	25-Sep-02
110.	ST&D Project in Rohtas Circle	72.82	25-Sep-02
111.	ST&D Project in Saharasa Circle	45.61	20-Nov-02
112.	ST&D Project in Purnea Circle	69.38	20-Nov-02
113.	Addl. Metering for PESU (E), Patna & Muzzaffarpur	81.02	20-Nov-02
114.	DMS/SCADA for PESU (W)	20.4	20-May-03
115.	ST&D Project in Darbhanga, Ph-II	30.28	20-Nov-02
116.	ST&D Project in Munger Circle	63.44	20-Sep-04
Total		831.69	

Chhattisgarh

117.	ST&D Project in Bilaspur Circle	132.11	16-Jul-02
118.	ST&D Project in Raipur Circle	150.29	16-Jul-02
119.	ST&D Project in Rajnandgaon Circle	62.02	16-Jul-02
120.	ST&D Project in Durg City	14	20-Nov-02
121.	ST&D Project in Bhillai City	16.6	20-Nov-02
122.	ST&D Project in Raipur City	49.56	20-May-03
Total		424.58	

1	2	3	4
Delhi			
123.	ST&D Project in East & West Delhi (BSES)	294.66	25-Sep-02
124.	ST&D Project in South Delhi (BSES)	187.75	20-Nov-02
125.	ST&D Project in Central Delhi (BSES)	142.95	20-Nov-02
126.	ST&D Project in North-West Delhi (NDPL)	193.10	25-Sep-02
127.	ST&D Project in North & N-West Delhi (NDPL)	128.00	20-Nov-02
Total		946.46	
Goa			
128.	ST&D Project in North Goa Circle	62.65	16-Jul-02
129.	ST&D Project in South Goa Circle	53.85	01-Sep-02
130.	ST&D Project in North Goa Ph-II	31.86	20-Nov-02
131.	ST&D Project in South Goa Ph-II	27.98	20-Nov-02
132.	ST&D Project in Margao Town	32.79	20-Nov-02
133.	ST&D Project in Panjim Town	35.47	20-Nov-02
134.	Improvement in North Goa & South Goa	57.8	20-Sep-04
Total		302.40	

1	2	3	4
Gujarat			
135.	ST&D Project in Jamnagar Circle	97.53	16-Jul-02
136.	ST&D Project in Himmatnagar Circle	62.16	16-Jul-02
137.	ST&D Project in Sabarmati Circle	74.27	16-Jul-02
138.	ST&D Project in Kutch/Bhuj Circle	102.49	16-Jul-02
139.	ST&D Project in Bharuch Circle	48.08	25-Sep-02
140.	ST&D Project in Valsad Circle	54.46	25-Sep-02
141.	ST&D Project in Surat Circle	120.75	25-Sep-02
142.	ST&D Project in Baroda Circle	50.26	25-Sep-02
143.	ST&D Project in Junagarh Circle	45.65	25-Sep-02
144.	ST&D Project in Bhavnagar Circle	69.11	25-Sep-02
145.	ST&D Project in Baroda City (SCADA)	30.38	20-Sep-04
146.	ST&D Project in Surat Elec Co.	142.98	20-Nov-02
147.	ST&D Project in Ahmedabad Elec Co.	206.41	20-Nov-02
Total		1104.53	

1	2	3	4
Haryana			
148.	ST&D Project in Karnal Circle	102.68	16-Jul-02
149.	Sonepat Circle	28.94	16-Jul-02
150.	ST&D Project in Gohana Town	2.75	20-May-03
151.	ST&D Project in Yamuna Nagar & Jagadri Town	12.62	20-Nov-02
152.	ST&D Project in Thanesar Town	8.09	20-Nov-02
153.	ST&D Project in Kaithel Town	3.56	20-Nov-02
154.	ST&D Project in Ambala Town	16.24	20-Nov-02
155.	ST&D Project in Rohtak Town	17.64	20-Nov-02
156.	ST&D Project in Bahadurgarh Town	10.87	20-Nov-02
157.	ST&D Project in Hissar Circle	79.84	16-Jul-02
158.	ST&D Project in Faridabad Circle	123.92	16-Jul-02
159.	ST&D Project in Narnaul (Rewari) Town	6.66	20-Nov-02
160.	ST&D Project in Bhiwani Town	7.82	20-Nov-02
161.	ST&D Project in Sirsa Town	10.41	20-Nov-02
162.	ST&D Project in Hansi Town	1.81	20-Nov-02

1	2	3	4
163.	ST&D Project in Hissar II Town	7.75	20-Nov-02
164.	ST&D Project in Fatehabad Town	5.76	20-Nov-02
165.	ST&D Project in Tohana Town	6.05	20-Nov-02
Total		453.41	
Jharkhand			
166.	ST&D Project in Ranchi Circle	114.2	16-Jul-02
167.	ST&D Project in Hazaribagh Circle	96.70	16-Jul-02
168.	ST&D Project in Dumka Circle	63.60	16-Jul-02
169.	ST&D Project in Jamshedpur, Ghatsila Circle	55.26	20-Nov-02
170.	ST&D Project in Dhanbad Circle	49.50	20-Nov-02
171.	ST&D Project in Deogarh Town	9.32	20-Nov-02
172.	ST&D Project in Katras, Chas, Jharia Town	24.07	20-Nov-02
173.	ST&D Project in Daltonganj, Garwa, Lathehar Town	32.20	20-Nov-02
Total		444.85	
Karnataka			
174.	ST&D Project in Belgaum Circle	153.62	16-Jul-02

1	2	3	4
175.	ST&D Project in Bijapur Circle	125.07	16-Jul-02
176.	ST&D Project in Hubli Circle	239.74	25-Sep-02
177.	ST&D Project in Mysore Circle	161.6	16-Jul-02
178.	ST&D Project in Hassan Town	10.54	25-Sep-02
179.	ST&D Project in Shimoga Town	1.92	20-Sep-04
180.	ST&D Project in Bhadrawathi Town	1.07	20-Sep-04
181.	ST&D Project in Sagar Town	0.67	20-Sep-04
182.	ST&D Project in Chikkamangalur Town	1.78	20-Sep-04
183.	ST&D Project in Holenarasipura Town	0.29	20-Sep-04
184.	ST&D Project in Mangalore Town	26.2	25-Sep-02
185.	ST&D Project in Gulbarga & Bidar Circle	58.65	25-Sep-02
186.	ST&D Project in Raichur Town	13.56	25-Sep-02
187.	ST&D Project in Shahabad Town	1.32	20-Sep-04
188.	ST&D Project in Robertson Pet Town	7.76	25-Sep-02
189.	ST&D Project in Tumkur Town	16.22	25-Sep-02

1	2	3	4
190.	ST&D Project in Bangalore Circle	338.3	25-Sep-02
191.	ST&D Project in Davangere (Town)	9.93	25-Sep-02
192.	ST&D Project in Anekal Town	5.47	20-Sep-04
193.	ST&D Project in Chandapura Town	6.01	20-Sep-04
194.	ST&D Project in Chitradurga Town	2.67	20-Sep-04
195.	ST&D Project in Chikballapur Town	1.5	20-Sep-04
196.	ST&D Project in Doddballapura Town	2.63	20-Sep-04
197.	ST&D Project in Ramanagara Town	1.19	20-Sep-04
198.	ST&D Project in Bangarpet Town	1.93	20-Sep-04
199.	ST&D Project in Harihar Town	0.7	20-Sep-04
200.	ST&D Project in Channapatna Town	0.68	20-Sep-04
201.	ST&D Project in Chintamani Town	1.77	20-Sep-04
Total		1192.79	
Kerala			
202.	ST&D Project in Kasargod Circle	50.84	16-Jul-02
203.	ST&D Project in Manjeri Circle	77.51	16-Jul-02

1	2	3	4
204.	ST&D Project in Pathanmathitta Circle	53.24	16-Jul-02
205.	ST&D Project in Thiruvananthapuram Town	31.59	20-Nov-02
206.	ST&D Project in Kollam Town	16.54	20-Nov-02
207.	ST&D Project in Cochin Town	63.00	20-Nov-02
208.	ST&D Project in Kozhikkode Town	15.42	20-Nov-02
209.	ST&D Project in Kannur Town	19.39	20-Nov-02
210.	ST&D Project in Thalassary Town	12.36	20-Nov-02
211.	ST&D Project in Alappuzha Town	10.46	20-Nov-02
212.	ST&D Project in Neyyatinkara Town	2.99	20-Sep-04
213.	ST&D Project in Mavellikara Town	3.30	20-Sep-04
214.	ST&D Project in Sherthala Town	2.48	20-Sep-04
215.	ST&D Project in Chengannur Town	4.35	20-Sep-04
216.	ST&D Project in Kottayam Town	2.77	20-Sep-04
217.	ST&D Project in Thodupuzha Town	5.06	20-Sep-04
218.	ST&D Project in Palakkad Town	6.54	20-Sep-04

1	2	3	4
219.	ST&D Project in Shomur Town	2.32	20-Sep-04
220.	ST&D Project in Payannur Town	3.18	20-Sep-04
221.	ST&D Project in Ottapalam Town	2.48	20-Sep-04
222.	ST&D Project in Punalur Town	5.63	20-Sep-04
223.	ST&D Project in Kayamkulam Town	6.58	20-Sep-04
224.	ST&D Project in Thrippunithura Town	3.95	20-Sep-04
225.	ST&D Project in Aluva Town	5.17	20-Sep-04
226.	ST&D Project in Angamaly Town	5.22	20-Sep-04
227.	ST&D Project in Kalamassery Town	3.04	20-Sep-04
228.	ST&D Project in North Paravoor Town	4.12	20-Sep-04
229.	ST&D Project in Perumbavoor Town	5.35	20-Sep-04
230.	ST&D Project in Muvattupuzha-Kothamangalam Town	7.03	20-Sep-04
231.	ST&D Project in Kodungallur Town	4.24	20-Sep-04
232.	ST&D Project in Irinjakkuda Town	5.46	20-Sep-04
233.	ST&D Project in Chalakkudy Town	4.97	20-Sep-04

1	2	3	4
234.	ST&D Project in Guruvayur-chavakkad Town	5.63	20-Sep-04
235.	ST&D Project in Kunnankulam Town	5.72	20-Sep-04
236.	ST&D Project in Nedumangad Town	3.55	20-Sep-04
237.	ST&D Project in Thrissur Town	12.80	20-Sep-04
Total		474.26	

Madhya Pradesh

238.	ST&D Project in Gwalior Circle	90.72	16-Jul-02
239.	ST&D Project in Guna Town	4	20-Nov-02
240.	ST&D Project in Bhopal Circle	63.17	20-Nov-02
241.	ST&D Project in Piparia Town	3.54	20-Nov-02
242.	ST&D Project in Itarasi Town	9.65	20-Nov-02
243.	ST&D Project in Hoshangabad Town	9.96	20-Nov-02
244.	ST&D Project in Harda Town	5.05	20-Nov-02
245.	ST&D Project in Vidisha Town	6.7	20-Nov-02
246.	ST&D Project in Shivpuri Town	5.73	20-May-03
247.	ST&D Project in Mandideep Town	5.86	20-May-03

1	2	3	4
248.	ST&D Project in Ujjain Circle	103.7	16-Jul-02
249.	ST&D Project in Indore Circle	176.38	16-Jul-02
250.	ST&D Project in Ratlam Town	10.75	20-Nov-02
251.	ST&D Project in Khandwa Town	8.74	20-Nov-02
252.	ST&D Project in Burahnpur Town	11.13	20-Nov-02
253.	ST&D Project in Dewas Town	22.86	20-May-03
254.	ST&D Project in Khargone Town	3.78	20-May-03
255.	ST&D Project in Dhar Town	3.02	20-May-03
256.	ST&D Project in Neemuch Town	4.86	20-May-03
257.	ST&D Project in Mandsaur Town	5.24	20-May-03
258.	ST&D Project in Sagar Town	5.87	20-Nov-02
259.	ST&D Project in Damoh Town	5.23	20-Nov-02
260.	ST&D Project in Katni Town	12.51	20-Nov-02
261.	ST&D Project in Shahdol Town	2.71	20-Nov-02
262.	ST&D Project in Narsinghur Town	1.71	20-Nov-02

1	2	3	4
263.	ST&D Project in Jabalpur Town	33.27	20-Nov-02
264.	ST&D Project in Mandla Town	1.52	20-Nov-02
265.	ST&D Project in Satna Town	4.62	20-Nov-02
266.	ST&D Project in Chhindwara Town	5.37	20-Nov-02
267.	ST&D Project in Siwani Town	3.4	20-Nov-02
268.	ST&D Project in Reewa Town	16.34	20-Nov-02
269.	ST&D Project in Balaghat Town	2.94	20-Nov-02
270.	ST&D Project in Washan Town	2.12	20-May-03
271.	ST&D Project in Chhatapur Town	4.41	20-May-03
272.	ST&D Project in Panna Town	2.3	20-May-03
273.	ST&D Project in Tikamgarh Town	2.31	20-May-03
274.	ST&D Project in Orchha Town	4.84	20-May-03
275.	ST&D Project in Niwari Town	10.9	20-May-03
276.	ST&D Project in Morwa Town	1.87	20-May-03
Total		679.08	

1	2	3	4
Maharashtra			
277.	ST&D Project in Osmanabad Town	7.55	16-Jul-02
278.	ST&D Project in Sholapur Circle	58.81	16-Jul-02
279.	ST&D Project in Jalgaon Circle	36.87	16-Jul-02
280.	ST&D Project in Nasik Circle	106.44	25-Sep-02
281.	ST&D Project in Latur Circle	79.34	25-Sep-02
282.	ST&D Project in Nagpur Circle	80.12	25-Sep-02
283.	ST&D Project in Aurangabad Circle	83.85	25-Sep-02
284.	ST&D Project in Ahmednagar Circle	70.57	25-Sep-02
285.	ST&D Project in Amrawati Circle	96.29	25-Sep-02
286.	ST&D Project in Kolhapur Town	35.05	20-Nov-02
287.	ST&D Project in Malegaon Town	28.88	20-Nov-02
288.	ST&D Project in Amrawati City	8.04	25-Sep-02
289.	ST&D Project in Pune Circle	105.53	20-Nov-02
290.	ST&D Project in Pimpri - Chinchwad Town	29.7	20-Nov-02
291.	ST&D Project in Sangli Town	4.66	20-Nov-02

1	2	3	4
292.	ST&D Project in Nanded/ Waghala Town	4.18	20-Nov-02
293.	ST&D Project in Nasik City	70	20-May-03
294.	ST&D Project in Nagpur City	170	20-May-03
295.	ST&D Project in Ratnagiri Circle	42.8	16-Jul-02
296.	ST&D Project in Sindhudurg Circle	36.87	16-Jul-02
297.	ST&D Project in Buldhana Town	2.4	20-Sep-04
298.	ST&D Project in Akola Town	11.99	20-Sep-04
299.	ST&D Project in Bhandara Town	0.68	20-Sep-04
300.	ST&D Project in Shegaon Town	1.93	20-Sep-04
301.	ST&D Project in Ulhasnagar Town	7.15	20-Sep-04
302.	ST&D Project in Khamgaon Town	2.5	20-Sep-04
303.	ST&D Project in Malkapur Town	2.23	20-Sep-04
304.	ST&D Project in Yeotmal Town	2.69	20-Sep-04
305.	ST&D Project in Dombivali Town	6.59	20-Sep-04
306.	ST&D Project in BEST	43.66	25-Sep-02
307.	SCADA Project in BEST	100.86	20-Nov-02

1	2	3	4
308.	BSES, Mumbai	550.74	28-Nov-03
Total		1888.97	
Orissa			
309.	ST&D Project in Burla (WESCO)	87.65	20-May-03
310.	ST&D Project in Balasore (NESCO)	101.81	20-May-03
311.	ST&D Project in Berhampur (SOUTHCO)	106.03	20-May-03
312.	ST&D Project in Bhubneshwar (CESCO)	113.74	20-May-03
313.	ST&D Project in Cuttack (CESCO)	57.85	20-May-03
314.	ST&D Project in Paradeep (CESCO)	67.21	20-May-03
315.	ST&D Project in Dhenkanal (CESCO)	57.93	20-May-03
Total		592.22	
Punjab			
316.	ST&D Project in Mohali Circle	26.8	25-Sep-02
317.	ST&D Project in Khanna Circle	71.58	25-Sep-02
318.	ST&D Project in Patiala Circle	67.84	25-Sep-02
319.	ST&D Project in Amritsar City	49.76	20-Nov-02
320.	ST&D Project in Amritsar Sub Urban	98.52	20-Nov-02

1	2	3	4
321.	ST&D Project in Bathinda City	13.58	20-Nov-02
322.	ST&D Project in	99.31	20-Nov-02
323.	ST&D Project in ST&D Project in Jalandhar City	114.26	20-Nov-02
324.	ST&D Project in Pathankot City	12.3	20-Nov-02
325.	ST&D Project in Ludhiana City	84.03	20-Nov-02
326.	ST&D Project in Moga City	13.17	20-Nov-02
327.	ST&D Project in Batala City	16.31	20-Nov-02
328.	ST&D Project in Muktasar City	7.7	20-May-03
329.	ST&D Project in Abohar Town	11.35	20-May-03
330.	ST&D Project in Tarantaran Town	3.44	20-May-03
331.	ST&D Project in Firozpur Town	6.48	20-May-03
332.	ST&D Project in Nakador Town	2.94	20-May-03
333.	ST&D Project in Shokat Town	2.21	20-May-03
334.	ST&D Project in Gurdaspur Town	4.8	20-May-03
335.	ST&D Project in Malerkotla Town	5.78	20-Sep-04
336.	ST&D Project in Bamala Town	5.81	20-Sep-04

1	2	3	4
337.	ST&D Project in Sangrur Town	4.87	20-Sep-04
338.	ST&D Project in Fazilka Town	3.547	20-Sep-04
339.	ST&D Project in Jagraon Town	5.05	20-Sep-04
340.	ST&D Project in Hoshiarpur Town	9.74	20-Sep-04
Total		741.177	

Rajasthan

341.	ST&D Project in Jodhpur Circle	215.02	16-Jul-02
342.	ST&D Project in Pali Town	8.67	20-Nov-02
343.	ST&D Project in Barmer Urban	13.98	20-Nov-02
344.	ST&D Project in Sri Ganganagar	19.49	20-Nov-02
345.	ST&D Project in Bikaner City Urban	37.58	20-Nov-02
346.	ST&D Project in Bikaner Rural	26.93	20-Nov-02
347.	ST&D Project in Jodhpur City	55.6	25-Sep-02
348.	ST&D Project in Jaipur Circle	315.38	25-Sep-02
349.	ST&D Project in Alwar Circle	155.33	16-July-02
350.	ST&D Project in Kota Circle	89.93	25-Sep-02

1	2	3	4
351.	ST&D Project in Kota City	23.48	25-Sep-02
352.	ST&D Project in Bharatpur Circle	18.66	25-Sep-02
353.	ST&D Project in Jhalawar Circle	47.83	25-Sep-02
354.	ST&D Project in Jhunjhunu Circle	67.72	16-July-02
355.	ST&D Project in Ajmer Town	15.58	20-Nov-02
356.	ST&D Project in Beawar Town	8.09	20-Nov-02
357.	ST&D Project in Kishangarh Town	8.44	20-Nov-02
358.	ST&D Project in Bhilwara Circle	71.4	25-Sep-02
359.	ST&D Project in Udaipur Circle	39.08	20-Sep-04
Total		1238.19	
Tamilnadu			
360.	ST&D Project in Pudukkottai Circle	67.5	16-July-02
361.	ST&D Project in Coimbatore Circle	73.8	16-July-02
362.	ST&D Project in Villupuram Circle	108.2	16-July-02
363.	ST&D Project in Coimbatore Metro	22.95	25-Sep-02
364.	ST&D Project in Salem (urban)	31.07	25-Sep-02

1	2	3	4
365.	ST&D Project in Chingleputtu EDC	52.26	25-Sep-02
366.	ST&D Project in Erode (urban)	13.83	25-Sep-02
367.	ST&D Project in Tirunelveli (urban)	12.11	25-Sep-02
368.	ST&D Project in Madurai Metro	17.21	25-Sep-02
369.	ST&D Project in Chennai Circle	440.97	20-Nov-02
370.	ST&D Project in Trichy Town	19.17	20-Nov-02
371.	ST&D Project in Kancheepuram Town	8.55	20-Nov-02
372.	ST&D Project in Tiruvallur and Tiruthani Town	3.26	20-Nov-02
373.	ST&D Project in Namakkal Town	2.82	20-Nov-02
374.	ST&D Project in Sankari Indl. Town	9.82	20-Nov-02
375.	ST&D Project in Tiruchengode Town	2.7	20-Nov-02
376.	ST&D Project in Edapady Town	0.76	20-Nov-02
377.	ST&D Project in Kumarapalayam Town	1.46	20-Nov-02
378.	ST&D Project in Cuddalore Town	2.82	20-Nov-02
379.	ST&D Project in Chidambaram Town	1.53	20-Nov-02

1	2	3	4
380.	ST&D Project in Virudhachalam Town	3.24	20-Nov-02
381.	ST&D Project in Panruti Town	1.73	20-Nov-02
382.	ST&D Project in Nellikkuppam Town	0.79	20-Nov-02
383.	ST&D Project in Kurinjipady Town	1.37	20-Nov-02
384.	ST&D Project in Udumalpet Town	68.25	20-Nov-02
Total		968.17	

Uttar Pradesh

385.	ST&D Project in Moradabad Circle	36.77	16-July-02
386.	ST&D Project in Gorakhpur Circle	39.62	16-July-02
387.	ST&D Project in Bareilly Circle	47.49	16-July-02
388.	ST&D Project in Allahabad Circle	81.69	20-Nov-02
389.	ST&D Project in Varanasi Circle	89.02	20-Nov-02
390.	Dist. Automation in Moradabad	22.05	20-Nov-02
391.	ST&D Project in Faizabad + Ayodhya	20.74	20-Nov-02
392.	ST&D Project in Kanpur (KESCO)	64.28	20-Nov-02
393.	ST&D Project in Shahjahanpur Circle	44.48	20-May-03

1	2	3	4
394.	ST&D Project in Muzaffarnagar Circle	50.19	20-May-03
395.	ST&D Project in Muzaffarnagar Ph-II	3.24	28-Nov-03
396.	ST&D Project in Ghaziabad Circle	35	20-Sep-04
397.	ST&D Project in Bagpat Town	15	20-Sep-04
398.	ST&D Project in Meerut Town	28	20-Sep-04
399.	ST&D Project in Saharanpur Town	20	20-Sep-04
400.	ST&D Project in Rampur Town	14	20-Sep-04
401.	ST&D Project in Amroha-Gajraula Town	15	20-Sep-04
402.	ST&D Project in Bulandshar-Khurja Town	15	20-Sep-04
403.	ST&D Project in Noida Town	16	20-Sep-04
404.	ST&D Project in Moradabad-Sambhal Town	7.95	20-Sep-04
405.	ST&D Project in Aligarh Town	30	20-Sep-04
406.	ST&D Project in Mathura-Vrindavan Town	25	20-Sep-04
407.	ST&D Project in Jhansi Town	23.56	20-Sep-04
408.	ST&D Project in Etah Town	10.49	20-Sep-04

1	2	3	4
409.	ST&D Project in Mainpuri Town	10.93	20-Sep-04
410.	ST&D Project in Raibareli Town	29.14	20-Sep-04
411.	ST&D Project in Sultanpur Town	29.49	20-Sep-04
Total		824.13	

West Bengal

412.	ST&D Project in Howrah Circle	50.49	16-July-02
413.	ST&D Project in 24 Pargana (S) Circle	49.46	16-July-02
414.	ST&D Project in Bidhannagar Circle	32.76	16-July-02
415.	ST&D Project in Krishnanagar Town	8.29	20-May-03
416.	ST&D Project in Shantipur Town	5.6	20-May-03
417.	ST&D Project in Nabadwip Town	4.8	20-May-03
418.	ST&D Project in Jalpaiguri Town	21.02	20-May-03
419.	ST&D Project in Burdwan Town	18.66	20-May-03
420.	ST&D Project in Jamurda Town	3.36	20-May-03
421.	ST&D Project in Kulti Town	5.66	20-May-03
422.	ST&D Project in Raniganj Town	4.16	20-May-03

1	2	3	4
423.	ST&D Project in Haldia Town	13.9	28-Nov-03
424.	ST&D Project in Burdwan Town	12.97	28-Nov-03
425.	ST&D Project in Jalpaiguri Circle	109.37	28-Nov-03
426.	ST&D Project in Asansol Town	21.01	28-Nov-03
427.	ST&D Project in Silguri Circle	46.54	28-Nov-03
428.	GIS mapping of power N/W in W.B including consumer indexing	6.05	28-Nov-03
429.	Augmentation of Div. Computer centre and estb of computerised billing centers	6.47	28-Nov-03
430.	Automation of distribution System of Jadhavpur Univ.	0.35	28-Nov-03
Total		420.92	

Assam

431.	ST&D Project in Dibrugarh Circle	23.71	16-July-02
432.	ST&D Project in Guwahati-II Circle	17.83	16-July-02
433.	ST&D Project in Jorhat Circle	29.9	16-July-02
434.	ST&D Project in Cachar-I Circle	39.95	25-Sep-02
435.	ST&D Project in Bongaigaon Circle	18.15	25-Sep-02

1	2	3	4
436.	ST&D Project in Sibsagar Circle	28.23	25-Sep-02
437.	ST&D Project in Guwahati-I Circle	52.38	25-Sep-02
438.	ST&D Project in Nagaon Circle	46.22	25-Sep-02
439.	ST&D Project in Rangia Circle	44.24	20-Nov-02
440.	ST&D Project in Tezpur Circle	38.59	20-Nov-02
441.	ST&D Project in Cachhar-II Circle	26.78	20-Nov-02
442.	ST&D Project in Mangoldoi Circle	19.46	20-May-03
443.	ST&D Project in Kokrajhar Circle	23.1	20-May-03
Total		408.54	
Arunachal Pradesh			
444.	ST&D Project in MIAO Circle	23.61	20-Nov-02
445.	ST&D Project in DIRANG Circle	18.48	20-Nov-02
446.	ST&D Project in Nahalgaon Circle	25.20	20-Nov-02
447.	ST&D Project in Passighat Circle	18.70	20-May-03
Total		85.99	

1	2	3	4
Himachal Pradesh			
448.	ST&D Project in Shimla Circle	24.15	16-July-02
449.	ST&D Project in Solan Circle	21.62	16-July-02
450.	ST&D Project in Nahan Circle	25.64	16-July-02
451.	ST&D Project in Hamirpur Circle	34.10	20-May-03
452.	ST&D Project in Una Circle	22.02	20-May-03
453.	ST&D Project in Mandi Circle	40.61	20-May-03
454.	ST&D Project in Rampur Circle	32.88	20-May-03
455.	ST&D Project in Rohroo Circle	14.83	20-May-03
456.	ST&D Project in Bilaspur Circle	25.94	20-May-03
457.	ST&D Project in Kangra Circle	27.24	20-May-03
458.	ST&D Project in Dalhousie Circle	27.28	20-May-03
459.	ST&D Project in Kullu Circle	31.50	20-May-03
Total		327.81	
Jammu & Kashmir			
460.	ST&D Project in Jammu-I Circle	174.07	20-May-03
461.	ST&D Project in Shrinagar I & II Circle	227.03	20-May-03

1	2	3	4
462.	ST&D Project in Jammu-II Circle	145.55	20-Sep-04
463.	ST&D Project in Batote Circle	95.62	20-Sep-04
Total		642.27	

Manipur

464.	ST&D Project in Manipur Circle	10.13	16-Jul-02
465.	ST&D Project in Bishnupur Town	17.17	20-Sep-04
466.	ST&D Project in Chur Chandpur Town	17.23	20-Sep-04
467.	ST&D Project in Greater Imphal Circle	84.66	20-Sep-04
468.	ST&D Project in Tahoubal Town	14.77	20-Sep-04
Total		143.96	

Meghalaya

469.	ST&D Project in Tura Town	7.11	20-Nov-02
470.	ST&D Project in Jowai Town	2.65	20-Nov-02
471.	ST&D Project in Shillong Circle	16.53	20-Nov-02
472.	ST&D Project in Shillong (Outer)	15.97	20-May-03
473.	ST&D Project in Central	62.51	20-Sep-04
474.	ST&D Project in Gora Hills	38.02	20-Sep-04

1	2	3	4
475.	ST&D Project in Shillong (SCADA)	21.12	20-Sep-04
476.	ST&D Project in Western (SCADA)	17.99	20-Sep-04
Total		181.90	

Mizoram

477.	Mizoram - metering	9.77	16-Jul-02
478.	ST&D Project in Aizwal Town	20.43	20-May-03.
479.	ST&D Project in Chammp hai Town	15.21	20-May-03
480.	Meetrng in balance Mizoram	12.5	20-May-03
481.	Lunglei Power Circle	15.66	20-Sep-04
482.	Project Circle	15.8	20-Sep-04
483.	Transmission	21.91	20-Sep-04
Total		111.28	

Nagaland

484.	ST&D Project in Phase-I	8.81	16-Jul-02
485.	ST&D Project in Phase-II	38.41	20-Nov-02
Total		47.22	

Sikkim

486.	ST&D Project in Phase-I	8.06	20-May-03
487.	ST&D Project in Phase-II	55.42	20-Nov-02
488.	Sikkim (Supplementary)	91.25	20-Nov-02
Total for State		154.73	

1	2	3	4
Tripura			
489.	ST&D Project in Tripura Town	13.27	16-Jul-02
490.	ST&D Project in Agartala Town	14.27	20-May-03
491.	ST&D Project in Kumar Ghat Circle	28.7	20-Sep-04
492.	ST&D Project in Outer Agartala	20.57	20-Sep-04
493.	ST&D Project in Udaipur	31.11	20-Sep-04
Total		107.92	
Uttaranchal			
494.	ST&D Project in Rudrapur Circle	118.82	20-Nov-02
495.	ST&D Project in Dehradun Circle (U)	37.87	20-Nov-02
496.	ST&D Project in Roorkee Circle	87.02	20-Nov-02
497.	ST&D Project in Srinagar EDC	63.00	20-Nov-02
498.	ST&D Project in Ranikhet	21.04	20-Nov-02
499.	ST&D Project in Dehradun Circle (R)	33.76	20-Nov-02
Total		361.51	
Grand Total		17612.36	

Statement-II**Funds released to the States under investment component of APDRP**

(Rs. in crores)

S. No.	Name of State	Funds released		
		2002-03	2003-04	2004-05 (till date)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	163.82	402.94	0.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	36.68	0.00
3.	Assam	96.97	0.00	0.00
4.	Bihar	66.11	20.88	0.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	10.00	43.07	106.14
6.	Delhi	105.51	0.00	0.00
7.	Goa	22.04	8.54	0.00
8.	Gujarat	105.41	183.45	0.00
9.	Haryana	56.33	112.66	0.00
10.	Himachal Pradesh	43.04	120.87	0.00
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	20.00	180.50	0.00
12.	Jharkhand	12.00	43.60	98.27
13.	Karnataka	145.15	290.30	0.00
14.	Kerala	30.43	74.23	72.05
15.	Madhya Pradesh	74.87	10.00	0.00
16.	Maharashtra	138.48	107.98	0.00
17.	Manipur	2.67	0.00	0.00
18.	Meghalaya	6.57	14.56	24.34

1	2	3	4	5
19.	Mizoram	3.78	25.18	0.00
20.	Nagaland	13.14	10.47	0.00
21.	Orissa	54.35	0.00	0.00
22.	Punjab	53.98	124.76	0.00
23.	Rajasthan	125.64	219.70	0.00
24.	Sikkim	17.21	60.17	77.35
25.	Tamil Nadu	111.57	232.59	0.00
26.	Tripura	2.67	6.10	0.00
27.	Uttar Pradesh	80.12	0.00	22.90
28.	Uttaranchal	174.63	6.13	0.00
29.	West Bengal	19.02	21.15	0.00
Total		1755.51	2356.51	401.05

Statement-III

Funds released to the States under incentive component of APDRP

(Rs. in crores)

S.No.	State	Incentive released
1.	Gujarat	236.38
2.	Maharashtra	137.89
3.	Haryana	105.49
4.	Rajasthan	137.71
5.	Andhra Pradesh	265.11
6.	West Bengal	73.00
Total		955.58

Statement-IV

Cost of projects sanctioned to various States under investment component of APDRP

(Rs. in crores)

S. No.	Name of State	Cost of Projects sanctioned		
		2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1476.50	34.90	0.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	67.29	18.70	0.00
3.	Assam	365.98	42.56	0.00
4.	Bihar	717.57	50.68	63.44
5.	Chhattisgarh	424.58	0.00	0.00
6.	Delhi	946.46	0.00	0.00
7.	Goa	176.34	68.28	57.80
8.	Gujarat	1035.80	0.00	68.73
9.	Haryana	450.66	2.75	0.00
10.	Himachal Pradesh	105.51	222.30	0.00
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	401.10	0.00	241.16
12.	Jharkhand	444.85	0.00	0.00
13.	Karnataka	1161.19	0.00	31.60
14.	Kerala	350.35	0.00	123.90
15.	Madhya Pradesh	598.98	80.10	0.00
16.	Maharashtra	1107.85	790.74	-9.61
17.	Manipur	10.13	0.00	133.82
18.	Meghalaya	26.29	15.97	139.64

1	2	3	4	5
19.	Mizoram	9.77	48.14	53.37
20.	Nagaland	47.22	0.00	0.00
21.	Orissa	592.22	0.00	0.00
22.	Punjab	667.46	38.92	34.80
23.	Rajasthan	1255.05	0.00	-16.86*
24.	Sikkim	63.48	91.25	0.00
25.	Tamil Nadu	968.17	0.00	0.00
26.	Tripura	27.54	0.00	80.37
27.	Uttar Pradesh	718.18	105.95	0.00
28.	Uttaranchal	361.51	0.00	0.00
29.	West Bengal	132.71	288.21	0.00
Total		14710.74	1899.43	1002.16

*States requested for short-closure of part schemes sanctioned earlier.

Statement-V

Percentage Transformation, Transmission & Distribution Losses (including energy unaccounted for) in States/UTs

(Source: Central Electricity Authority)

S. No.	Region/State/UT	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
1	2	3	4	5
Northern Region:				
1.	Haryana	39.82	39.22	37.65
2.	Himachal Pradesh	23.38	25.55	21.16
3.	Jammu & Kashmir	45.39	48.85	45.55

1	2	3	4	5
4.	Punjab	26.58	27.70	24.42
5.	Rajasthan	29.76	43.06	42.61
6.	Uttar Pradesh	36.94	37.62	34.16
7.	Uttaranchal	—	32.39	25.17
8.	Chandigarh	25.41	24.97	24.06
9.	Delhi	44.27	43.97	45.82
Western Region :				
10.	Gujarat	28.14	26.87	28.52
11.	Madhya Pradesh	46.07	44.55	43.31
12.	Chhattisgarh	—	33.75	37.86
13.	Maharashtra	33.81	37.28	34.01
14.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	39.84	27.22	40.26
15.	Goa	28.70	25.18	40.26
16.	Daman & Diu	11.38	7.52	14.95
Southern Region :				
17.	Andhra Pradesh	36.63	26.81	30.11
18.	Karnataka	34.93	33.83	24.57
19.	Kerala	18.44	32.21	27.45
20.	Tamil Nadu	15.72	16.06	17.31
21.	Lakshadweep	6.71	10.94	11.29
22.	Pondicherry	7.93	12.00	21.10
Eastern Region :				
23.	Bihar	17.86	51.70	37.98
24.	Jharkhand	—	26.39	21.19
25.	Orissa	44.91	47.34	45.36

1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
26.	Sikkim	24.98	31.73	54.85	31.	Meghalaya	20.97	22.66	21.92
27.	West Bengal	29.44	31.67	25.93	32.	Nagaland	24.60	52.32	56.71
28.	Andaman and Nicobar Island	17.49	29.20	19.78	33.	Tripura	43.89	40.38	40.64
North Eastern Region :					34.	Arunachal Pradesh	34.41	53.58	38.95
29.	Assam	40.71	42.78	38.30	35.	Mizoram	45.42	49.77	46.91
30.	Manipur	58.49	62.35	63.66	All India		32.86	33.98	32.54

Statement-VI**Metering Status**

S. No.	State	11kV Feeders 2004-05			Consumers (In Lakh) 2004-05		
		Numbers	Metered	%age	Numbers	Metered	%age
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7401	7401	100	198.60	181.20	91
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	201	1	0	1.13	0.52	46
3.	Assam	708	708	100	11.77	10.56	90
4.	Bihar	1125	465	41	12.50	6.23	50
5.	Chhattisgarh	1006	707	70	21.47	14.07	66
6.	Delhi	1591	1591	100	27.31	27.31	100
7.	Goa	179	179	100	3.96	3.86	97
8.	Gujarat	5307	5307	100	74.77	69.57	93
9.	Haryana	3888	3888	100	39.17	36.12	92
10.	Himachal Pradesh	726	651	90	16.46	16.46	100
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	1558	630	40	10.00	4.00	40
12.	Jharkhand	461	396	86	6.53	4.02	62

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
13.	Karnataka	3518	3518	100	120.45	96.74	80
14.	Kerala	1320	1320	100	74.19	74.19	100
15.	Madhya Pradesh	5660	5660	100	64.92	46.50	72
16.	Maharashtra	7128	7128	100	147.00	128.97	88
17.	Manipur	193	40	21	1.70	1.40	82
18.	Meghalaya	175	170	97	1.68	0.84	50
19.	Mizoram	127	127	100	1.27	1.21	95
20.	Nagaland	164	66	40	1.88	1.14	61
21.	Orissa	1723	1475	86	21.49	17.45	81
22.	Punjab	5561	5561	100	46.59	46.59	100
23.	Rajasthan	8411	8411	100	58.45	54.78	94
24.	Sikkim	113	55	49	0.60	0.52	87
25.	Tamil Nadu	3508	3508	100	161.33	131.25	81
26.	Tripura	197	197	100	2.28	1.84	81
27.	Uttar Pradesh	8507	8507	100	88.06	80.38	91
28.	Uttaranchal	743	743	100	9.01	8.14	90
29.	West Bengal	2347	2290	98	47.27	45.89	97
Total		73546	70700	96	1271.84	1111.75	87

Private Banks

*134. SHRI DEVIDAS PINGLE :

SHRI M. APPADURAI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number and names of foreign/ private banks set up during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the number of such banks operating in rural areas;

(c) the criteria adopted to open foreign/private banks in the country;

(d) the total capital/ deposits in these banks;

(e) the manner by which the performance of private/ foreign bank is reviewed;

(f) the number of proposals pending with the Government regarding setting up of private banks/ foreign banks in the country as on date, State-wise; and

(g) the time by which the pending proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) During the last three years, one foreign bank namely Antwerp Diamond Bank N.V. of Belgium and two private banks namely Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd. and Yest Bank Ltd. have started their operations in Mumbai, Maharashtra.

(b) Foreign banks operating in India have no branch in rural area. However, private sector banks are operating in rural areas through 1109 offices.

(c) The criteria adopted for opening foreign/ private banks in the country is in the statement enclosed.

(d) The capital and deposits of foreign and private

sector banks as on 31st March 2004 are as under:—

(Rs. in crores)

Bank groups	Capital	Deposits
Foreign Banks	4644.53	79756.42
Private sector banks	3028	268549.30

(e) All public sector, private sector, foreign banks and financial institutions are under the supervision of Reserve Bank of India. The working of these entities is reviewed on a continued basis by RBI and all cases of irregularities, diversion and non-implementation of norms/ guidelines of RBI are examined and taken up with the management of respective banks for corrective actions, if any.

(f) Five applications of foreign banks only are pending with Reserve Bank of India. The details of these applications are as under:

Name of the bank	Country of Incorporation	Application for
Common Wealth Bank of Australia	Australia	Representative office in Bangalore
Commercial Bank of Ceylon	Sri Lanka	Branch in Chennai
UBS AG Switzerland	Switzerland	Upgradation of Representative Office in Mumbai into a branch
Mizuho Corporate Bank	Japan	Upgradation of Representative Office in Delhi into a branch
DBS Bank Ltd.	Singapore	Branches in Chennai, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Pune and Gurgaon

(g) The proposals of foreign banks to open branches in India are considered in the meetings of the Inter Departmental Committee, in the Ministry of Finance which are held every six months.

Statement

Entry Norms for Private Sector Banks

The revised guidelines for entry of new banks in the

private sector was issued vide RBI's Press Release dated January 3, 2001. The main features are as under:—

1. The initial minimum paid up capital for a new bank shall be Rs.200 crore which shall be increased to Rs.300 crore in subsequent three years after commencement of business.
2. The promoter's contribution shall be a minimum

of 40 percent of the paid up capital (subsequently raised to 49%)

3. The new bank should not be promoted by a large industrial house.
4. The proposed banks shall maintain an arms length relationship with business entities in the promoter group.
5. The bank shall be required to maintain a minimum capital adequacy ratio of 10 percent on a continuous basis from the commencement of its operations.
6. An NBFC with a good track record desiring conversion into a bank should satisfy the prescribed criteria, which, among other things, include minimum net worth of Rs.200 crore, should have acquired a credit rating of not less than AAA rating (or its equivalent in the previous year, should have an impeccable track record in compliance with RBI regulations/directions and in repayment of public deposits, should have a capital adequacy of not less than 12% and net NPAs not more than 5%.

ENTRY NORMS FOR FOREIGN BANKS

Branch: Foreign banks applying to RBI for setting up a branch in India for the first time must satisfy RBI that are subject to adequate prudential supervision in their home country. In considering the standard of supervision exercised by the home country regulator, RBI will have regard to the BASEL standards.

The home country supervisor of the parent bank should not discriminate in any manner against Indian banks operating in that country.

The setting up of a presence through a branch in India should have the approval of the home country regulator.

Other factors (but not limited to) that is taken into account while considering the application are given below:—

- (i) Economic and political relations between Indian and the home country of the foreign banks.
- (ii) Financial soundness of the foreign bank
- (iii) Ownership pattern of the foreign bank.
- (iv) International and home country ranking.
- (v) Rating of the foreign bank by international rating agencies.
- (vi) International presence of the foreign bank

A foreign bank opening the first branch in India is required to bring in US \$10 million as an assigned capital. The capital requirement is stepped upto US \$20 million when the second branch is opened and further to US \$ 25 million when the third branch is opened. Permission to open second and subsequent branch is granted taking into account, inter alia, the policy prevailing at that time. Second branch is allowed after watching performance of the first branch. It is ensured that the required capital has been brought before commencement of business in India. Further, the Indian operations of the banks should maintain the prescribed CRAR on an ongoing basis.

Representative Office – RBI subjects these applications to similar scrutiny as in case of a branch, these are less stringent as Representative Offices do not carry out any banking business particularly deposit taking. RBI grants approval subject to the condition that the presence in Indian as Representative Office would not confer any right or privilege for setting up a branch later and that all expenses of the Representative Office will be met by inward remittances from bank's head office abroad.

Wholly Owned Subsidiary (WOS) – The guidelines for setting up of WOS by foreign banks and conversion of existing branches of foreign banks into WOS are given hereunder:

Eligibility of the parent bank

1. Foreign bank applying to the RBI for setting up a WOS in India must satisfy RBI that they are subject to adequate prudential supervision in their home country. In considering the standard of supervision exercised by the home country regulator, the RBI will have regard to the Basel standards.
2. The setting up of a wholly owned banking subsidiary in India should have the approval of the home country regulator.
3. Other factors (but not limited to) that will be taken into account while considering the application are given below:
 - (i) Economic and political relations between India and the country of incorporation of the foreign banks.
 - (ii) Financial soundness of the foreign bank
 - (iii) Ownership pattern of the foreign bank.
 - (iv) International and home country ranking of the foreign banks.
 - (v) Rating of the foreign bank by international rating agencies.
 - (vi) International presence of the foreign bank.

Capital

4. The minimum start up capital requirement for a WOS would be Rs.3 billion and the WOS shall be required to maintain a capital adequacy ratio of 10 per cent or as may be prescribed from time to time on a continuous basis, from the commencement of its operations.
5. The parent foreign bank will continue to hold 100 percent equity in the Indian subsidiary for a minimum prescribed period of operation.

Corporate Governance

6. The composition of the Board of Directors should meet the following requirement:—
 - Not less than 50 percent of the Directors should be Indian national resident in India.
 - Not less than 50 percent of the Directors should be non-executive directors.
 - A minimum of one third of the Directors should be totally independent of the management of the subsidiary in India, its parent or associate.
 - The Directors shall conform to the 'Fit and Proper' criteria as laid down in RBI's extant guidelines dated June 25, 2004.
 - RBI's approval for the Directors may be obtained as per the procedure adopted in the case of the erstwhile Local Advisory Boards of foreign bank branches.

7. Accounting, Prudential Norms and other requirements

- (i) The WOS will be subject to the licensing requirements and conditions, broadly consistent with those for new private sector banks.
- (ii) The WOS will be treated on par with the existing branches of foreign banks for branch expansion. The Reserve Bank may also prescribe market access and national treatment limitation consistent with WTO as also other appropriate limitations to the operations of WOS, consistent with international practices and the country's requirements.
- (iii) The banking subsidiary will be governed by the provisions of the Companies Act, 1956, Banking

Regulation Act, 1949, Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, other relevant statutes and the directives, prudential regulations and other guidelines/instructions issued by RBI and other regulators from time to time.

8. Conversion of existing branches into a WOS

All the above requirements prescribed for setting up a WOS will be applicable to existing foreign bank branches converting into a WOS. In addition they would have to satisfy the following requirements:

Supervisory Comfort

Permission for conversion of existing branches of a foreign bank into a WOS will inter alia be guided by the manner in which the affairs of the branches of the bank are conducted, compliance with the statutory and other prudential requirements and the over all supervisory comfort of the Reserve bank.

Capital Requirements

The minimum net worth of the WOS on conversion would not be less than Rs.3 billion and the WOS will be required to maintain a minimum capital adequacy ratio of 10 percent of the risk weighted assets or as may be prescribed from time to time on a continuous basis. While reckoning the minimum net worth the local available capital including remittable surplus retained in India, as assessed by the RBI, will qualify. Reserve Bank will cause an inspection/audit to assess the financial position of the branches operating in India and arrive at the aggregate net worth of the branches. RBI's assessment of the net worth will be final.

[English]

Recommendations of 10th Finance Commission

*135. SHRI C. KUPPUSAMI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the impact of the recommendations of the 10th Finance Commission on financial relations between Centre and States;

(b) the time by which these recommendations are likely to be implemented;

(c) whether by these recommendations, the demands of the States in respect of devolution of revenue from the Centre to States would be reasonably met; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (d) Recommendations of the Tenth Finance Commission for the period 1995-2000 were accepted by the Government of India and a copy of the report along with explanatory memorandum as to the action taken on the recommendations of the Commission was laid on the Table of the House on 14.3.95. During this period, an amount of Rs. 1,90,608.44 crore was transferred to States as their share in central taxes and duties and Rs.21,291.05 crore as grants, inclusive of grants for financing relief expenditure, totalling to Rs.2,11,899.49 crore.

As the recommendations of Tenth Finance Commission were to be implemented during 1995-2000, no demands of States in relation thereto are relevant any more.

Eleventh Finance Commission (2000-2005) recommended a total transfer of Rs. 4,40,209.26 crore based on estimated taxes share of States of Rs. 3,76,318.01 crore and grants of Rs. 63,891.25 crore. Upto March 7, 2005, an amount of Rs. 2,96,659.05 crore towards share in taxes and Rs. 63,648.87 crore for grants have been released (inclusive of grants for financing relief expenditure).

Government of India has accepted the recommendations of Twelfth Finance Commission amounting to Rs.6,13,112.02 crore as estimated share of taxes and

Rs.1,42,639.60 crore as grants totalling to Rs.7,55,751.62 crore.

[Translation]

Small Hydro Power Projects

*136. SHRI MOHD. TAHIR :

SHRI MUNSHI RAM :

Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is formulating any scheme for rural areas to increase the number of small hydel power projects in the country;

(b) the total number of small hydel power projects functioning at present in the country and the number of villages to which electricity is being supplied therefrom, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up such more projects during the current year; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR) : (a) Yes Sir. The Ministry has formulated a scheme to increase number of small hydro power (SHP) projects in the country under which it is giving subsidy for the installation of SHP projects (upto 25 MW station capacity) in the government and private sectors. SHP projects are usually grid connected and set up on rivers and canal drops, mostly in rural areas. Where potential exists, decentralised SHP projects are also being set up for electrification of remote villages.

(b) to (d) So far 522 SHP projects aggregating 1705 MW have been set up and 205 SHP projects aggregating 479 MW are under implementation. State-

wise details are given in the statement-I enclosed. Of these, 66 projects have been set up in decentralised mode which have electrified 104 villages and 51 more such projects are under implementation for electrification of 156 villages. State-wise details are given in the statement-II enclosed.

Statement-I

State wise Numbers and aggregate Capacity of SHP Projects (upto 25 MW) already set up and those under Implementation
(As on 28.02.2005)

S. No.	State	Projects already set-up		Projects under Implementation	
		Nos.	Capacity (MW)	Nos.	Capacity (MW)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	57	178.81	5	7.30
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	57	33.80	55	51.87
3.	Assam	3	2.11	8	51.00
4.	Bihar	5	45.90	9	14.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	4	13.50	1	5.50
6.	Goa	1	0.05	—	—
7.	Gujarat	2	7.00	—	—
8.	Haryana	5	62.70	—	—
9.	Himachal Pradesh	50	108.08	8	52.75
10.	J & K	29	105.24	7	10.31
11.	Jharkhand	6	4.05	8	34.85
12.	Karnataka	49	276.78	7	14.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6
13. Kerala		14	84.62	6	60.40	22. Rajasthan		10	23.85	—	—
14. Madhya Pradesh	8		41.16	3	24.20	23. Sikkim		12	35.60	5	15.20
15. Maharashtra	27		207.08	4	15.25	24. Tamil Nadu		12	77.70	1	6.60
16. Manipur	8		5.45	3	2.75	25. Tripura		3	16.01	—	—
17. Meghalaya	3		30.71	9	3.28	26. Uttar Pradesh		8	21.50	1	3.60
18. Mizoram	16		14.76	3	15.50	27. Uttaranchal		75	72.45	38	26.01
19. Nagaland	8		20.47	6	12.40	28. West Bengal		20	92.26	7	5.80
20. Orissa	6		7.30	7	40.97	29. Andaman & Nicobar Islands		1	5.25	—	—
21. Punjab	23		111.40	4	5.75	Total		522	1,705.59	205	479.30

Statement-II

State-Wise SHP Projects already set up and those under Implementation in Decentralised mode showing Number, aggregate capacity and Villages Electrified/to be Electrified (As on 28.02.2005)

S. No.	State	Projects already set-up			Projects under Implementation		
		No.	Capacity (KW)	Villages electrified	No.	Capacity (KW)	Villages to be electrified
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6	320	12	33	1375	75
2.	Bihar	5	50	5	—	—	—
3.	Himachal Pradesh	16	240	18	1	50	1
4.	Jammu & Kashmir	5	25	5	—	—	—
5.	Uttaranchal	29	1792	59	13	840	68
6.	West Bengal	5	50	5	4	200	12
Total		66	2477	104	51	2465	156

Allocation for Power

*137. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA :
SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the total power allocated and supplied by the National Power Grid to each State during the last three years, till date;

(b) whether there is any short supply of power in any State during the period;

(c) if so, whether any State has requested the Union Government for supply of power more than the allocated quota;

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the quantum of power supplied to them during the period;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the criteria adopted by the Government to allocate surplus power to power deficit States?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) to (e) The demand of power in States is met by generation from its own sources, its share from central sector stations and power availed under bi-lateral agreements. Central Government through Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) establish power plants in which the States of that region have entitlements. 85% capacity from these power plants is generally allocated to the constituent States before the commissioning of the power station. Shares allocated once are generally not changed unless surrendered by the State or the State is not able to pay requisite dues to the concerned Central Public Sector Undertaking. The remaining 15% capacity is also allocated to the States within the region by the Central Government for meeting the emergent requirements of the States.

The availability of power from Central Generating Stations (CGSs), however, depends on the generation

level of each power plant on a day to day basis and requisition given by the States from the allocated power from CGSs.

The entitlements and energy drawal from Central Generating Stations by various States/UTs during the last three years i.e. 2001-02 to 2003-04 as well as the current year (April, 2004 to January, 2005) is given in the statement enclosed.

The requests of States/Union Territories for higher capacity allocation from the new Central Power Plants, whenever received, are dealt by the concerned CPSU according to the guidelines for allocation of power from central sector power plants issued by the Ministry of Power in April, 2000.

The requests for additional allocation from 15% unallocated power of the region received from the States/UTs from time to time are considered keeping in view relative power supply position of the States, generation resources available with the States as well as their payment capacity. As the availability of power in the unallocated quota is very limited, it is not possible to accommodate all the requests received for additional assistance from central unallocated pool.

(f) All the regions have been facing energy and peaking deficits of varying magnitude except the Eastern Region which is having surplus power for major part of the year. Therefore, the unallocated power from Central Generating Stations in the Eastern Region as well as the power surrendered by Eastern Region constituents has been allocated to various States in other regions. Requests are being received from States for higher allocation from the Eastern Region unallocated pool for meeting their emergent power requirements. Such requests are considered keeping in view the relative power supply position of the States, their payment capacity, etc. As this quota is limited, additional assistance is provided to the extent possible in view of the aforesaid considerations.

*Statement**Details of Entitlement and Drawal of Energy from Central Sector Generating
Stations for the Years 2001-02 to 2004-05.*

(Figures in net Million Units)

Region/State/System	2001-02		2002-03		2003-04		2004-05 @	
	Entitlement	Drawal	Entitlement	Drawal	Entitlement	Drawal	Entitlement	Drawal
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Northern Region								
Chandigarh	1,114	1,054	1,041	963	1,380	1,363	1,103	1,088
Delhi	16,085	15,023	15,979	15,090	18,143	16,844	15,136	14,616
Haryana	10,974	11,776	11,907	12,248	12,189	11,526	10,667	10,481
Himachal Pradesh	1,850	1,886	1,764	1,732	2,151	1,855	2,132	1,918
Jammu and Kashmir	318	4,968	5,296	5,588	5,640	5,545	4,604	4,534
Punjab	10,827	10,233	12,059	11,841	12,716	12,160	10,796	10,395
Rajasthan	12,711	13,515	12,517	12,625	12,464	12,009	10,169	9,934
Uttar Pradesh	21,190	21,137	18,344	17,132	20,167	19,913	18,768	18,558
Uttaranchal	*	*	1,853	1,716	2,269	2,209	2,278	2,160
Western Region								
Chhattisgarh	3,330	858	2,964	2,992	2,906	2,884	2,237	2,213
Gujarat	11,668	12,378	12,135	11,773	12,077	11,116	10,263	9,083
Madhya Pradesh	10,236	12,859	11,270	11,051	11,105	10,972	9,868	9,380
Maharashtra	15,439	15,168	16,103	15,957	16,483	16,039	14,116	13,662
Goa	1,673	1,219	1,888	1,806	1,842	1,828	1,591	1,591
DD+DNH	1,948	2,281	2,510	2,484	2,778	2,700	2,417	2,340

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Southern Region								
Andhra Pradesh	9,595	10,056	12,943	12,759	15,371	15,055	13,561	13,263
Karnataka	6,561	6,791	7,982	7,976	7,890	7,883	7,234	7,217
Kerala	4,859	5,063	6,358	6,355	6,201	6,200	4,767	4,763
Tamilnadu	13,765	14,001	14,791	14,769	18,015	17,965	15,229	15,185
Pondicherry	1,357	1,357	1,410	1,408	1,490	1,490	1,320	1,320
Goa	705	705	653	653	735	734	499	499
Eastern Region								
Bihar	10,249	11,780	4,552	5,640	5,470	5,331	5,070	5,022
DVC	1,114	1,380	1,115	540	1,328	1,111	1,140	1,036
Jharkhand	\$	\$	5,584	5,759	6,241	6,175	5,763	5,758
Orissa	5,730	2,990	5,477	5,862	6,694	6,588	6,052	6,027
W. Bengal	6,320	5,576	6,252	4,002	7,257	7,114	6,172	6,013
Sikkim	186	72	147	75	414	366	385	383
North-Eastern Region								
Arunachal Pradesh	226	113	224	140	269	155	508	413
Assam	2,092	2,427	2,334	2,511	1,998	2,693	2,483	2,324
Manipur	464	436	414	480	655	466	668	558
Meghalaya	270	135	343	370	438	556	542	546
Mizoram	228	265	237	279	319	261	395	322
Nagaland	264	253	280	284	381	295	390	321
Tripura	389	312	396	340	529	162	615	426

*Included in Up

\$ Included in Bihar

⊙ April, 2004 to January, 2005

- Note:
1. The figures given above include the power supplied from the dedicated, jointly owned and central sector generating stations.
 2. The figures in respect of North Eastern region include bilateral transactions as well.

[English]

NABARD Assistance for Drinking Water

*135. SHRI RUPCHAND MURMU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some states have sought loans from NABARD to meet expenditure for supply of drinking water to all villages;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government has provided any financial assistance to States in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. So far, NABARD has sanctioned 4053 projects under Rural Infrastructure Development Fund for rural drinking water supply in 13 states involving a loan assistance aggregating to Rs.2596.52 crore. On completion these projects would benefit approximately 4.7 crore people. Besides, Union Government provides financial assistance for drinking water from other ministries/departments under different schemes such as Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme, Swajaldhara etc.

S. No.	State	RIDF loan sanctioned up to 28th February, 2005	
		No. of Projects	Amount Sanctioned (Rs. Crore)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	925	557.66
2.	Goa	11	18.27
3.	Gujarat	31	999.91
4.	Haryana	521	262.69

1	2	3	4
5.	Himachal Pradesh	113	54.84
6.	Kerala	8	33.24
7.	Maharashtra	228	121.47
8.	Mizoram	4	18.97
9.	Punjab	1539	413.96
10.	Tamil Nadu	499	22.37
11.	West Bengal	138	81.75
12.	Sikkim	5	4.47
13.	Uttanchal	31	6.92
Total		4053	2596.52

[Translation]

Loan to Rural Areas

*139. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHAWAHA :
PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has looked into the conditions of banks in rural areas and slow progress in the loan distribution by the banks in these areas as reported in 'Rashtriya Sahara' dated February 13, 2005;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter and the details of the guidelines issued in this regard;

(c) whether the banks have neglected the opinion of their branches in rural areas;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the number of banks functioning in rural areas, State-wise;

(e) the percentage of loan distribution in rural areas by the banks in the year 2004-2005;

(f) whether there is a decline in the money deposits made in this area in comparison to the year 2003-2004;

(g) if so, the reasons therefor;

(h) the number of bank branches likely to be opened during 2005-2006;

(i) the steps taken by the Government to improve the condition of banks in rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b) Govt. had announced a package on 18th June, 2004 for doubling the flow of credit to agriculture over three years. As a result of the steps taken by the banks to increase the credit flow in agriculture and rural areas, the agriculture credit disbursement in 2004-05 has recorded significant growth as compared to the previous year, and it is expected that Rs.108,500 crore will be disbursed in the current fiscal year.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The number of banks functioning in rural areas, State-wise, is as given in the statement enclosed.

(e) The all India credit deposit ratio of public sector banks in rural areas as on September 30, 2004 was 46.6% as against 43.09% as on March 31, 2004.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) Does not arise.

(h) and (i) Government does not assign any target for opening of branches by banks. The decisions are taken by the Boards of the banks depending upon availability of business and priority sector targets. Government has been advising banks to take all necessary steps to improve performance and ensure achievement of all targets in rural areas.

Statement

State-wise number of Scheduled Commercial Banks functioning in Rural Centres:

State/UT	SBI and Associates	Nationalized Banks*	Regional Rural Banks	Other Scheduled Commercial Banks	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
Andaman and Nicobar	1	1	—	—	2
Andhra Pradesh	3	16	17	10	46
Arunachal Pradesh	1	3	1	—	5
Assam	1	12	5	—	18
Bihar	1	11	16	—	28
Chandigarh	1	3	—	—	4
Chhattisgarh	2	10	5	—	17
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	—	1	—	—	1
Daman and Diu	1	—	—	—	1
Delhi	2	10	—	2	14
Goa	2	12	—	2	16
Gujarat	2	15	9	3	29
Haryana	3	14	4	4	25
Himachal Pradesh	2	10	2	—	14
Jammu and Kashmir	1	6	3	1	11
Jharkhand	2	14	6	—	21

1	2	3	4	5	6
Karnataka	3	15	13	8	39
Kerala	2	12	2	6	22
Lakshadweep	—	1	—	—	1
Maharashtra	3	14	10	8	35
Madhya Pradesh	2	15	20	—	37
Manipur	1	5	1	—	7
Meghalaya	1	6	1	—	8
Mizoram	1	—	1	—	2
Nagaland	1	2	1	—	4
Orissa	1	14	9	—	24
Pandicherry	1	3	—	1	5
Punjab	2	12	5	1	20
Rajasthan	2	13	14	2	31
Sikkim	1	3	—	—	4
Tamil Nadu	3	16	3	13	35
Tripura	1	3	1	—	5
Uttar Pradesh	2	16	36	—	54
Uttaranchal	1	11	5	1	18
West Bengal	1	16	9	—	26
All India total	8	20	196	25	249

*Nationalised Banks includes IDBI Limited.

[English]

Rural Employment Generation

*140. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU :
SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO :

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has surveyed the prevalent unemployment rates among the rural youth of the country;

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

(c) the steps the Government proposes to take to generate/increase employment opportunities in rural areas of the country; and

(d) the achievements made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) to (d) The Ministry of Rural Development has not conducted any Survey on the prevalent unemployment rate among the rural youth. However, according to 55th Round Survey on employment conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) in 1999-2000, the unemployment rate among rural youth (age group of 15-29 years) on Current Daily Status basis was estimated as 11.10 at percentage of labour force among rural youth for the males and 10.60% for the females. State-wise data on unemployment among rural youth is not available.

Tenth Plan envisages creation of 50 million employment opportunities during 2002-07. To create employment potential the Tenth Plan has identified the labour intensive sectors and sub-sectors for development such as agriculture, including social forestry, animal husbandry, fishing, horticulture and related areas and small and medium industries, construction, tourism, information technology, financial sector, education and health.

Employment generation is a multisectoral issue involving several Ministries/Sectors. The Ministry of Rural Development is implementing two major employment generation Schemes namely Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) and Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana (SGRY). The Government have also launched a new wage employment Scheme namely National Food For Works Programme (NFFWP) in 150 most backward districts of 27 States of the country to generate supplementary wage employment and providing food security through creation

of need based economic, social and community assets in these districts. The NFFWP will be open to the rural poor who are in need of wage employment and desire to do manual unskilled work.

During the period 1999-2000 to 2004-05 (upto January, 2005) under the SGSY 53.33 lakh Swarozgaris have been assisted and under the SGRY, 371.36 crore mandays of employment were generated.

Deposits by NRIs

1340. SHRI A.K. MOORTHY :
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL :
SHRI SUGRIB SINGH :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether deposits by Non-Resident Indians is decreasing in commercial banks;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has made any study to find out the reasons for such decline;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to attract NRIs deposit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent available.

[Translation]

Problems of Textile Industry in Uttar Pradesh

1341. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD :
SHRI ILYAS AZMI :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware that the textile industry in the country specially in Uttar Pradesh is facing difficulties;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA) : (a) and (b) The textile industry including that in Uttar Pradesh is facing the problem of technological obsolescence, fiscal anomalies, low productivity, infrastructural constraints and structural rigidities.

(c) To overcome these difficulties, the Government have taken the following initiatives:

(i) Rationalisation of fiscal duty structure undertaken so as to attract investment and modernisation;

(ii) Launching of the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) to facilitate the modernisation and upgradation of the sector.

(iii) For accelerating modernization of the powerlooms segment of the textile industry, 20% Capital assistance is available on investment upto Rs.100 Lakhs in specified machinery subject to a ceiling of Rs.20 lakh on amount of assistance;

(iv) Announcement of a package for restructuring of debt portfolios of potentially viable textile units having debt exposure of Rs.2 crore and above;

(v) De-reservation of the woven segment of readymade garments from the SSI sector. In the Union Budget 2005-06, an announcement has been made for de-reservation of 30 hosiery items from the SSI;

(vi) A centrally sponsored scheme titled "Apparel Park for Export Scheme" launched for imparting focused thrust for setting up of apparel manufacturing units of international standards at potential growth centres and to give fillip to exports;

(vii) For upgrading infrastructure facilities at important textile centers, a scheme titled "Textile Centre Infrastructure Development Scheme" (TCIDS) has also been launched;

(viii) Cotton Technology Mission launched to improve the productivity and quality of cotton;

**Percentage of Investment as
against GDP**

1342. SHRI BALESHWAR YADAV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the sector-wise and sub-sector-wise Gross

Domestic Product of the country during the last three years on actor cost and current price; and

(b) the percentage of gross domestic investment and saving as against Gross Domestic Product during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) As per the estimates released by the Central Statistical Organisation, the sector-wise and sub-sector-wise Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the country at factor cost at constant prices and current prices during the last three years are as follows:

Sector/sub-sector	GDP at factor cost (at constant 1993-94 prices) (Rs. crore)			GDP at factor cost (at constant 1993-94 prices) (Rs. crore)		
	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
	(Q)	(A)		(Q)	(A)	
1. Agriculture, forestry & fishing	283393	310611	313915	507863	575283	598677
Industry	360397	384241	414089	603577	666223	771656
2. Mining & quarrying	31185	33195	34955	62116	63357	80596
3. Manufacturing	227642	243400	265119	351824	392919	456422
4. Electricity, gas & water supply	31659	32827	34903	49883	54113	58588
5. Construction	69911	74819	79112	139754	155834	176050
Services	674572	735696	801362	1143448	1278279	1467791
6. Trade, hotels, transport & communication	326968	365559	406843	506021	578597	676171
7. Financing, insurance, real estate & business services	171463	183718	196853	310075	340102	389312
8. Community, social & personal services	176141	186419	197866	327352	359580	402308
Gross domestic product at factor cost	1318362	1430548	1529366	2254888	2519785	2838123

Q : Quick estimates

A : Advance estimates

(b) As per the estimates released by the Central Statistical Organisation, the gross domestic investment and gross domestic savings as per cent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at current market prices during the last three years are as follows:

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
		(P)	(Q)
	(as per cent of GDP at current market prices)		
Gross Domestic Investment*	22.6	24.8	26.3
Gross Domestic Savings	23.4	26.1	28.1

* adjusted for errors & omissions

P : Provisional

Q : Quick estimates

[English]

Soft Loan from World Bank

1343. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh Government has sought Rs.1380 crores soft loan from World Bank to improve Urban Infrastructure;

(b) if so, whether State Government has already prepared a detailed project report for improving urban infrastructure;

(c) if so, the details of the same;

(d) the total amount for which World Bank has agreed to provide; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) to (e) States

cannot borrow external sources of funding according to the Indian Constitution. No proposal has been received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh for Urban Infrastructure in the Government of India. The question of posing the same for World Bank financing therefore, does not arise for the moment.

World Bank Soft Loan

1344. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Karnataka Government has received 3rd installment of World Bank soft loan of Rs.1200/- crores regarding the economic restructuring in the state;

(b) if so, whether the World Bank officials visited State of Karnataka and have submitted their report to the Union Government regarding the economic restructuring in the state;

(c) if so, whether the Government has forwarded the proposal to the World Bank;

(d) if so, the total amount approved by the World Bank to Karnataka Government;

(e) whether the work on this project has started; and

(f) if so, the amount utilized so far on this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The proposal of the State Government, seeking World Bank assistance amounting to US \$ 250 million, for third tranche of Structural Adjustment Loan was recommended to the World Bank in November, 2004. The World Bank's appraisal mission visited Karnataka during January 24-28, 2005 to appraise the project.

(d) The World Bank has not yet approved the project.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Loan Received from FFIs

1345. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount received by the Government of Orissa from different foreign financial institutions for various externally aided projects during the last three years;

(b) whether the Union Government has recently received representations from the State for increasing DFID assistance; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) Amount received by Govt. of Orissa under state specific externally aided projects, funded by different Foreign Financial Institutions (multilateral agencies) is contained in the statement enclosed.

(b) and (c) Govt. of Orissa has requested for DFID assistance of about Rs.2300 crore, for a period of 4 years from 2004-05 to 2007-08, to achieve Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). However, the proposal received from the Government of Orissa does not amount to a firm proposal that can be posed, as yet, to DFID for funding.

Statement

S. No.	Name of Project	Funding Agencies	Govt. of Orissa has received the amounts (Rs. crores)		
			FY (2002-03)	FY (2003-04)	FY (2004-05) as on 31.12.04
1.	Orissa Power Sector Restructuring Project	IBRD	146.714	222.782	70.116
2.	Orissa Socio-Economic Development Programme	IBRD	—	—	371.200
3.	Orissa Water Resources Consolidation-Part-H	IDA	55.151	63.807	54.745
4.	Orissa Water Resources Consolidation	IDA	67.167	62.918	12.536
5.	Orissa Health Systems Development	IDA	33.695	29.759	35.622
6.	Orissa Socio Economic Dev. Programme	IDA	—	—	184.703
7.	Orissa Tribal Empowerment & Livelihood Programme	IFAD	—	4.549	0.000

[Translation]**Enquiry against officers in IT Department**

1346. SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD NISHAD : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to reply given to the Unstarred Question No.3385 on August 20, 2004

regarding the complaints against the Income Tax Officials and state:

(a) Whether the Government has received the remaining 6 inquiry reports against the officers of the status of Chief Income Tax Commissioner and Income Tax Commissioner of the Income Tax Department;

(b) if so, whether the Government has conducted an intensive review of the said report;

(c) if so, the number of officers whose cases have been forwarded to the Central Vigilance Commission for taking action by the Government so far; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) Government has received Inquiry Reports in respect of 4 remaining cases and in two cases, reports are still awaited.

(b) The cases are being reviewed intensely and wherever necessary, reference will be made to the Central Vigilance Commission, as per the procedure.

(c) In one case, the advice of the Central Vigilance Commission has been received and further investigation is in progress.

(d) Not applicable.

Compensation Paid by WCL

1347. SHRI HANSRAJ G AHIR : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether some complaints from people for providing suitable compensation and jobs to the projects affected people are being made after the acquisition of their land for various coal mines projects including Western Coalfields Ltd.;

(b) if so, the arrangement made for the disposal of claims of project affected people in regard to providing suitable compensation and jobs;

(c) the action taken by the coal companies including Western Coalfields Ltd. for disposal of the pending claims of certain project affected people;

(d) whether any direction has been issued by the Government to coal companies to provide relief to project affected people immediately; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO) : (a) and (b) Yes, complaints are received from time to time regarding compensation for land acquired by subsidiary companies of Coal India including Western Coalfields Limited (WCL). Complaints are also received regarding provision of employment in certain cases against acquisition of land.

Land is acquired for coal mining projects under Land Acquisition Act, 1894 and Coal Bearing Areas (Acquisition and Development) Act, 1957. Compensation of land under Land Acquisition Act is assessed by District Authorities. The assessed / demanded amount is deposited with State Authorities by coal companies and paid to land owner/ oustees by the District Authority.

Compensation for land & other interest acquired under Coal Bearing Areas (A & D) Act, 1957 is assessed by coal company as per provision of the Act and payment is made after obtaining competent approval of Govt. of India.

However, whenever interested tenants whose land is acquired feel that the awarded compensation is inadequate, the compensation is received / accepted by them under protest and they may prefer appeal to Court for land acquired under Land Acquisition Act, 1894 and to Special Tribunal / tribunals set up by Central Govt for land acquired under Coal Bearing Areas (A&D) Act, 1957 for deciding the fair amount of compensation. The order of the Court / Tribunal is implemented by the subsidiary companies.

Employment or monetary compensation in lieu of employment is given to project affected persons or his dependents as per existing Resettlement & Rehabilitation Policy (R&R Policy) in vogue in subsidiary companies of Coal India Ltd. including WCL.

Disputes regarding jobs for which complaints are also received arise due to (i) Non submission of proper

documents by the claimants, (ii) Not handing over the vacant possession of the acquired / purchased land, (iii) Ownership dispute, (iv) Family dispute (v) Demanding employment for Non - entitled cases, (iv) Litigation / Court Cases with regard to right title and interest over the property.

(c) Providing compensation for land acquired for coal projects and jobs to the land loser is a continuous process and claims of persons have to be authenticated / verified before settlement. Certain claims remain in pipeline too.

However, whenever such case is brought to notice of coal company appropriate action, after verification, of the claim is taken. Subsidiary companies make all efforts to settle the case within the minimum possible time so that minimum hardship is caused to project affected person.

(d) As stated above in reply at (a) & (b) relief is already being provided.

(e) In view of (d) above, question does not arise.

[English]

Excise Exemption on Pharma Industries

1348. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the specific areas in the country where complete/partial excise exemption on the pharma industries is pledged till 2017;

(b) the projected short fall in collection of excise revenue per State, year-wise in the future;

(c) whether the benefit of such exemption will pass on to the consumers; and

(d) the manner in which the union Government ensure level playing field to industries in other parts of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) Area based excise duty exemptions are applicable to specified units located in the North Eastern States, Jammu & Kashmir, Uttaranchal, Himachal Pradesh, Kutch district of Gujarat and Sikkim. These exemptions are applicable to pharma units also. In case of Uttaranchal and Himachal Pradesh, exemption is available for a period of ten years provided commencement of commercial production is on or before 31.3.2007.

(b) State-wise year-wise shortfall in excise revenue collection in future, due to area-based exemptions, have not been projected.

(c) Whether benefits of excise exemption are passed on to consumers or not will depend on a variety of factors like supply and demand position, cost of manufacture etc., and there is nothing in Central Excise law to ensure that benefit of excise duty exemption is passed on to consumers.

(d) As a policy, the Government has notified area-based exemptions from excise duty as fiscal incentive in order to encourage industrial development of such areas.

Non-Performing Assets

1349. SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the percentage of non-performing assets of the foreign and private sector banks is much less as compared to the public sector banks;

(b) if so, the comparative details for the last three years;

(c) whether remarkable amendments have been made in the recommendations of task force constituted in 2003 under the Chairmanship of S.N. Aggarwal for the disposal of said cases and for modifying the recovery process; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Percentage of Gross/Net Non-Performing Assets to Gross/Net advances of different bank groups for the last three years are as under:-

Bank group	% of gross NPAs to gross advances			% of net NPAs to net advances		
	2002	2003	2004	2002	2003	2004
Public Sector banks	11.1	9.4	7.8	5.8	4.5	3.0
Old private sector banks	11.0	8.9	7.6	7.1	5.5	3.8
New private sector	8.9	7.6	5.0	4.9	4.6	2.4
Foreign banks	5.4	5.3	4.6	1.9	1.8	1.5

(c) and (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent available.

Electoral Reforms

1350. SHRI M. SHIVANNA :

SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT "BACHDA" :

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI :

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY :

SHRI SURESH CHANDEL :

SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI :

SHRI K.S. RAO :

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

(a) whether the Government has received some recommendations/requests from the Election Commission, Supreme Court and from the general public for making some amendments in the electoral laws;

(b) if so, the details of the amendments proposed to be made therein; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Hon'ble Supreme Court vide its judgement dated 13-03-2003 in Writ Petition (Civil) No.490 of 2002 (Peoples Union for Civil Liberties and another vs. the Union of India) has directed the Election Commission of India to seek certain information regarding criminal cases, assets and liabilities and educational qualification from the contesting candidates for the benefit of the voters. The said directions of the apex court are the law of land in terms of article 141 of the Constitution. The Election Commission of India has forwarded to the Government of India a set of 22 proposals on electoral reforms, the details of which have been made available for general information of the public by the Election Commission press note No. ECI/PN/26/2004 dated 2-8-2004. Similarly, the Government has been receiving numerous suggestions from the general public on the subject from time to time. It is, however, not possible to give details to the suggestions within the prescribed limits of answering the question.

(c) The process of reform of electoral laws is a continuous and ongoing process and can be carried out only through consensus among political parties, which is a time consuming process. It may, therefore, not be possible to indicate any time frame for implementing the proposals of electoral laws.

Unclaimed Dividend

1351. SHRI TUKARAM GANGADHAR GADAKH : Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether hundred of crores of rupees have been received by the Government from the companies on account of unclaimed dividend;

(b) if so, the details about the unclaimed dividend transferred to Government accounts during the last three years; and

(c) the amount that has been sanctioned by Investors' Education & Protection Fund for Investors associations during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The amounts in the (a) unclaimed and unpaid dividend accounts of companies (b) the application moneys received by companies for allotment of any securities and due for refund (c) matured deposits with companies (d) matured debentures with companies, and (e) the interest accrued on these amounts, which remained unclaimed and unpaid for a period of seven years from the date they became due for payment, have been credited to the Investor Education and Protection Fund (IEPF) maintained in the Consolidated Fund of India. The details of the same during the last three years are as under:-

Financial Year	Amount in Rupees
2001-2002	29,05,18,844.22
2002-2003	108,69,29,558.18
2003-2004	103,85,02,945.05
Total	241,59,51,347.45

(c) The amount that has been sanctioned by Investors' Education & Protection Fund for Investors' associations during the last three years is as follows:-

Financial Year	Amount in Rupees
2001-2002	Nil*
2002-2003	23,91,271
2003-2004	44,15,623

*Accretions to the Fund started only w.b.f. 01-01-2001 and hence no expenditure could be incurred during 2001-02.

Gift Tax

1352. SHRI FRANCIS FANTHOME : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the top ten payers of Gift Tax received in excess of Rs.25,000 from non-relatives;

(b) the total amount collected as gift tax in the last quarter of the financial year 2004-2005;

(c) whether the Government made enquiries regarding the doners of large gifts; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) Information regarding top ten taxpayers in respect of gifts received in excess of Rs. 25,000 from non-relatives will be available only when returns of income for Assessment year 2005-06 (Previous Year 2004-05) are filed for which the last date is 31st October, 2005.

(b) Separate Account of such receipts is not being maintained. This information is therefore not available.

(c) Inquiries in this regard, if any, can be made only after receipt of returns of income for the Assessment Year 2005-06 (Previous Year 2004-05) for which the last date is 31st October 2005.

(d) Does not arise in view of the reply to the question at (c) above.

Investigation by SFIO

1353. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI :
SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN :

Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO) was set up in October, 2003;

(b) if so, the number of such cases referred to SFIO so far;

(c) the number of investigations completed by the said office;

(d) whether the suggestion submitted by SFIO in regard to improving the system are being looked into by an expert committee;

(e) whether the said committee has submitted its report; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and steps taken or being taken by Government to simplify the procedure of investigations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Twenty-Six cases have been referred to Inspectors drawn from Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO) for investigation so far under section 235/237 of the Companies Act, 1956. So far, investigation has been completed in four such cases.

(d) to (f) Steps are taken from time to time to streamline the system of investigation on the basis of experience gained with each investigation. No expert committee has been constituted to specifically go into any suggestion by SFIO in regard to improving the systems of investigation into corporate fraud.

"US 64 Scheme"

1354. SHRI NARAYAN CHANDRA BORKATAKY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Unit Trust of India has evaded compensation to over two crores of rupees investors under US 64 bail out; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) and (b) No

sir. The problems confronting US-64, which had been drawing public attention for over 5 years, have been addressed in a manner that investors have received their rightful claims without any adverse impact on the capital market.

Quarry Industries

1355. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the present position of Quarry Industry in the country, State-wise, including its salient features;

(b) its contribution in the National Economy during the last five years;

(c) the occupational and health hazards caused by the industry;

(d) the impact of the industry on the environment both in the short and long term;

(e) whether the Government has conducted any study/survey for making a realistic appraisal of the industry;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the efforts made/proposed to be made for restoring the environment degraded by the industry, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO) : (a) and (b) The Ministry of Mines is mainly concerned with mining of non-fuel and non-atomic minerals. The term quarry industry is generally associated with extraction of stones, which are minor minerals. In terms of section 15 of the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957, all powers to make rules for grant of quarry leases, mineral concessions, levy and collection of royalty etc. in respect of minor minerals are with State Governments. However as per estimates of Central Statistical Organisation, the

contribution of mining and quarry sector at the current prices for last 5 years is given below:

(Rs. Crores)

Year	Total GDP	Mining and Quarrying	Percentage share
1999-2000	1761838	41298	2.34
2000-2001	1902999	45399	2.39
2001-2002	2081474	47925	2.30
2002-2003	2254888	62116	2.75
2003-2004 (QE)	2519785	63357	2.51

QE: Quick Estimate.

(c) The matters relating to occupational and health hazards caused in a mine have been dealt with under the Mines Act, 1952 which is administered by Ministry of Labour. A separate directorate, namely Directorate General of Mines Safety under Ministry of Labour has also been set up for the purpose.

(d) to (g) All mineral concessions are granted by the State Governments under the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and Rules made thereunder. Only in respect of minerals specified in First Schedule to the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957, the State Governments are required to obtain prior approval of the Central Government before grant of mineral concessions. The lease holders are also required to obtain environment clearance under the Environment (Protection) Act 1986, which is administered by Ministry of Environment and Forests.

Ministry of Mines has not conducted any general survey or study on impact of mining industry as a whole on environment. However, the Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) a subordinate office under the control of Ministry of Mines ensures implementation of mining plan in individual cases which is required to be prepared and

approved before grant of mining lease for all major minerals and inter-alia incorporates assessment of impact of mining activity on forest, land surface and environment including air and water pollution; details of scheme of restoration of the area by afforestation, land reclamation, use of pollution control devices and such other measures as may be directed by the Central Government or the State Government from time to time.

Ministry of Mines has introduced the concept of mine closure plan whereby the lessee has to undertake protective, reclamation and rehabilitation measures before closure of mining operation so that mined out areas are restored back once the mining operations cease.

Investment in West Bengal under Economic Reforms

1356. SHRI HITEN BARMAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has invited the foreign companies to make investment in different fields in West Bengal under new economic reforms during the last three years;

(b) if so, what has been the impact of this policy;

(c) the total investment made by the said companies in the State during this period, year-wise separately; and

(d) the effective measures being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) to (c) Government has put in place a liberal Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) policy and most items/activities for investment up to 100% fall under the Automatic Route except for a few categories where Government approval through the Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) shall be necessary. The Policy does not envisage State specific guidelines. Details of FDI approvals granted for

investment in West Bengal for the last three years is as follows:-

Year	(in Rs. Crore)
2002-2003 (Apr.-Mar)	325.01
2003-2004 (Apr.-Mar)	339.45
2004-2005 (Apr.-Dec)	84.08

(d) To make the environment more attractive, Government has on September 29, 2004 further simplified the FDI approval procedure by placing the following on the automatic route:

- (i) Transfer of shares from resident to non-resident (including transfer of subscribers' shares to non-residents) other than in financial services sector provided the investment is covered under automatic route, falls within the sectoral cap and also complies with prescribed pricing guidelines.
- (ii) Conversion of ECB/Loan into equity provided the activity of the company is covered under automatic route, the foreign equity after such conversion falls within the sectoral cap and also complies with prescribed pricing guidelines.
- (iii) Cases of increase in foreign equity participation by fresh issue of shares as well as conversion of preference shares into equity capital provided such increase falls within the sectoral cap in the relevant sectors, are within the automatic route and also complies with prescribed pricing guidelines.

Branches of Export Promotion Council

1357. SHRI K.C. PALANISAMY : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of Export Promotion Council, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government proposes to open any new branches of Export Promotion Council in the country especially in Tamil Nadu; and

(c) if so, the location-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA) : (a) Presently, ten Export Promotion Councils (EPCs) are functioning in the textile sector. The textile EPCs alongwith locations of their headquarters are given below:

S. No.	Name of Export Promotion Council	Headquarter
1.	Apparel Export Promotion Council	New Delhi
2.	Cotton Textile Export Promotion Council	Mumbai (Maharashtra)
3.	Synthetic & Rayon Textile Export Promotion Council	Mumbai (Maharashtra)
4.	Indian Silk Export Promotion Council	Mumbai (Maharashtra)
5.	Powerloom Development & Export Promotion Council	Mumbai (Maharashtra)
6.	Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts	New Delhi
7.	Carpet Export Promotion Council	New Delhi
8.	Handloom Export Promotion Council	Chennai Tamil Nadu
9.	Wool & Woolen Export Promotion Council	New Delhi
10.	Wool Industry Export Promotion Organisation	Mumbai (Maharashtra)

(b) and (c) There is no proposal to set up more Textile EPCs at this stage.

Spinning Mills

1358. SHRI RANEN BARMAN : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of spinning mills in the country, location wise;

(b) whether some spinning mills have been closed/ privatized;

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

(d) the steps being taken by Government to revive/ set up new spinning mills in the country, particularly in the State of West Bengal?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA) : (a) The state wise location of spinning mills in the country as on 31.01.05 is furnished in the list A of the statement enclosed.

(b) and (c) Textile being the oldest and the largest industry of the country, it is but natural that at any given point of time some textile units could be lying closed due to various external and internal factors such as power problem, labour disputes, excess capacity, lack of modernisation, failure to diversify in emerging areas, poor management etc. As on 31/12/2004, 378 cotton / man made fibre textile spinning mills (Non SSI, private sector) were closed as per details furnished in List B of the statement enclosed.

(d) Government seeks to foster a policy regime, which facilitates growth and development of Indian industry. It has taken a number of steps for revival of sick industrial units which, inter-alia, include, guidelines of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to banks, amalgamation of sick units with healthy units, setting up of BIFR under the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, etc.

The RBI has been issuing from time to time elaborate guidelines covering all areas of industrial rehabilitation viz. detection of industrial sickness at incipient stage, identification of sick/weak units, carrying out viability study of the units, extending relief and concessions to viable units, co-

ordination among banks and financial institutions and banks themselves, norms for promoter's contribution, extended period for repayment/ rescheduling of loans, conversions and waivers of penal rate/ compound interest etc.

BIFR has been set up with a view to arranging the timely detection of sick and potentially sick companies and for the speedy determination of preventive, ameliorative and remedial measures, which need to be taken in respect of such companies. It appoints operating agencies for preparation of rehabilitation proposals in respect of potentially viable units. It takes decision on rehabilitation on the basis of its findings.

Statement

List-A

State wise location of Spinning Mills (Non-SSI) as on 31.01.2005 (P)

S.No.	State	No. of spinning mills
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	99
2.	Assam	6
3.	Bihar	6
4.	Chhattisgarh	1
5.	Delhi	0
6.	Goa	1
7.	Gujarat	58
8.	Haryana	76
9.	Himachal Pradesh	16
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	2
11.	Jharkhand	1

1	2	3
12.	Karnataka	47
13.	Kerala	33
14.	Madhya Pradesh	40
15.	Maharashtra	131
16.	Manipur	1
17.	Orissa	16
18.	Punjab	75
19.	Rajasthan	44
20.	Tamilnadu	810
21.	Uttar Pradesh	58
22.	Uttaranchal	5
23.	West Bengal	23
Union Territory		
24.	Dadra Nagar Haveli	4
25.	Daman & Diu	1
26.	Pondicherry	9
Grand Total		1563

Statement**List-B**

*State wise location of spinning mills (Non-SSI)
Closed as on 31.12.2004*

S.No.	State	Spinning
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	40
2.	Assam	5

1	2	3
3.	Bihar	5
4.	Gujarat	31
5.	Haryana	25
6.	Jammu & Kashmir	1
7.	Karnataka	15
8.	Kerala	9
9.	Madhya Pradesh	7
10.	Maharashtra	33
11.	Orissa	10
12.	Punjab	15
13.	Rajasthan	18
14.	Tamilnadu	115
15.	Uttar Pradesh	33
16.	West Bengal	9
17.	Delhi	0
18.	Pondicherry	1
19.	Manipur	1
20.	Daman & Diu	0
21.	Chhattisgarh	1
22.	Uttaranchal	4
23.	Jharkhand	0
Total		378

Multimedia Campaign on Vat

1359. DR. BABU RAO MEDIYAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is launching multimedia campaign in regional languages to inform and educate the public and the trading community over "Value Added Tax"; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) and (b) The Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers has launched a publicity campaign to inform and educate the public and the trading community over "Value Added Tax". The publicity campaign would cover print media, radio as well as television.

Low Rate of Investment in Infrastructure

1360. SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI :
SHRI K.S. RAO :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the rate of investment in infrastructure was for lower than that of China and East Asia;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) and (b) While comparable disaggregated information on infrastructure in respect of China and East Asia are not available, it is seen that the rates of investment (gross capital formation as per cent of gross domestic product at current market prices), in India are lower as compared with China and some Asian countries. The lower rate of investment in India is mainly on account of lower rate of savings.

(c) The Government has initiated various measures for increased investment in agriculture, operationalisation of Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act, enhanced public investment, promotion of public-private partnership for infrastructure development and liberalisation

of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) policy. Budget 2005-06 has proposed enhanced investment for agriculture, infrastructure, providing and facilitating investment in public goods such as roads, railways, power, seaports and airports and providing a supportive policy environment and stable tax policies for investment in services sectors. These measures are expected to result in increased investment to achieve higher growth.

Licence to Power Companies

1361. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL :
SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether US based power company AES has been assigned the job of distribution of electricity in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the licence of said company has been cancelled by the Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) to (d) AES of United States of America had acquired controlling interest of 51% in Central Electricity Supply Company of Orissa Ltd. (CESCO) through AES Orissa Distribution Private Limited (AES) in September, 1999.

Grid Corporation of Orissa Ltd. under section 28 read with section 30 of the OERC Reforms Act, 1995 had filed a petition before Orissa Electricity Regulatory Commission (OERC) alleging that AES Orissa Distribution Company Private Ltd. had not taken appropriate steps to maintain the supply of electricity to the consumers in the area of supply of CESCO. OERC being satisfied that there was an urgent need to vest the management and control of CESCO in an appropriate officer to ensure maintenance of continued supply of electricity in CESCO area to protect the interest of the consumers and public, vide its order

dated 27th August 2001 has appointed a nominated officer of the State Government to take over the management and control of CESCO and manage the electricity supply activities in the CESCO area till further orders.

While further hearing the case of 26th February, 2005, the OERC being satisfied held that circumstances exist to revoke the licence under Section 19 of the Electricity Act, 2003, in particular, on the ground that CESCO has failed to show to the satisfaction to the Commission that CESCO under the AES Management will be in a position fully and efficiently to discharge the duties and obligations imposed on it by the licence. The Commission, therefore, directed that the Distribution and Retail Supply Licence, 1999 (1 of 99) granted by the Commission to the Central Electricity Supply Company of Orissa Limited be revoked. However, the Commission has ordered that the Order of revocation of the licence be kept in abeyance for a period of 45 days to enable the stakeholders, namely, the consortium of AES Corporation and its Associates, if considered appropriate to finalise a scheme for revival of CESCO as per specified conditions. If the scheme as mentioned above is not received on or before 31.3.2005, the revocation shall take effect without any further hearing or proceeding.

Mining Works In Orissa

1362. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG :
SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL :

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) total mining areas granted by Government to private companies for major minerals so far, mineral-wise, district-wise and quantity-wise in the country, specially in

the State of Orissa by the Ministry alongwith years of granting licences;

(b) the terms and conditions laid down by his Ministry while granting the licences;

(c) the total number of major minerals transferred by the Government to private companies for setting up mineral based industries so far; and

(d) the criteria and policy of Government of Orissa for setting up private industries and lease transferring to private companies therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO) : (a) Mining Leases are granted by the State Governments as per provisions of Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957 and Rules made thereunder. Only for a select number of minerals specified in the first schedule of the said Act, prior approval of the Central Govt. is required before grant of the mineral concessions by the State Governments. As per the information available in Indian Minerals Year Book, 2003, published by Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) which is a subordinate office under Ministry of Mines, the total area granted to the private sector in mining lease in India is 411155.68 hectares as on 31.3.2001. As informed by IBM, a total of 131 mining leases for major minerals with a total mining area of about 31,111 hectares have been granted to the private companies in the State of Orissa as on 1.12.2004. Since while granting mining leases the quantity of the mineral is not specified, the mineral-wise and district-wise distribution alongwith years of grant of mining lease in the State of Orissa is shown in the following table:—

Sl. No.	Name of the major Mineral (no. of leases)	Districts	Years of grant of mining lease
1	2	3	4
1.	Fireclay (9)	Angul, Cuttack, Sundergarh	1970, 1974, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1984, 1988 and 1996

1	2	3	4
2.	Graphite (7)	Baragarh, Bolangir, Kandhamal	1976, 1983, 1985, 1986, 1996 and 1997
3.	Gemstone (4)	Bolangir, Kalahandi	2000 and 2001
4.	Limestone (1)	Bolangir	1996
5.	Limestone & Dolomite(10)	Sundergarh	1980, 1986, 1996, 1997, 1985, 1991, 2000
6.	Quartz (15)	Bolangir, Boudh, Kalahandi, Subarnpur, Rayagada	1971, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1991, and 2000
7.	Chromite(12)	Dhenkanal, Jajpur, Keonjhar	1960, 1985, 1993, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000 and 2001
8.	Quartzite (4)	Jharsuguda, Mayurbhanj	1983, 1999, 2000 and 2002
9.	Iron and Manganese Ore (7)	Keonjhar, Sundergarh	1978, 1980, 1982, 1984, 1985, 1994 and 2003
10.	Iron Ore (20)	Keonjhar, Mayurbhanj, Sundergarh	1962, 1966 1969, 1971, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1989, 1994, 1997, 2001
11.	Iron Ore and Dolomite (1)	Keonjhar	2002
12.	Manganese (27)	Keonjhar, Rayagada, Sundergarh	1960, 1963, 1964, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1993, 1995, 1997, 1999 and 2001
13.	Pyrophyllite and Quartzite (2)	Keonjhar	1984 and 1996
14.	Tin Ore (1)	Malkangiri	1997
15.	Chinaclay (2)	Mayurbhanj	1974, 1996
16.	Bauxite (3)	Rayagada, Sundergarh	1976, 1980 and 1997
17.	Iron Ore and Bauxite (1)	Sundergarh	1983
18.	Manganese Ore and Bauxite (1)	Sundergarh	1960
19.	Sandstone (2)	Sundergarh	2000
20.	Coal (1)	Sundergarh	2003
21.	Dolomite (1)	Sundergarh	1997

(b) The terms and conditions of the mining leases are governed by the provisions of Mineral Concession Rules, 1960, Mineral Conservation and Development Rules, 1988, other applicable Acts and Rules including Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Environment Notification dated 27.1.1994 as issued and amended by Ministry of Environment and Forests, wherever applicable.

(c) The transfer of mining lease is under the purview of the concerned State Governments and the role of the Ministry of Mines is limited to conveying prior approval in case of atomic minerals only. As per the information received from IBM, M/s Orissa Mining Corporation (OMC) have transferred a mining lease for buaxite over 1388.74 hectares in village Baphimali in Rayagada district in Orissa to M/s Utkal Alumina International Ltd. in the year 2000 only for captive use.

(d) Ministry of Mines do not have any information regarding criteria and policy of Government of Orissa for setting up private industries and lease transferring to private companies.

Tax Treaty with Malaysia

1363. SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE :

SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item appearing in 'The Economic Times', dated 24 December, 2004 regarding renegotiation of tax treaty with Malaysia;

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

(c) the time by which the treaty will be notified?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Yes Sir. It is a fact that the Government has taken the decision to renegotiate the tax treaty with Malaysia.

(c) It is difficult to specify a fixed time frame for notification, as finalization of a bilateral tax treaty depends upon the response of the other treaty partner.

NSS087 Withdrawal without TDS.

1364. SH. G. KARUNAKARA REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any circular has been issued to the Department of Posts facilitating withdrawal from "NSS087" accounts without tax deducted at source (TDS) even when withdrawal per year exceed Rs.50,000/- for senior citizens;

(b) if so, the details of action taken by the Department of Posts;

(c) whether even after issuing the circular the Department of Posts has been routinely deducting Income Tax in this regard; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefore and action taken by the Union Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) Sub-Section (1C) was inserted in Section 197A of the Income Tax Act with effect from 1.6.2003 which allowed an Indian resident individual of the age of 65 years or more to withdraw from National Savings Scheme and to receive certain other incomes, without tax deduction at source, if such individual furnishes a declaration in prescribed form (Form 15H) to the effect that tax on his estimated total income for the year will be nil. The new provision was also explained by the CBDT vide Circular No. 7 dated 5.9.2003.

(b) The Department of Posts also issued a Circular vide SB order No.4/2004 dated 9.2.2004, bringing to the notice of all heads of Circles/Regions under the

Department of Posts, the changes made in the provisions relating to TDS on incomes received by Indian resident individuals of the age of 65 years or more, as elaborated in reply to para (a) above.

(c) and (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Contribution Released to Madhya Pradesh

1365. SHRIMATI NEETA PATERIYA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the projects approved in the country under Textile Cluster Infrastructure Development Scheme and present status thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA) : (a) and (b) The Government have sanctioned eighteen project proposals under "Textile Centre Infrastructure Development Scheme (TCIDS)". The state-wise location of the sanctioned project is given below:

S. No.	State	Location
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Pashamydarlam, Medak
2.	Andhra Pradesh	Warangal
3.	Andhra Pradesh	Sircilla, Karimnagar
4.	Gujarat	Narol-Shahwadi, Ahmedabad
5.	Gujarat	Pandesara, Surat
6.	Gujarat	Jetpur, Rajkot
7.	Gujarat	SEWA facilitation Trade Centre, Ahmedabad

1	2	3
8.	Haryana	Sector 29, Phase-II, Panipat
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	Zakura
10.	Kerala	Kannur
11.	Madhya Pradesh	Indore
12.	Maharashtra	Solapur
13.	Maharashtra	Bhiwandi (Cluster No.3 and 6)
14.	Maharashtra	Malegaon
15.	Rajasthan	Jasol
16.	Rajasthan	Pali
17.	Tamil Nadu	Kancheepuram
18.	Tamil Nadu	Captive Power Plan Project Tirupur

The approved projects are at various stages of implementation.

[English]

Legislation and Manpower Mobilisation on Service Tax

1366. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a separate legislation for Service Tax;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of manpower mobilization for collection of Service Tax?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) and (b)

Service Tax is mainly administered in terms of the provisions of Chapter V of the Finance Act 1994, as amended from time to time.

(c) The work related to the administration of Service Tax is being done by redeployment of manpower and resources available with the Central Excise Department. Six new Service Tax Commissionerates – one each in Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Bangalore and Ahmedabad have however, been created to give focused attention to the Service tax collection in the aforesaid places.

Indira Awas Yojana

1367. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal of the Government to increase the number of houses to be constructed under the Indira Awas Yojana during the next three years; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL) : (a) and (b) The Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) is an ongoing allocation based scheme. Under this scheme, targets for construction of houses are fixed on year to year basis depending upon the availability of funds.

Urban Cooperative Bank In Andhra Pradesh

1368. SHRI M.RAJA MOHAN REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of urban cooperative banks in Andhra Pradesh which have fallen sick or defunct during the last three years; year-wise;

(b) the main reasons for their falling sick;

(c) the public money involved in each of these banks;

(d) the steps taken by RBI to safeguard the interest of the depositors;

(e) the financial help provided by Government to meet the situation; and

(f) the present status of working of each banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) to (c) Licenses of 30 Urban Cooperative Banks were cancelled by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) during the last four years, as given in the statement-I enclosed. Besides, directions have been issued by RBI to 11 banks under Section 35A of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 (AACS) and the public money involved in these banks are indicated in the statement-II enclosed. The main reasons for their falling sick are poor credit management, non adherence to prudential norms governing exposure limits to a single borrowers/group of borrowers, loans given to Directors and their relatives, higher cost of deposits, low capital base, lack of proper guidance and directions from Board of Directors, inadequate and weak internal control and audit systems etc.

(d) RBI has issued several directions to safeguard the interest of the depositors - prohibiting the banks from acceptance of fresh deposits, prescribing a ceiling limit on withdrawal of deposits, advising the banks to submit an action plan to turn around in a time bound manner etc.

(e) The State Government/Central Government has not provided any financial help in this regard.

(f) The banks to whom directions have been issued are being monitored closely by RBI. Registrar of

Co-operative Societies has been requested to supersede Board of Directors and appoint an Administrator where there has been lack of control. The possibility of merger with some other financially sound and viable UCB is also being explored.

Statement-I

Names of banks that have fallen defunct during last three years

Sr. No.	Date of cancellation license	Name of the Bank whose license was cancelled
1	2	3
1	14/3/2004	The Chodavaram CUBL, Chodavaram, Visakhapatnam district.
2	16/3/2001	The Kurnool CUBL, Kurnool
3	14/9/2001	The Sitara CUBL, Hyderabad
4	16/10/2001	Krushi CUBL (Liquidated by the State Government by appointment of liquidator)
5	25/01/2002	The Aryan CUBL, Hyderabad
6	4/9/2002	The Arnoor CUBL, Nizamabad
7	18/4/2002	The First City CUBL, Hyderabad
8	20/5/2002	The Jawahar CUBL, Ranga Reddy district
9	8/8/2002	The Megacity CUBL, Hyderabad
10	19/10/2002	Mother Theresa CUBL, Hyderabad
11	6/7/2002	Praja CUBL, Hyderabad
12	5/7/2002	The Rajampet CUBL, Cuddapah District

1	2	3
13.	30/5/2002	The Sravya CUBL, Hyderabad (Liquidated by the State Government by appointment of liquidator)
14.	14/11/2002	The Pithapuram CUBL, East Godavari Dist
15.	5/1/2003	The Star CUBL, Hyderabad
16.	12/4/2003	The Dhana CUBL, West Godavari District
17.	7/6/2003	The Narasaraopet CUBL, Guntur District
18.	16/7/2003	The Manikanta CUBL, Hyderabad
19.	8/9/2003	The Vasundhara CUBL, Ranga Reddy
20.	6/10/2003	The Neelagiri CUBL, Nalgona
21.	5/12/2003	The Trinity CUBL, Ranga Reddy
22.	19/1/2004	The Mahalaxmi CUBL, Hyderabad
23.	19/1/2004	The Kalyan CUBL, Hyderabad
24.	28/1/2004	The Vijaya Mahila CUBL, Hyderabad
25.	3/3/2004	Swamy Gynanda Yogeeswara Mahila CUBL, Puttur, Chittoor
26.	1/6/2004	Sai CUBL, Hyderabad
27.	19/6/2004	Sri Satya Sai CUBL, Hyderabad
28.	10/8/2004	Bellampally CUBL, Adilabad District
29.	7/12/2004	The Prudential CUBL, Hyderabad
30.	3/12/2004	The Greater Telangana CUBL, Nizamabad (Liquidated by State Government by appointment of a liquidator)

Statement-II

Names of the banks and amount of the public money involved along with share capital of members and reasons for problems are as under

Sr. No.	Name of the bank	Share Capital Rs. in lakh	Total deposit liabilities Rs. in lakh	Reason/s for the problems in the banks
1.	Bobbili CURL	89.35	1730.75	Poor quality of assets and inter bank placement of deposits which could not be unwound / withdrawn.
2.	Bharat Mercantile CUBL, Hyderabad	93.39	1462.92	Poor quality of assets and poor governance.
3.	Hyderabad CUBL, Hyderabad	81.26	1345.92	Excessive dependence of working capital (deposits) from a single source and poor governance.
4.	Ongole CUBL	88.27	2640.43	Interbank placement of deposits, which could not be unwound.
5.	Palakol CUBL	85.60	2407.14	Poor governance and poor systems.
6.	Kanyaka Parameswar CUBL, Hyderabad	40.43	289.40	Poor governance, poor systems and poor quality of assets.
7.	Srikaiahasthi CUBL	62.59	1402.93	Poor governance, poor systems and poor quality of assets.
8.	Vizianagaram CUBL	76.34	2165.89	Interbank placement of deposits that could not be unwound and poor governance.
9.	Chittoor CUBL	181.64	8092.75	Interbank placement of deposits that could not be unwound and poor governance.
10.	Vasavi CUBL, Hyderabad	245.19	15661.92	Very Poor Quality of Assets and connected lending.
11.	Charminar CUBL	1614.14	18185.29	Poor Quality of Assets.

Fraud In Banks

1369. SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware that recently a fraud has been detected in some banks in Delhi where the Security Guards of the banks have stolen cheques from the cheque drop boxes and swindled money worth lakhs

of rupees by getting the cheques cashed and the customers have thus been badly cheated;

(b) if so, the names of the banks where the fraud has been committed;

(c) whether the matter has been investigated;

(d) if so, the action taken against the officials of the concerned banks who have failed to protect the interests of the customers;

(e) whether the money has been recovered fully and credited in the accounts of the rightful customers by now and the guilty guards brought to book;

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

(g) whether the banks still want to continue with the illegal practice of cheque drop box system;

(h) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(i) the concrete action taken to ensure that the customers do not become victims of the system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) to (i) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that two instances have come to their notice where cheques were stolen from drop boxes provided at ATM's outside the branch premises and encashed fraudulently through some banks in Delhi. In one case, the security guard has stolen cheques from the drop box at IDBI Bank, Vivek Vihar, Delhi. The security guard managed to collect the instrument through Indian Overseas Bank, Preet Vihar Branch through his accomplice's accounts. In another incident, Bank of Punjab has reported a case of theft of cheques from their drop box kept at the gate of their Punjabi Bagh Branch, Delhi. Some of these stolen cheques were encashed through accounts opened at several banks in Delhi viz. Oriental Bank of Commerce, Standard Chartered Bank, UCO Bank and Central Bank of India.

The culprits involved in both cases have been arrested by the Police for investigation. The Banks have reported that there is no direct involvement of any bank official in the thefts. Bank of Punjab has recovered the entire amount whereas Indian Overseas Bank could not recover an amount of Rs.98,500/- which was withdrawn from the accounts opened by the fraudsters.

The Regional Office of RBI at Delhi has advised all banks to strengthen their security systems and the monitoring of outsourced agencies engaged for collection of cheques and control systems obtaining in the bank. The Working Group on customer service in banks constituted by the Government in March 1975 had recommended introduction of cheque drop box facility in banks. The cheque drop box facility has been introduced by banks for the convenience of the customers and it is in addition to the regular counters for collection. RBI has also advised banks that the cheque drop box facility and the facility for acknowledgment of the cheques at the regular collection counters of branches should be available to the customers and no branch should refuse to give an acknowledgment if the customer tenders the cheque at the counters. Indian Banks' Association, at the instance of RBI, has advised banks to make absolutely fool-proof arrangements for accounting of the number of instruments each time the box is opened so that there are no disputes in this regard and the customers' interest is not compromised.

Power Purchase Agreement

1370. SHRI T.K. HAMZA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Kerala is purchasing power from National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) Kayamkulam;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the per unit cost of power purchased from NTPC projects and the amount paid for the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether there is any agreement existing at present to the effect that Government of Kerala will purchase certain quantity of power from NTPC for fixed rate;

(d) if so, whether the proposed rate is quite high as compared to hydroelectric power; and

(e) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to reduce the price of power supplied to Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Both Kerala State Electricity Board (KSEB) and Tamil Nadu Electricity Board (TNEB) have been allocated 50% of capacity each from the Kayamkulam Station. At present, KSEB is trading 150 MW out of its own allocated 180 MW of power from Kayamkulam to TNEB.

The cost of energy from NTPC stations supplying power to KSEB and the amount paid by KSEB for the last three financial years are given in the statement enclosed.

(c) and (d) The power supplied from NTPC stations to the SEBs, including Kerala SEB, is as per the power allocation made by Government of India and is billed as per the tariff notified for each station by Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) from time to time. Two-part tariff is followed for Kayamkulam Stations as per Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) norms, and as such fixed charge and variable charges have to be paid by Kerala. As per CERC regulations, the fixed charge per unit comes to Rs.0.92 /unit at 80% PLF. The variable charges depend on the cost of fuel.

Kerala State Electricity Board (KSEB) is not purchasing electricity from Hydroelectric Stations of other agencies.

(e) Ministry of Power has taken several initiatives to bring down the cost of Kayamkulam power to Kerala. In the process a meeting was organized between Union Minister of Power, Government of India and Ministers of Power and other officials of all SEBs of Southern Region on 17.5.2002 at Delhi, following which, 180 MW power from Kayamkulam was allocated to TNEB, thereby reducing the fixed charge payable by KSEB by 50%. Further, KSEB has been allocated 110 MW from NTPC stations in Eastern Region for pooling with Kayamkulam Power vide order dated 24.02.2005 to further bring down the pooled rate of power from Kayamkulam to Kerala.

Statement

Cost of energy from NTPC stations supplying power to Kerala SEB (KSEB) and the amount paid by KSEB for the years 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04.

Year	Station	cost of energy to SEBs (p/Kwh)	Amount paid by KSEB during Financial Year (Rs. Crores)#
1	2	3	4
2003-04	Ramagundam	119.84	406.87
	Farakka	162.51	
	Kahalgaon	178.87	134.00*
	Talcher-I		
	Talcher-II	117.22	52.53
	Kayamkulam	363.88	1338.46
	Total	—	1931.86
2002-03	Ramagundam	123.75	262.93
	Farakka	167.78	
	Kahalgaon	189.88	122.10*
	Talcher-I	127.91	
	Talcher-II		492.47
	Kayamkulam	379.69	492.47
	Total	—	877.51
2001-02	Ramagundam	122.34	224.80
	Farakka	168.81	
	Kahalgaon	204.10	85.47*

1	2	3	4
	Talcher-I		
	Talcher-II	143.78	
	Kayamkulam	382.17	187.29
	Total	—	497.57

Notes

The above payments shown include Bonds received under One Time Settlement Scheme

Farakka, Kahaigaon and Talcher-I constitute Eastern Region power and have been shown as one block while considering payments from Kerala State Electricity Board.

**Extension of IT Holiday in
Daman and Diu**

1371. SHRI DAHYABHAI VALLABHBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Daman Industries Association has demanded Income Tax Holiday Extension in the UT of Daman & Diu; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The tax benefit available under the Income-tax Act to industrial undertakings set up in industrially backward States has not been extended. However, in view of the new Industrial Policy formulated by the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, with the approval of the Union Cabinet, tax benefit for undertakings in the States of Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Sikkim and North-Eastern States only has been extended.

Sale of Cooperative Weaving Mills

1372. SHRI JUAL ORAM : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has sold co-operative weaving mills to the private sector in the country specially in Orissa;

(b) if so, name and location of those co-operative and public sector weaving mills;

(c) whether some such weaving mills have been sold to the private sector at throwaway prices;

(d) if so, the reasons therefore; and

(e) the steps taken to rehabilitate the workers of such mills?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Government of Orissa have decided to sell machinery of only one of the co-operative weaving mills to the private sector. However, the machinery could not be handed over to the party due to a writ petition filed by the Staff Association of the unit before the Hon'ble High Court, Orissa, Cuttack.

(b) The name and location of the weaving mill is M/s Chhatia Weaving Mills, Chhatia Cuttack.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The Government of Orissa have introduced a voluntary retirement scheme (VRS) for the staff and workers of the aforesaid unit and 163 staff/workers have taken VRS out of 199 total strength.

[Translation]

Unspent amount During 2004-05

1373. SHRI MOHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the Ministries which have failed to utilise the funds allocated to them under budgetary provision in 2004-05;

(b) the amount which they have not spent so far; and

(c) the action taken against such Ministries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) Ministries/ Departments may incur expenditure against funds allocated to them for 2004-05 till 31.3.2005. Information regarding names of the Ministries which have failed to utilise the funds allocated to them under the Budgetary provisions in 2004-05 can only be known after the close of the financial year;

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[English]

Medical Insurance

1374. SHRI ARJUN SETHI :

SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware that insurance companies are refusing to extend the medical policies in cases where the insured has made a heavy claim;

(b) whether the Government is aware that medical insurance companies in the country are resorting to irregularities in medical claims by insured and as a result the people are being cheated;

(c) if so, details thereof; and

(d) the action taken/likely to be taken against these insurance companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) By and large mediclaim policies are renewed whether or not claims are made under the policies. However, there are

isolated instances of such refusal of renewal of mediclaim policies under which heavy claims are preferred.

(b) and (c) Insurance Regulatory & Development Authority (IRDA) has informed that there is no matter that could be termed as "irregular" or involving "cheating of the people" that has been brought to their notice. However, wherever complaints are brought to the notice of IRDA, the Authority has advised insurance companies to re-examine such cases.

(d) Institutional mechanism is already in place to address the problems of the policyholders. Grievance Redressal Mechanism is in place in all the public sector insurance companies. Apart from this, there are 12 Ombudsmen for settling grievances expeditiously. Policyholders may also taken up their cases/complaints with the Consumers Fora for adjudication.

LIC Overseas Operation

1375. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Life Insurance Corporation is all set to expand its overseas operations especially in West Asia and African countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether LIC has set up any joint venture in Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) or any other Middle East Countries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) and (b) Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has prepared a strategy for expansion of its international operations in phased manner. They have incorporated "Life Insurance Corporation (Mauritius) Offshore Ltd." to tap the market potential particularly the people of Indian origin in African countries. LIC has also undertaken market studies for launching of operations in Botswana and Madagascar. At

present, LIC does not have plans for expanding to West Asian Countries.

- (c) So far, LIC has not set up any such joint venture.
- (d) Does not arise.

Modernization of Bongaigaon TPS

1376. SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISW-MUTHIARY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has contemplated to modernize/renovate the Bongaigaon Thermal Power Station (BTPS), Salakati, Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has envisaged a special package for speedy rural electrification of North Eastern States, particularly in Assam on priority basis; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) and (b) Bongaigaon Thermal Power Station (BTPS) Units – 3&4 (4x60 MW) has been identified for Renovation & Modernization (R&M)/Life Extension (LE) works during the 10th Plan. Power Finance Corporation (PFC) has sanctioned Rs.2.27 Crores for Residual Life Assessment (RLA)/LE study of Bongaigaon TPS in Assam.

(c) and (d) The Government of India has decided launch a massive programme for rural electrification, namely, "Rural Electricity Infrastructure and Household Electrification" from the year 2005-06 with the objective of covering 1.25 lakh villages in five years. The programme envisages electrification of all un-electrified villages and provide access to electricity to all households in all the States including Assam and North Eastern States.

Infrastructure Project Proposals from field offices pending before CBDT

1377. SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of proposals pending with CBDT for provision of adequate infrastructure to its field offices and since when;

(b) the reasons for delay in sanctioning and executing these projects;

(c) Whether the Welfare Funds for CBDT has been provided budgetary assistance in the year 2004-05 on the lines of CBEC; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) There are a total number of pending proposals relating to major works and hiring of premises since 1993 till date is 122.

(b) A large number of proposals are pending disposal on account of procedural technicalities regarding technical specifications, justification and essentiality of the projects involving the field offices and external agencies like the CPWD, Integrated Finance Unit of Ministry of Finance, Standing Finance Committee and Committee for Non-Plan Expenditure.

(c) No Sir. The proposal for providing budgetary assistance for the Welfare fund of the Central Board of Direct Taxes is presently under consideration.

(d) Not applicable.

[Translation]

Rural Electrification

1378. SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE :

DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

SHRI B. MAHTAB :

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :

SHRI MUNSHI RAM :

SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN :

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN".

SHRI SUNIL KHAN :

SHRIMATI ANURADHA CHOUDHARY :
 SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH :
 SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA :
 PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR :
 SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE :
 SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA :
 SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL :
 SHRI RAJESH VERMA :
 SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHAWAHA :
 DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL :
 SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD :
 SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN :
 SHRI ILYAS AZMI :
 SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP :
 SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL :
 SHRI NARAYAN CHANDRA BORKATAKY :
 SHRI RAJNARAYAN BUDHOLIA :
 SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO :
 SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR :
 SHRI HEMMAL MURMU :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Planning Commission has pointed deficiencies of the Rural Electrification Programme in power sector as reported in the 'Rashtriya Sahara', Dated 26.01.2005;

(b) if so, the facts thereof along with the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the Planning Commission has raised several objections to the said programme;

(d) if so, whether the Government has formulated a fresh programme for rural electrification;

(e) the total percentage of village in the country electrified so far and the funds incurred thereon during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise; and

(f) the number of villages targeted to be electrified during the year 2005-06 and Tenth Five Year Plan period

under various schemes/programmes along with the total funds likely to be incurred thereon, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) to (d) A new scheme has been approved for the attainment of the objective of the National Common Minimum Programme of completing household electrification in five years. Under this scheme 90% Capital Subsidy would be provided for:

- (i) Creation of Rural Electricity Distribution Backbone of 33/11 KV or 66/11 KV Substations.
- (ii) Creation of Village Electricity Infrastructure.
- (iii) Decentralized Distribution and supply system.

100% grant would be given for electrification of all Below Poverty Line (BPL) unelectrified household.

(e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(f) The targets for rural electrification for the year 2005-06 are yet to be finalized.

[English]

Cases of Tax Evasion

1379. SHRI AKHILESH YADAV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of tax evasion cases of corporate companies assessed by the Income Tax Department during the last three year; and

(b) the cases settled by the Income Tax Department and Income Tax Appellate during the last three years alongwith the details of companies pending with the IT Tribunals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected from the field units spread all over the country and shall be laid on the Table of the House on compilation.

[Translation]

High Tech Clothes

1380. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a high probability of high-tech clothes being much in demand in the days ahead;

(b) if so, whether the Government has formulated any action plan to make the Indian textile industry "high tech";

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) to (d) (i) Recognising the importance of technical textiles including high tech cloth Ministry of Textiles constituted an Expert Committee on Technical Textiles (ECTT) for formulating an action plan for growth and development of technical textiles. The committee has submitted its report inter alia, suggesting 5 year action plan to create conducive environment for promotion of technical textiles in the country.

(ii) The suggestions of ECTT have been examined and are under implementation. As a follow up action of ECTT, a panel of consultants to enable to set up the centres of excellence and also to monitor the growth and development of technical textile industry is to be set up by Textiles Commissioner.

[English]

LIC Wage Hike

1381. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Life Insurance Corporation has proposed a two part wage hike for its employees; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) Yes Sir. Life Insurance Corporation of India has proposed wage hike in two parts as per the last wage revision pattern. This includes normal wage revision and productivity linked lumpsum incentive.

(b) Wage revision in respect of Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) is at an advanced stage of negotiation in consultation with different employees' unions and it will not be appropriate to disclose the details at this juncture.

Installation of Hand Pumps

1382. SHRI P. CHALAPATHI RAO : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to install additional hand pumps in rural areas having average ratio of more than 250 persons per hand pump;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the status of the proposal at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA) : (a) to (c) Water is a state subject and the State Governments plan, sanction, implement and execute individual rural water supply projects including hand pumps for providing drinking water supply to the rural habitations. Central Government, however, provides financial support under a Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely Accelerated Rural Water Supply programme (ARWSP). The guidelines for ARWSP stipulate provision of 40 litres of water per capita per day with a source within 1.6 Kms in the plain and 100 metres elevation in the hills. With a normal output of 12 litres per minute, one hand pump is estimated for every 250 persons.

After coverage of all Not Covered and Partially Covered rural habitations in the State as per the above

norms, the norms may be relaxed to provide for 55 lpcd with a source within 0.5 Kms in the plain and 50 metres elevation in the hills. The relaxation is subject to the condition that beneficiaries of the relaxed norms share a minimum of 10% of the capital cost and shoulder full responsibility for subsequent operation and maintenance.

[Translation]

Special Grants to Rural Electrification

1383. SHRI CHANDRABHAN SINGH :
SHRI GAURISHANKAR CHATURBHUJ BISEN :
SHRI GANESH SINGH :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the cent per cent electrification scheme costing Rs.9450 crore of Central Power Authority for Madhya Pradesh is pending with Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action being taken by the Union Government thereon;

(c) whether the Government propose to provide more than 40 per cent grant-in-aid to Madhya Pradesh keeping in view its geographical conditions is different in comparison to other States;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a)
No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) A new scheme has been approved for the attainment of the objective of the National Common Minimum Programme of completing household electrification in five years. Under this scheme 90% Capital Subsidy would be provided for :

(i) Creation of Rural Electricity Distribution Backbone of 33/11 KV or 66/11 KV Substations.

(ii) Creation of Village Electricity Infrastructure.

(iii) Decentralized Distribution and supply system

100% grant would be given for electrification of all Below Poverty Line (BPL) unelectrified household.

Government of Madhya Pradesh may avail grant under this scheme.

Rehabilitation of Oustees of THDC

1384. SHRI CHANDRA MANI TRIPATHI :
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether rehabilitation of the displaced families on account of construction of Tehri Hydro Development Corporation (THDC) dam, Uttaranchal has been completed;

(b) if so, the places where these families have been resettled;

(c) whether adequate civil amenities have been provided to them in these places; and

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the total expenditure incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) and (b) The rehabilitation of all the affected 5291 urban families, who were residing in old Tehri Town, has been completed with their resettlement in New Tehri Town, Ajabpurkalan, Kedarpuram, Nehrupuram etc.

Out of 5429 fully affected rural families, 4581 rural families have so far been rehabilitated through allotment of land/cash compensation. The rehabilitation of rural families, residing upto EL 780 meter, has been completed with their resettlement in Bhanewala, Raiwala, Banjarawala, Dehrakhas, Attakfarm, Parwal, Pushuldk, Rampur roh and Pathri Roh. The rehabilitation of persons from EL 780 meter to 840 meter shall be completed pari passu with the project construction and reservoir filling.

(c) The resettlement and rehabilitation (R&R) works are being looked after by the Government of Uttaranchal with the funds being provided by Tehri Hydro Development Corporation. An attractive and a liberal rehabilitation package has been evolved, which has been improved from time to time. New Tehri Town has been provided with all modern facilities for education (including ITI & a University), Hospital, Financial Institution, District Administration offices, Markets, Bus stand and places of worship. All rural resettlement colonies have also been provided with required civic facilities like electricity, irrigation, piped drinking water, roads, schools, dispensaries, places of worship etc.

(d) An amount of Rs.989.48 crores has been incurred upto 28.02.2005 on rehabilitation and resettlement.

Rural Electrification

1385. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA :
SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware that the private power distribution companies are extremely reluctant to supply power to rural areas in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor along with its contribution in the field of rural electrification, State-wise; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a)
No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Investment of Provident Fund

1386. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN" :
SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has issued guidelines for the investment of the provident fund;

(b) if so, the details thereof of such guidelines;

(c) the amount likely to accrue as a result of the investment of said fund; and

(d) the annual average amount likely to be invested and of the said fund on the basis of the above guidelines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) and (b) The pattern of investment has been revised with a view to providing wider avenues for investment by Non-government Provident Funds, Superannuation Funds and Gratuity Funds. As per the revised pattern, which is effective from 1.4.2005, an amount upto 5% of the total portfolio has been allowed to be invested in shares of those companies that have an investment grade debt rating from two credit rating agencies and upto 10% of the debt instruments bearing investment grade rating and equity-linked schemes of mutual funds regulated by Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).

(c) and (d) The revised investment pattern will take effect from 1.4.2005. Investment choices are left to the judgement of the trustees based on their assessment of risk and return. The actual returns depend on several factors, such as the market forces.

[English]

Reduction of Nationalised Banks

1387. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has any plan to reduce the branches of nationalised banks;

(b) if so, the number of banks allowed to reduce their branches;

(c) whether any rural branches are also being closed under this plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has however, reported that it has given reasonable freedom to the banks to open new branches at places of their choice and close down their un-remunerative branches in Urban and Metropolitan Centres (excluding SSI/SIB and Agriculture Development Branch) without the approval of the RBI. It has further reported that the Banks have also been given freedom to merge/close their loss making branches in Semi-urban and rural areas under certain specified circumstances. There has however, been no reduction in the total number of rural, Semi-urban and urban branches during the last ten years.

(c) and (d) RBI has reported that three banks, namely, the Indian Bank, UCO Bank and United Bank of India were allowed to rationalize their branch net work by closure/merger of their loss making rural branches under the 'Reconstruction Plan' of weak banks approved by the Government and the RBI, in order to reduce their expenditure without affecting the banking services at the rural centers.

[Translation]

On-Line Tax Assessment

1388. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government started On-line Tax Assessment System (OLTAS) for convenience of tax payers in the beginning of the financial years;

(b) whether complaints have been received that this system has proved defective and the tax chalan of lakhs of tax payers deposited through this system have not been credited to their accounts; and

(c) if so, the proposed action to be taken by the Government to rectify this defect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) Yes Sir. On Line Tax Accounting System (OLTAS) was started from 1st June, 2004.

(b) and (c) instances of data entry errors and uploading of incomplete data by Banks have come to notice. Reserve Bank of India has issued instructions to all designated Banks for timely and correct uploading of complete OLTAS data.

[English]

Indo-Japan Double Taxation Avoidance Treaty

1389. SHRI S.D. MANDLIK :
SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA :
SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to re-negotiate the Indo-Japan double taxation avoidance treaty;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government on such proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Central Government is authorized to enter into Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA) by virtue of power vested under Section 90 of the Income Tax Act, 1961. In exercise of this power a DTAA was entered into by the Government of India with the Government of Japan in 1989 which was notified vide GSR 101(E) dated 01.03.1990. The Government of India and the Government of Japan have decided to renegotiate this Treaty.

(c) The process of renegotiation has commenced.

Managerial Remuneration Scheme

1390. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN : Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether large number of applications under the managerial Remuneration Schemes are pending in the Ministry;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to clear these backlog of applications?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA) : (a) and (b) There are 211 applications pending as on 28.02.2005;

(c) Most of the backlog is on account of incomplete information received along with applications or security clearances and time taken by the applicants in responding to shortfalls. The prescribed application forms are being comprehensively revised and simplified for e-governance programme and the need for back references would be minimised resulting in reducing the backlog.

[Translation]

Violation of Company Laws

1391. SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO :
SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO :

Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is carrying out probe against various companies dealing in stocks for violation of company laws during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of companies; and

(c) the total amount involved in the scams committed by share companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA) : (a) and (b) During the last three, Inspection under section 209A of the Companies Act, 1956 was undertaken of 96 companies involved in Stock Market transaction. In addition, investigation under section 235/237 of the Act was ordered, in respect of 17 companies. List of the above companies is given in the statement enclosed.

(c) The JPC Report on Stock Market Scam 2001, has identified an amount of Rs. 3325 crores being the

amount received by Ketan Parekh entities from Coporate Group, Banks, Financial Institutions etc., as being involved in the said scam.

Statement-I

Inspections ordered based on Preliminary Investigation Report of SEBI in Connection with Recent Market Scam

Ketan Parekh Groups

1. M/s NH Securities Ltd.	WR
2. M/s Triumph International Finance Ltd	WR
3. M/s Classic Share & Stock Broking Services Ltd	WR
4. M/s KNP Securities Pvt. Ltd.	WR
5. M/s VN Parekh Securities Pvt. Ltd.	WR
6. M/s Panther Fincap Management Services Ltd.	WR
7. M/s Panther Investrade Ltd.	WR
8. M/s Classic Credit Ltd.	WR
9. M/s Saimangal investrade Ltd.	WR
10. M/s Classic Infin Ltd.	WR
11. M/s Panther Industrial Products Ltd.	WR
12. M/s Goldfish Computer Pvt. Ltd.	WR
13. M/s Nakshatra Software Pvt. Ltd.	WR
14. M/s Chitrakoot Computers Pvt. Ltd.	WR
15. M/s Luninant Investment Pvt. Ltd.	WR
16. M/s Triumph Securities Pvt. Ltd.	WR
Nirmal Bang Group	
17. M/s Bama Securities Ltd.	WR
18. M/s Nirmal Bang Securities Ltd.	WR
19. M/s Bang Equity Broking Pvt. Ltd.	WR

20. M/s Bang Securities Pvt. Ltd.	WR	41. M/s Mackertich Consultancy services Pvt. Ltd.	ER
21. M/s Nadi Finance & Investment Pvt. Ltd.	WR	42. M/s PNR Securities Ltd.	NR
Shankar Sharma & Devina Mehra Group		Consortium Group	
22. M/s First Global Finance Pvt. Ltd.	NR	43. M/s Consortium Securities Ltd.	NR
23. M/s First Global Stock Broking Pvt. Ltd.	NR	44. M/s CSL Securities Pvt. Ltd.	NR
24. M/s Vruddhi Confinvest India Pvt. Ltd.	WR	45. M/s CSL Stock Broking Pvt. Ltd.	NR
Shallesh Shah Group		BLB Group	
25. M/s Dolat Capital Market Ltd.	WR	46. M/s BLB Ltd.	NR
26. M/s Nirpan Securities Ltd.	WR	Rathi Group	
27. M/s Shailish Shah Securities Ltd.	WR	47. M/s Rathi Global Finance Ltd.	NR
Radha Krishan Damani Group		48. M/s Anand Rathi Securities Pvt. Ltd.	WR
28. M/s Damani Share & Stock Brokers Pvt. Ltd.	WR	49. M/s Navratan Capital & Securities Pvt. Ltd.	WR
29. M/s Maheshwari Equity Brokers Pvt. Ltd.	WR	50. M/s Rathi Capital & Services Pvt. Ltd.	WR
30. M/s Jhunjhunwala Stock Broker Pvt. Ltd.	WR	51. M/s Amit Capital & Securities Pvt. Ltd.	WR
31. M/s Pratik Stock Vision Pvt. Ltd.	WR	52. M/s Pushp Capital & Securities Pvt. Ltd.	WR
32. M/s Damani Estates & Finance Pvt. Ltd.	WR	53. M/s Gerard Viegs Finvest Pvt. Ltd.	WR
33. M/s Bright Star Investments Ltd.	WR	54. M/s Hitkari Finvest Pvt. Ltd.	WR
34. M/s Krishna Securities Ltd.	NR	55. M/s Preetraj Finvest Pvt. Ltd.	WR
35. M/s Avenue Stock Brokers India Pvt. Ltd.	WR	56. M/s Suresh Rathi Securities Pvt. Ltd.	WR
Ajay Kevan Group		Zee Tele Group	
36. M/s C Mackertich Ltd.	ER	57. M/s Zee Telefilms Ltd.	WR
37. M/s SMIFS Securities Ltd.	ER	58. M/s Siticable Network Pvt. Ltd.	WR
38. M/s Stewart Securities Ltd.	ER	59. M/s Digital Superhighway	WR
39. M/s Maya Trade Link Ltd.	ER	60. M/s Briggs Trading Co Pvt. Ltd.	WR
40. M/s Powerflow Holdings Pvt. Ltd.	ER	61. M/s Prajatma Trading Co Pvt. Ltd.	WR

62. M/s Churu Trading Co Pvt. Ltd.	WR
63. M/s Ganjam Trading Co Pvt. Ltd.	WR
Other Companies	
64. M/s Zee Gold Refinery Ltd.	WR
65. M/s Palombe Securities & Finance Ltd.	WR
66. M/s Global Telesystems Ltd.	WR
67. M/s Himachal Futuristic Communication Ltd.	NR
68. M/s Burlington Finance Ltd.	ER
69. M/s DSQ Software Ltd.	SR
70. M/s Pentamedia Graphics Ltd.	SR
71. M/s Nirma Ltd.	WR
72. M/s Ranbaxy Laboratories Ltd.	NR
73. M/s Koprán Ltd.	WR
74. M/s Adani Export Ltd.	WR
75. M/s Lupin Laboratories Ltd.	WR
76. M/s Padmini Polymers Ltd.	NR
77. M/s Shonkh Technologies Ltd.	NR
78. M/s Amar Raja Batteries Ltd.	SR
79. M/s Global Trust Bank Ltd.	SR
80. M/s Monesh Consultancy Pvt. Ltd.	WR
81. M/s Moncon Investment Ltd.	WR
82. M/s Manmandir Estate Developers (P) Ltd.	WR
83. M/s Credit Suisse First Boston (I) Securities Pvt. Ltd.	WR
84. M/s JM Morgan Stanley Securities Pvt. Ltd.	WR

85. M/s JM Morgan Retail Securities Pvt. Ltd.	WR
86. M/s Aftak Infosys Ltd.	WR
87. M/s Silverline Industries Ltd.	WR
88. M/s Doe Jones Investments & Consultants Pvt. Ltd.	ER
89. M/s Arihant Exim Scrip Pvt. Ltd.	ER
90. M/s Tripoli Consultancy Services Pvt. Ltd.	ER
91. M/s Khenami Securities Pvt. Ltd.	ER
92. M/s SSI Ltd.	SR
93. M/s Cyberspace Ltd.	NR
94. M/s Pruthvi Brokers & Shareholdings Pvt. Ltd.	WR
95. M/s Biyani Securities Pvt. Ltd.	ER
96. M/s Satyam Computer Services Ltd.	SR

Investigation ordered based on preliminary investigation report of SEBI in connection with recent Market Scam

S.No.	Name of the Company
1	2
1.	M/s DSQ Software Ltd.
2.	M/s Panther Industrial Products Ltd.
3.	M/s Luminant Investments Pvt. Ltd.
4.	M/s Goldfish Computer Pvt. Ltd.
5.	M/s Panther Fincap and Management services Ltd.
6.	M/s Manmandir Estate Developers Pvt. Ltd.
7.	M/s Classic Shares & Stock Broking Services Ltd.

1	2
8.	M/s. Classic Credit Ltd.
9.	M/s N.H. Securities Ltd.
10.	M/s Chitrakut Computers Pvt. Ltd.
11.	M/s Nakshatra Software Pvt. Ltd.
12.	M/s Panther Investrade Ltd.
13.	M/s Triumph International and Finance India Ltd.
14.	M/s K.N.P. Securities Pvt. Ltd.
15.	M/s V.N. Parekh Securities Pvt. Ltd.
16.	M/s Saimangal Investrade Ltd.
17.	M/s Triumph Securities Ltd.

(Amount in Rs. crores)

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
	470.55	526.988	592.693

(b) and (c) Monitoring of implementation and utilization of funds earmarked for externally aided projects is being done both at the level of State and Central Governments. Apart from the project implementation authorities, project monitoring units of State Governments, and the concerned administrative Central Ministries/Departments, the projects are also monitored periodically in Department of Economic Affairs.

[Translation]

Decline in Hydro Power Generation

1393. SHRI SAJJAN KUMAR : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether power generation has declined due to decrease in water level of the rivers in the country during the last few years;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the percentage of decrease in power generation due to short fall in water level;

(c) the details of the rivers of whose water level is decreasing; and

(d) the steps being taken to overcome the problem?

[English]

External Assistance for West Bengal Projects

1392. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of foreign assistance provided to West Bengal Government to implement various projects meant for development;

(b) whether the Union Government monitors over the utilization of these funds; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) Funds for externally aided projects (EAPs) implemented by various States are released by the Central Government to the respective States as Additional Central Assistance (ACA). The amount of ACA disbursed for externally aided projects in West Bengal during the last three years is as under:

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) to (d) Production of electricity from hydro power stations depends on water availability which in turn depends on the extent of rainfall in the catchment as also the snowfall for stations on the snowfed Himalayan rivers. In case of hydro stations on some of the rivers in Central and Southern Regions, the progressive decline in water

availability at HE stations results from upstream multipurpose utilization of water. The aspect of the variation in water availability at hydro stations is taken into consideration at the planning / design stage of power stations. The low water availability was experienced during the last few years due to poor monsoons in the country as also lesser snowfall during the year 2003-04.

The trend in production of electricity from hydro power

stations in the country during last five years has been mixed. Region wise / All India hydro generation for five years is given the statement enclosed.

The actual generation of electricity from HE Stations during the period 2004-05 (upto February, 2005) is more than the actual generation during the corresponding period of 2003-04 by 9864 MU (i.e. 14.5%) and generation during 2003-04 is more than that during 2002-03 by 9941 MU (15.6%).

Statement

All India Hydro Generation Performance during 2000-01 to 2004-05

Region/ State/ Utility	2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04		2004-05 (upto Feb.05)	
	Gene- ration MU	% of gen. over Previous year.	Gene- ration MU	% of gen. over prev. yr.	Gene- ration MU	% of gen. over prev. yr.	Gene- ration MU	% of gen. over prev. yr.	ACT.Gen. (upto Feb.05)	% of gen. Over Corres- ponding period of Previous year.
All India	74481	92.4	73940	99.3	63834	86.3	73775	115.6	77880	114.5
Northern	29126	91.7	29233	100.4	30221	103.4	37288	123.4	33264	96.2
Western	7072	79.3	7796	110.2	8063	103.4	9393	116.5	9705	112.2
Southern	30283	93.6	26917	88.9	18465	63.6	16670	90.3	23083	152.4
Eastern	5809	103.3	7828	134.8	4487	57.3	7304	162.8	7715	116.4
North Eastern	2191	111.3	2166	98.9	2598	119.9	3120	120.1	4113	136.9

[English]

Economic Reforms

1394. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Himachal Pradesh has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Government of India to set off its burden of expenditure for bringing administrative and economic reforms in the state;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which reforms have taken place in the administrative and financial matters of the H.P. Government after signing the MOU?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) and (b) MoU was signed on 18.5.2004 with provisions summarised are enclosed in the statement.

(c) It is less than a year since the MoU was operationalised and no assessment of improvement in fiscal and administrative matters have been made. Twelfth Finance Commission (TFC) has recommended discontinuance of Fiscal Reforms Facility, which has been accepted by Govt. The MoU would expire on 31.03.2005.

Statement

Summarised provisions of the MoU entered into between Government of Himachal Pradesh and Government of India

Process Indicators

(I) Expenditure Compression

- (a) Reduce the burden of the salary expenditure on Government and para-statal employees;
- (b) Reduce the burden of grants-in-aid to educational, health and welfare related or other institutions,
- (c) Reduce the burden of explicit subsidies in various sectors, and
- (d) Reduce interest burden through formulating appropriate policy on contracting future debt and extending guarantees

(II) Revenue Receipt Enhancement:

- (a) Ensuring State's tax receipts are able to meet the targets set in the Medium Term Fiscal

Restructuring Policy (MTFRP) and enhancing the ability of local bodies to discharge their functions, and

- (b) Ensuring State's non-tax revenues attain projected growth rate through measures like indexation all user charges to reflect annual increases in input costs.

(iii) Generation of Non Debt Capital Receipts

Undertake a suitable disinvestment exercise to redeem high cost debt falling due for repayment in the forecast period (2000-05).

The Government of India on its part will assist Government of Himachal Pradesh to further the process of fiscal reforms through appropriate assistance available under the Fiscal Reforms facility.

[Translation]

Closure of Regional Offices

1395. DR. LAXIMINARAYAN PANDEY :
SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR :

Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Ministry has decided to close down all its regional offices;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith the locations where such offices are situated at present;
- (c) whether any adverse effectes likely to cast on these States after the closure of these regional offices;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether certain States have expressed their displeasure on it; and
- (f) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR) : (a) to (f) The regional offices of this Ministry were set up in some selected states as a part of deployment strategy to, by and large, fill in the gap that had arisen as a consequence of accelerated demand for renewable energy systems/devices that emanated out of either a positive environment that had been created in the state or on account of affirmative action on this Ministry's part. Moreover, most Renewable Energy State Nodal Agencies did not exist at the time of creation of regional offices.

Most objectives set for the regional offices have been attained. Since this Ministry is facing an extreme shortage of scientific manpower, the need therefore, has been felt to redeploy some such manpower. However, in effecting the rationalization, it would be ensured that progress in the states is tracked on a continuous basis through the Renewable Energy State Nodal Agencies, that have been specifically set up for the purpose.

**Short Supply of Coal to Thermal
Power Projects**

1396. SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL :
SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO :
SHRI JAI PRAKASH (MOHANLAL GANJ) :
SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the power generation had declined due to short supply of coal to Thermal Power Projects in the country, particularly at Talcher and Simhadri power projects;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to constitute an infrastructure constraints committee to monitor coal supply to thermal projects in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the other

remedial measures being taken by the Government to generate power in accordance with demand?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) and (b) The following Thermal Power Stations have reported loss of power generation due to coal shortage in the current year;

Sl. No.	Month	Name of Thermal Power Stations	Generation Loss (MUs)
1.	July, 2004	Talcher STPS*	46.40
2.	August, 2004		Nil
3.	September, 2004	Talcher STPS	203.80
4.	October, 2004	Talcher STPS	100.99
5.	November, 2004	Talcher STPS	253.43
6.		Talcher TPS**	3.96
7.	December, 2004	Talcher STPS	22.60
8.		Farakka STPS	115.07
9.	January, 2005	Kahalgaoon STPS	104.11
10.		Talcher STPS	275.00
11.		Farakka STPS	372.20
Total Generation Loss during the year			1497.56

There is no reported loss of power generation at Simhadri due to coal shortage.

*STPS = Super Thermal Power Station.

**TPS = Thermal Power Station.

(c) and (d) A Group of Officers headed by Secretary (Coordination) in the Cabinet Secretariat reviews the infrastructure constraints including coal production and

supply to thermal power stations in the country every month. Further, the following remedial measures are taken to augment generation:

- (i) Ministry of Coal plans to enhance the production of coal in the country;
- (ii) Efforts to supply adequate quantity and quality of coal.
- (iii) Coal import has been planned to improve the coal stock position. National Thermal Power Corporation plans to import 2.5 Million Tonnes of coal for one year @ 1.75 lakh tones per month.
- (iv) Renovation, Modernization and Life Extension of old and inefficient generating units.

[English]

**Investment of Non-Government
Provident Funds**

1397. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has allowed non-Government provident funds to invest certain percentage of their assets in blue chip shares and corporate debts and equity oriented mutual funds;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the other relaxation given by the Government to provident fund trustees; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government that the public money would not be misused by the PF trustees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The pattern of investment has been revised with a view to providing wider avenues for investment by Non-government Provident Funds, Superannuation Funds and Gratuity Funds. As per the revised pattern, which is

effective from 1.4.2005, an amount upto 5% of the total portfolio has been allowed to be invested in shares of those companies that have an investment grade debt rating from two credit rating agencies and upto 10% in private sector debt instruments bearing investment grade rating and equity-linked schemes of mutual funds regulated by the Securities and Exchange Board of India.

(d) The investment pattern has been devised in such a manner that the maximum emphasis is on providing secured returns to the provident funds, superannuation funds and gratuity funds. However, the funds have been empowered to invest in risk instruments also subject to the assessment of risk-return trade off by the trustees. These funds and their trustees are further subject to safety provisions of the respective Acts under which they are established.

Revitalization of cooperative Banks

1398. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the All India Cooperative Banks Employee's Federation submitted memorandum making some demand for revitalization of cooperative banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The All India Co-operative Bank Employees' Federation (AICBEF) had submitted demands relating to end of dual control on co-operative banks, implementation of Banking Regulation (Amendment) and Miscellaneous Provisions Bills, recapitalization and restructuring of co-operative banks, liberalization of Non-Performing Assets (NPA) norms for co-operative banks etc. The memorandum submitted by the Federation was forwarded to the Member, Secretary, Task Force set up under the Chairmanship of Prof. A. Vaidyanathan to examine the

reforms required in the Co-operative Banking system. The Task Force has since submitted its report and the same has been accepted by the Government in principle for implementation, in consultation with the State Governments.

[Translation]

Bonus on Fixed Deposit

1399. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to provide bonus on the fixed deposit of banks in addition to interest after a certain fixed period of time in the interest of small investors;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the steps being taken to protect the interests of the small investors in view of continuously declining rates of interest on deposit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Fake Pan Racket

1400. SHRI P.K. VASUDEVAN NAIR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a racket for making and selling fake Permanent Account Number (PAN) by tampering with the data has been unearthed;

(b) whether it is a fact that freelance data entry operators hired in the offices of various Income Tax Offices to help them in making PAN cards have been the culprits in this case;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the income tax officers had warned the Government when the job was outsourced, about the danger of given access to the freelance operators to the official data; and

(e) if so, the details and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) An instance of tampering with data by some private persons by unauthorizedly obtaining password of some Assessing Officers at Delhi came to the notice of Income Tax Department in December, 2004.

(b) The persons involved in this case were not hired by the Department.

(c) No freelance data entry operator has been authorised access to departmental PAN database.

(e) Not applicable in view of reply to (d) above.

[Translation]

Dabhol Power Project

1401. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :
DR. CHINTA MOHAN :
SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian foreign financial institutions and banks have made investment in Dabhol Power Project;

(b) if so, the total investment made in the aforesaid project by each institution by the end of March, 2004;

(c) the estimated amount still required to launch this project; and

(d) the names out of the aforesaid institutions which have asked to pay back their money?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per information available from Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI), the details of exposure of all lenders are given in the statement enclosed.

(c) and (d) The Government of India has constituted an Empowered Group of Ministers (EGOM) to examine and

decide all issues related to the Dabhol Power Project. The EGOM has met on several occasions and is considering the various alternate options for restructuring the Dabhol Project. The EGOM will decide on the details of the restructuring of the project keeping all relevant aspects in view.

Statement

Dabhol Power Company (DPC) - Exposure of Lenders

A. Phase - I

Sr. No.	Particulars	Amount Sanctioned	Amount O/s	Remarks
Off-Shore (US\$ million)				
1.	US Exim Bank	298	107	Guaranteed by IFIs
2.	Off-shore banks	150	90	Termination payments counter guaranteed by GOI
3.	OPIC Loans	100	78	Termination payments counter guaranteed by GOI
	Sub-total	548	275	
Domestic (Rs. Crore)				
4.	Rupee Term Loans by IFIs	306.0	205.4	Includes Rupee loan of Bank of America

B. Phase - II

Sr. No.	Particulars	Sanc.	Disbursed/O/s	Balance to be disbursed	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6
Off-Shore (US\$ million)					
1.	J-Exim/MITI	433	280	79	Guaranteed by IFIs
2.	OND Loans	91	58	25	Guaranteed by IFIs
	Sub-total of guaranteed loans	524	338	104	
3.	Foreign Banks*	497	410	87	

1	2	3	4	5	6
4.	OIPC Loans	60	60	—	
	Sub-total of non-guaranteed loans	557	470	87	
	Total of off-shore loans	1081	823	191	
	Domestic (Rs. Crore)				
5.	Rupee Loans/NCDs by IFIs	1432.0	1171.7	260.3	

* includes off shore debt of \$ 175 mn (disbursed – US \$ 148.02 mn) by SBI subsidiary and US \$50 mn (disbursed - US\$ 42.29 mn) from Canara Bank.

C. Guarantee assistance by IFIs

As indicated at A-1 and B-1 & 2 above (excluding interest) (total o/s US\$445 mn).

Notes: OPIC - Overseas Private Investment Corporation
IFIs - Indian Financial Institutions & Banks.

Dabhol Power Company (DPC) Exposure by way of guarantees

A. Sanctions (Principal)

	US Exim		JBIC/MITI		OND, Belgium		Total	
	\$ mn	Rs. crore	\$ mn	Rs. crore	\$ mn	Rs. crore	\$ mn	Rs. crore
IDBI	133.110	659	181.381	898	45.528	225	360.019	1782
ICICI	24.650	122	140.475	695	35.261	175	200.386	992
IFCI	24.650	122	39.883	197	10.011	50	74.544	369
SBI	98.600	488	71.705	355	—	—	170.305	843
Canara Bank	17.202	85	—	—	—	—	17.202	85
Total	298.212	1476	433.444	2145	90.800	450	822.456	4071

(at Rs. 49.5/US\$).

B. Outstanding (Principal)

1	US Exim		JBIC/MITI		OND, Belgium		Total	
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
IDBI	47.692	236	117.208	580	29.005	144	193.905	960

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
ICICI	8.832	44	90.770	449	22.463	111	122.065	604
IFCI	8.832	44	25.766	128	6.381	32	40.979	204
SBI	35.328	175	46.323	229	—	—	81.651	404
Canara Bank	6.163	30	—	—	—	—	6.163	30
Total	106.846	529	280.067	1386	57.849	287	444.763	2202

(at Rs. 49.5/US#)

Total payments made under the guarantee obligation by IDBI towards principal / interest etc. dues upto March, 2004

Export Credit Agencies	Amount (Rs. Crore)
US-Exim	566.65
JBIC/MITI Banks	598.16
OND Banks	84.06
Total	1248.87

Position of India in the Indebted Countries

1402.SHRI GIRIDHARI YADAV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the position of India among the indebted countries receiving loan from the World Bank and the International Development Bank;

(b) the break-up of loan amount taken by India from the World Bank and the International Development Bank during each of the last three years;

(c) the loan taken from these institutions for the projects being implemented by these institutions at present; and

(d) the provisions laid down so as to ensure proper utilization of the loan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) World Bank provides assistance through International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) loans and International Development Association (IDA) credits. According to the World Banks' Annual Report 2004, India ranks 7th among the borrowers from IBRD and 1st among the borrowers from IDA. International Development Bank does not lend to India.

(b) :

Financial Year	IBRD (US \$ Million)	IDA (US \$ Million)
2001-02	1904	925.6
2002-03	951	1140.73
2003-04	698	630

(c) The total amount of assistance committed by both IBRD and IDA for the projects ongoing as on February 2005 is US \$ 12.6 billion.

(d) The Government of India interacts closely with State Governments, Project Implementing Agencies and the World Bank to ensure proper utilization of the loans by way of regular monitoring and joint reviews.

[English]

Implementation of Sub-Mission Projects

1403.SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Karnataka Government has requested the Union Government for providing additional funds to an extent of at least Rs.100.00 crore per year to the State for implementation of Sub-Mission projects.

(b) if so, whether the Union Government has considered the request of the Karnataka Government; and

(c) if so, time by which the required funds is likely to be released to the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The request received in April, 2003 was considered by the Union Government and a reply was sent to State Government in August 2003.

(c) Rural Drinking Water Supply is a State subject. Government of India supports the efforts of the State Governments by providing financial and technical assistance to States under the Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) for implementing rural water supply schemes. The criterion for inter-State allocation of funds under ARWSP is as under—

Weightage for	Percentage
(a) Rural Population	40
(b) States under DDP, DPAP, HADP & special category hill States in terms of rural areas	35
(c) Not Covered/Partially Covered Villages (at 2:1 ratio)	15
(d) Quality affected villages	10
Total	100

With effect from 01.4.1998, full powers have been delegated to the State Governments to sanction and implement Sub-Mission projects for tackling quality

problems. As per ARWSP Guidelines, 15% of ARWSP allocation every year is earmarked for implementing Sub-Mission Projects for tackling quality problem of drinking water supply in rural areas. Fully covered States can utilize more than 15% of ARWSP funds for tackling water quality with the approval of Government of India.

Judicial Corruption

1404.SHRI D. VITTAL RAO : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to bring in legislation on judicial accountability in order to check the erosion of people's trust in the judiciary and to effectively probe charges of judicial corruption as reported in the Hindu dated the January 25, 2005;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the legislation in this regard is likely to be made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY) : (a) No Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Scheme to Reduce Burden of Interest

1405.SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL :
SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is formulating any scheme to reduce the ever increasing burden of interest on external debt;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount of interest paid by the Government during each of the last three years; and

(d) the reaction of the Government on the ever increasing burden of interest on external debt?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) and (b) In order to reduce the interest burden, the Government of India have been making premature repayment of high cost sovereign loans. The details are given in the following Table.

Table: Prepayment of Government loans

(US \$ Million)

Year	Creditor	Amount
2002-2003	Multilateral	2,788.7
	Bilateral	111.5
	Total	2,900.2
2003-2004	Multilateral	2,534.2
	Bilateral	1,219.3
	Total	3,753.5
2004-2005	Multilateral	—
	Bilateral	35.2
	Total	35.2

(c) Interest paid by the Government during the last three years, revised estimates for 2004-05 and budget estimates for 2005-06 are given below:

Interest payments

(Rs. Crore)

2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05 (RE)	2005-06 (BE)
4285.2	4665.5	3249.78	2797.41	3111.91

RE : Revised Estimate, BE : Budget Estimate

(d) Government follows a prudent external debt management policy to keep external debt within manageable limits. The policy focus is on concessional loans, longer maturity profiles, close monitoring of short-term debt and laying emphasis on non-debt creating capital flows.

Permission for Cooperative Banks

1406.SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the cooperative banks in the country are not permitted to do business in more than one State;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government is contemplating to grant permission to the cooperative banks for doing business in more than one State;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the present status of cooperative banks in the country, particularly in Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) to (d) Co-operative Banks can function in more than one State provided they are registered under the Multi State Co-operative Societies Act. Co-operative banks that are registered under their respective State Co-operative Societies Acts can function within that state only. To do business in more than one State, Co-operative Banks have to fulfill the requirements as set out in Section of the Multi State Co-operative Societies Act.

(e) Out of 670 Urban Co-operative Banks in Maharashtra, 20 are Multi State Co-operative Banks. The State Co-operative Bank and all District Central Co-operative Banks in Maharashtra operate within the State.

[English]

Abolition of SEBs

1407.SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether all the State Governments have implemented the provisions of Electricity Act, 2003 regarding abolition of the existing Electricity Boards and formation of separate companies for generation, transmission and distribution of power;

(b) if not, the name of the State Governments which have not implemented the provision so far; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) to (c) Section 172 (a) of the Electricity Act, 2003 provides that the State Government may, by notification, authorize the State Electricity Board (SEB) to continue to function as the State Transmission Utility or a licensee for such further period beyond the period of one year of the provisions of the Act coming into force, as may be mutually decided by the Central Government and the State Government.

Eleven States are yet to reorganize their SEBs. These States have, from time to time, sent proposals to the Central Government for extension of time for the reorganization of their respective SEBs. The Central Government has agreed to extension of time as per details indicated in the statement.

Statement

Status of Extensions Given for Reorganisation of SEBs

Name of State	Date upto which continuance of SEB as STU/ licensee agreed
1	2
Kerala	9.6.05
Maharashtra	9.6.05
Punjab	9.6.05
Chhattisgarh	9.6.05

1	2
Bihar	9.6.05
Madhya Pradesh	9.6.05
Tamil Nadu	9.6.05
Meghalaya	9.6.05
Himachal Pradesh	9.6.05
West Bengal	9.6.05
Jharkhad	31.3.05

PSU in Mining Sector in Orissa

1408.SHRI SUGRIB SINGH : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the Public Sector Undertakings/Private sector dealing with Mining Industry in the country including Orissa, Location-wise;

(b) whether there is any provision in the law to involve such undertakings for the peripheral development and social structure development and around of their location;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of developmental works undertaken by such undertakings during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO) : (a) to (d) The Ministry of Mines is responsible for survey and exploration of all minerals, other than Natural gases, Petroleum and Atomic minerals, for mining and metallurgy of Non-ferrous metals like Aluminium, Copper, Zink, Lead, Gold, Nickel, etc. and for administration of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation), Act 1957 in respect of all mines and minerals other than Coal, Natural gas and Petroleum.

The Ministry of Mines, at present has three Public Sector Undertakings namely, National Aluminium Company Ltd.(NALCO), Bhubaneswar(Orissa), Hindustan Copper Ltd. (HCL), Kolkata (West Bengal), and Mineral Exploration Corporation Ltd. (MECL), Nagpur (Maharashtra). Bharat Aluminium Company Ltd. (BALCO), Korba (Chattisgarh), Hindustan Aluminium Corporation Ltd., Renukoot (Uttar Pradesh), Indian Aluminium Company Ltd., Muri (Jharkhand), Belgaum (Karnataka), Madras Aluminium Company Ltd., Chennai (Tamil Nadu), all in the private sector, are manufacturing the alumina/aluminium. Hindalco Industries Ltd. (HINDALCO) and Sterlite Industries (India) Ltd. (SIL), both in the private sector, are producing copper. Hindustan Zink Ltd. (HZL), Udaipur (Rajasthan) is producing zink and lead in the private sector. Binani Industries Ltd.(BIL) and Indian Lead Limited (ILL), in the private sector, are producing zink and lead, respectively.

A number of activities like community education programmes, facilitating availability of drinking water, repair and development of approach roads of surrounding areas, arranging health awareness programmes, school health programmes, and medical camps in rural areas, were undertaken by the PSUs for upliftment of the community in and around their townships as part of their social responsibility.

[Translation]

Fine for Minor Marriages

1409.SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) Whether some High Courts of the country have recommended the Union Government to make increase in the amount of fine fixed for the persons held guilty of marriages of minors;

(b) if so, the details of the High Courts of the country who have made such recommendations to the Union Government; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto and the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY) : (a) to (c) No specific recommendation of any High Court for increasing the amount of fine fixed for the persons held guilty of marriage of minors has been received in the Ministry of Law and Justice. However, the Central Government, after considering the recommendations of the National Human Rights Commission and the National Commission for Women and after consulting the various State Governments, introduced a Bill titled 'The Prevention of Child Marriage Bill, 2004' in the Rajya Sabha on the 20th December, 2004. The said Bill, *inter alia*, contains provisions for enhanced punishment for the male adults marrying a child and the punishment would be simple imprisonment which may extend to two years or with fine which may extend to one lakh rupees or with both. The Bill is currently under examination of the Department-Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice.

Allocation in Agriculture Sector

1410.SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to allocate more funds for the people engaged in the agriculture sector in comparison to the funds allocated during previous years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The outlay for Agriculture and allied Activities in 2005-06 is Rs.8117.25 crore as compared to Rs.6128.84 crore in 2004-05 and Rs.4751.32 crore in 2003-04

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Inspection of Listed Companies

1411.MOHD. MUKEEM : Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the tainted companies against whom probe has been ordered; and

(b) the outcome of the probe and the action taken against the companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA) : (a) Inspections of 96 Companies have been conducted under section 209A of the Companies Act, 1956 based on preliminary investigation report of Securities & Exchange Board of India (SEBI) in connection with Stock Market Scam, 2001. A list of such companies is enclosed at statement-I. Investigation under section 235/237 of the Companies Act, 1956 in respect of 17 companies mentioned on the aforesaid report of SEBI was also ordered. A list of such companies is enclosed statement-II

(b) Prosecutions for established violations of the Companies Act 1956 have been ordered/launched.

Statement-I

Inspections ordered based on preliminary Investigation report of SEBI in connection with recent Market Scam

Ketan Parekh Groups

1. M/s NH Securities Ltd.	WR
2. M/s Triumph International Finance Ltd	WR
3. M/s Classic Share & Stock Broking Services Ltd	WR
4. M/s KNP Securities Pvt. Ltd.	WR
5. M/s VN Parekh Securities Pvt. Ltd.	WR
6. M/s Panther Fincap Management Services Ltd.	WR
7. M/s Panther Investrade Ltd.	WR
8. M/s Classic Credit Ltd.	WR

9. M/s Saimangal Investrade Ltd.	WR
10. M/s Classic Infin Ltd.	WR
11. M/s Panther Industrial Products Ltd.	WR
12. M/s Goldfish Computer Pvt. Ltd.	WR
13. M/s Nakshatra Software Pvt. Ltd.	WR
14. M/s Chitrakoot Computers Pvt. Ltd.	WR
15. M/s Luminant Investment Pvt. Ltd.	WR
16. M/s Triumph Securities Pvt. Ltd.	WR

Nirmal Bang Group

17. M/s Bama Securities Ltd.	WR
18. M/s Nirmal Bang Securities Ltd.	WR
19. M/s Bang Equity Broking Pvt. Ltd.	WR
20. M/s Bang Securities Pvt. Ltd.	WR
21. M/s Nadi Finance & Investment Pvt. Ltd.	WR

Shankar Sharma & Devina Mehra Group

22. M/s First Global Finance Pvt. Ltd.	NR
23. M/s First Global Stock Broking Pvt. Ltd.	NR
24. M/s Vruddhi Coninvest India Pvt. Ltd.	WR

Shallesh Shah Group

25. M/s Dolat Capital Market Ltd.	WR
26. M/s Nirpan Securities Ltd.	WR
27. M/s Shallesh Shah Securities Ltd.	WR

Radha Krishan Damani Group

28. M/s Damani Share & Stock Brokers Pvt. Ltd.	WR
29. M/s Maheshwari Equity Brokers Pvt. Ltd.	WR

30. M/s Jhunjhunwala Stock Broker Pvt. Ltd.	WR	51. M/s Amit Capital & Securities Pvt. Ltd.	WR
31. M/s Pratik Stock Vision Pvt. Ltd.	WR	52. M/s Pushp Capital & Securities Pvt. Ltd.	WR
32. M/s Damani Estates & Finance Pvt. Ltd.	WR	53. M/s Gerard Viegs Finvest Pvt. Ltd.	WR
33. M/s Bright Star Investments Ltd.	WR	54. M/s Hitkari Finvest Pvt. Ltd.	WR
34. M/s Krishna Securities Ltd.	NR	55. M/s Preetraj Finvest Pvt. Ltd.	WR
35. M/s Avenue Stock Brokers India Pvt. Ltd.	WR	56. M/s Suresh Rathi Securities Pvt. Ltd.	WR

Ajay Kevan Group

36. M/s C Mackertich Ltd.	ER
37. M/s SMIFS Securities Ltd.	ER
38. M/s Stewart Securities Ltd.	ER
39. M/s Maya Trade Link Ltd.	ER
40. M/s Powerflow Holdings Pvt. Ltd.	ER
41. M/s Mackertich Consultancy services Pvt. Ltd.	ER
42. M/s PNR Securities Ltd.	NR

Consortium Group

43. M/s Consortium Securities Ltd.	NR
44. M/s CSL Securities Pvt. Ltd.	NR
45. M/s CSL Stock Broking Pvt. Ltd.	NR

BLB Group

46. M/s BLB Ltd.	NR
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Rathi Group

47. M/s Rathi Global Finance Ltd.	NR
48. M/s Anand Rathi Securities Pvt. Ltd.	WR
49. M/s Navratan Capital & Securities Pvt. Ltd.	WR
50. M/s Rathi Capital & Services Pvt. Ltd.	WR

Zee Tele Group

57. M/s Zee Telefilms Ltd.	WR
58. M/s Siticable Network Pvt. Ltd.	WR
59. M/s Digital Superhighway	WR
60. M/s Briggs Trading Co Pvt. Ltd.	WR
61. M/s Prajatma Trading Co Pvt. Ltd.	WR
62. M/s Churu Trading Co Pvt. Ltd.	WR
63. M/s Ganjam Trading Co Pvt. Ltd.	WR

Other Companies

64. M/s Zee Gold Refinery Ltd.	WR
65. M/s Palombe Securities & Finance Ltd.	WR
66. M/s Global Telesystems Ltd.	WR
67. M/s Himachal Futuristic Communication Ltd.	NR
68. M/s Burlington Finance Ltd.	ER
69. M/s DSQ Software Ltd.	SR
70. M/s Pentamedia Graphics Ltd.	SR
71. M/s Nirma Ltd.	WR
72. M/s Ranbaxy Laboratories Ltd.	NR
73. M/s Kopran, Ltd.	WR
74. M/s Adani Export Ltd.	WR

75. M/s Lupin Laboratores Ltd.	WR
76. M/s Padmini Polymers Ltd.	NR
77. M/s Shonkh Technologies Ltd.	NR
78. M/s Amar Raja Batteries Ltd.	SR
79. M/s Global Trust Bank Ltd.	SR
80. M/s Monesh Consultancy Pvt. Ltd.	WR
81. M/s Moncon Investment Ltd.	WR
82. M/s Manmandir Estate Developers (P) Ltd.	WR
83. M/s Credit Suisse First Boston (I) Securities Pvt. Ltd.	WR
84. M/s JM Morgan Stanley Securities Pvt. Ltd.	WR
85. M/s JM Morgan Retail Securities Pvt. Ltd.	WR
86. M/s Aftak Infosys Ltd.	WR
87. M/s Silverline Industries Ltd.	WR
88. M/s Doe Jones Investments & Consultants Pvt. Ltd.	ER
89. M/s Arihant Exim Scrip Pvt. Ltd.	ER
90. M/s Tripoli Consultancy Services Pvt. Ltd.	ER
91. M/s Khenami Securities Pvt. Ltd.	ER
92. M/s SSI Ltd.	SR
93. M/s Cyberspace Ltd.	NR
94. M/s Pruthvi Brokers & Shareholdings Pvt. Ltd.	WR
95. M/s Biyani Securities Pvt. Ltd.	ER
96. M/s Satyam Computer Services Ltd.	SR

Statement-II

Investigation ordered based on Preliminary Investigation Report of SEBI in Connection with recent Market Scam

S.No.	Name of the Company
1.	M/s DSQ Software Ltd.
2.	M/s Panther Industrial Products Ltd.
3.	M/s Luminant Investments Pvt. Ltd.
4.	M/s Goldfish Computer Pvt. Ltd.
5.	M/s Panther Fincap and Management services Ltd.
6.	M/s Manmandir Estate Developers Pvt. Ltd.
7.	M/s Classic Shares & Stock Broking Services Ltd.
8.	M/s Classic Credit Ltd.
9.	M/s N.H. Securities Ltd.
10.	M/s Chitrakut Computers Pvt. Ltd.
11.	M/s Nakshatra Software Pvt. Ltd.
12.	M/s Panther Investrade Ltd.
13.	M/s Triumph International and Finance India Ltd.
14.	M/s K.N.P. Securities Pvt. Ltd.
15.	M/s V.N. Parekh Securities Pvt. Ltd.
16.	M/s Saimangal Investrade Ltd.
17.	M/s Triumph Securities Ltd.

Closure of Offices of New India Assurance Company

1412.DR. K.S. MANOJ : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Divisional Offices and Branch Offices of the New India Assurance Company likely to be closed;

(b) the number of employees likely to be unemployed as a result thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to save the employees of the company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) New India Assurance Company has informed that no more Divisional/Branch offices are likely to be closed in the remaining part of the year 2004-05. However, the Company has earlier closed five of their Branches during 2004-05.

(b) and (c) None of the employees of the Branches closed was rendered unemployed because of their closure as they were relocated to the nearby branches.

Training to Handloom Workers

1413. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has assessed the number of weaver and artists in Handloom industry;

(b) the number of beneficiaries of IHTP (Integrated Handloom Training Project) and Design Development & Training Programme; and

(c) the percentage of weavers who have received benefits under the 'Workshop cum Housing scheme' since its inception?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA) : (a) As per the joint handloom & powerloom Census 1995-96, 65.51 lakh persons are engaged in weaving and allied activities in the Handloom Sector.

(b) A Central Sector Plan Scheme 'Integrated Handloom Training Project (IHTP)' has been introduced in December 2003 for imparting training to handloom

weavers/workers. Under the Scheme, financial assistance for covering 20,260 beneficiaries has been released till now. Under "Design Development and Training Programme", 6369 weavers have been benefited during 2003-04.

(c) Under the Workshop-cum-Housing Scheme for handloom weavers, 2,82,574 units of Workshops/workshop-cum-houses have been sanctioned since inception till 2003-04.

Effects of Quota Free System

1414. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether quota-free system for textile sector to do business with other countries, expected to create more employment opportunities in the field;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the role of the Apparel Export Promotion Council will be limited in this scenario;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the AEPC have any diversion plans so as to exist; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA) : (a) and (b) According to a study by CRISIL (commissioned by Indian Cotton Mills Federation), the Indian textiles and apparel industry can achieve a potential size of US\$ 85 billion by 2010. This would create 12 million job opportunities, comprising 5 million direct jobs in textile industry and 7 million jobs in allied sectors.

(c) to (f) In the quota-free regime, the focus of Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC)'s activities would be oriented to export promotion, training of shop-floor level workers, and for servicing the garment export industry. In addition to the above, the Council is also supervising the operation of residuary provisions of the Garment and Knitwears Export Entitlement (Quota) Policies with effect from 1.1.2005.

The Council has embarked on a programme of modernisation/expansion of the Apparel Training and Design Centres (ATDC) centres in order to cater to the growing skilled man-power requirements of garment industry at shopfloor and supervisory levels.

Besides, the AEPC is also constructing an Apparel International Mart at Gurgaon to provide a world class facility to the apparel exporters to showcase their products and serve as one stop shop for reputed international buyers.

Loan to BPL/Weaker Sections

1415. SHRI SREENIVASULU REDDY :
SHRI V.K. THUMMAR :
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA :
SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the Union Government has formulated any scheme for providing loans to people living below poverty line/weaker sections in the country for construction of houses;

(b) if so, the details of such people who have been disbursed loan by the banks during the last two years as on date, State-wise;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor the steps taken by the Union Government in this regard;

(d) the success achieved by the steps taken;

(e) whether there is any proposal to increase credit limit; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) to (f) No, Sir. There is no specific scheme formulated by the Union Government for providing loans to people living below poverty line/weaker sections for construction of houses. However, the Government of India is implementing the

Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY). Under this scheme grant-in-aid/ financial assistance is provided for construction/ upgradation of houses to BPL rural householders belonging to SCs/STs, freed bonded labourers and non SC/ST rural BPL poor, families of ex-srvicemen killed in action & physically and mentally challenged persons. Since inception of this scheme, 125 lakh houses have been constructed with expenditure of Rs.22084 crores. From the current financial year 2004-05, ceiling on construction assistance under IAY is Rs.25,000/- per unit for plain areas, Rs.27,000/- per unit for hilly/difficult areas and Rs.12,500/- per unit for upgradation for all areas.

Insurance provision to Tsunami Like Calamity Prone Areas

1416. DR. M. JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the recent Tsunami disaster has made the Government to reel under a huge financial cost of rescue, relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to enact the existing insurance laws to order to add a mandatory provision for insurance of people living in calamity prone areas to atleast partly meet the huge financial cost of rehabilitation;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) other alternatives being contemplated by the Government to meet such situations in future.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) The Government of India has approved a special package of Rs.3644.05 crores under "Rajiv Gandhi Rehabilitation Package for Tsunami affected areas" for immediate relief and response, revival of fisheries and agriculture sectors, immediate construction of temporary (intermediate) shelters and repair/restoration of infrastructure.

(b) and (c) The Insurance Companies, both in public sector and private sector, are marketing insurance policies

for coverage of loss of life and loss/damage to properties due to natural calamities like fire, floods, cyclone, earthquake etc. These insurance policies are voluntary and could be purchased by anybody on payment of requisite premium. There is no proposal for mandatory insurance coverage of people living in calamity prone areas.

(d) The scheme for financing relief expenditure is based on the recommendations of the Finance Commission appointed from time to time. As per the scheme currently in vogue, a Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) for each State is in operation to provide immediate relief to the people affected by natural calamities. Central Government contributes 75% to the CRF of each State and the balance 25% is met by the State Governments. In case of a calamity of severe nature, Central Government provides additional assistance to State Governments from National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF). The scheme for financing the relief expenditure will continue to be governed by the recommendations of the Finance Commission.

Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme

1417. SHRI RAVICHANDRAN SIPPIPARAI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of small scale textile industries assisted under the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS), State-wise till date;

(b) the break-up of small scale textile units which availed assistance under capital subsidy and interest reimbursement categories as on date;

(c) the number of small scale textile units from the country specially from Tamil Nadu which have applied for assistance under the scheme and the number of applications sanctioned and financial assistance disbursed during the last three years, year-wise; and

(d) the total amount sanctioned and spent under the scheme, as on date, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA) : (a) and (b) The total number of small scale textile industries assisted under the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS), State-wise along with the break-up of small scale textile units which availed assistance under capital subsidy and interest reimbursement categories as on 31.12.04 is furnished in Statement-I enclosed.

(c) The number of small scale textile units from the country including those from Tamil Nadu which have applied for assistance under the scheme and the number of application sanctioned and financial assistance disbursed during the last three years, year-wise is furnished in Statement-II enclosed.

(d) The total amount sanctioned and disbursed under the scheme, as on 31.12.04, State-wise is given in Statement-III enclosed.

Statement-I

S. No.	Name of the State/Union Territory	No. of Applications sanctioned				No. of applications disbursed			
		Under 5% IR	Under 15% CLCS	Under 20% CLCS for SSI power looms	Total	Under 5% IR	Under 15% CLCS	Under 20% CLCS for SSI power looms	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Tamil Nadu	546	29	4	579	473	23	4	500

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2.	Gujarat	897	7	85	989	807	5	85	897
3.	Punjab	298	23	5	326	247	18	5	270
4.	Maharashtra	115	12	5	132	83	11	5	99
5.	Haryana	131	3	—	134	99	2	—	101
6.	Rajasthan	127	—	—	127	89	—	—	89
7.	Karnataka	61	—	—	61	45	—	—	45
8.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	17	—	1	18	16	—	1	17
9.	Delhi	20	—	—	20	19	—	—	19
10.	Andhra Pradesh	5	—	—	5	4	—	—	4
11.	Kerala	3	—	—	3	3	—	—	3
12.	Uttar Pradesh	20	—	—	20	14	—	—	14
13.	West Bengal	21	—	—	21	12	—	—	12
14.	Daman & Diu	5	—	1	6	5	—	1	6
15.	Madhya Pradesh	3	—	—	3	1	—	—	1
16.	Nagaland	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	1
Total		2270	74	101	2445	1918	59	101	2078

IR-Interest Reimbursement; CLCS-Credit Linked Capital Subsidy; SSI Small Scale Industries

Statement-II

Year-wise details of SSI textile units under TUFs (5% interest reimbursement & CLCS@15%-TUFs) during the last three years in Tamilnadu vis-à-vis All India

(Rs. crore)

1	Year	Applications received		Applications sanctioned			Applications disbursed		
		No.	Project Cost	No.	Project Cost	Amount	No.	Project Cost	Amount
1	2001-2002	92	78	85	N.A.	41	80	N.A.	36

1	3	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	2002-2003	80	50	76	49	34	63	48	33
	2003-2004	110	155	113	156	92	117	144	65
Other States	2001-2002	236	312	239	N.A.	116	228	N.A.	88
	2002-2003	235	358	225	328	184	187	279	109
	2003-2004	530	325	539	341	175	505	287	126
All India	2001-2002	328	390	324	N.A.	156	308	N.A.	124
	2002-2003	315	408	301	377	218	250	328	142
	2003-2004	640	480	652	497	266	622	431	191

Statement-III*State-wise progress of TUFs as on 31.12.2004*

(Rs. in crore)

S. No.	State/U.T.	Amount Sanctioned	Amount disbursed
1	2	3	4
1.	Tamilnadu	2499.58	1755.74
2.	Gujarat	1402.64	871.32
3.	Punjab	1380.71	984.31
4.	Maharashtra	1222.77	722.66
5.	Rajasthan	766.37	555.43
6.	Uttar Pradesh	377.20	222.28
7.	Dadra Nagar Haveli	357.47	337.75
8.	Karnataka	352.37	247.03

1	2	3	4
9.	Andhra Pradesh	286.98	216.14
10.	Haryana	202.09	148.03
11.	Madhya Pradesh	170.80	154.81
12.	West Bengal	141.21	63.59
13.	Himachal Pradesh	124.25	117.15
14.	Kerala	111.66	52.93
15.	Delhi	82.14	45.37
16.	Daman & Diu	24.21	14.88
17.	Jammu & Kashmir	20.00	0.00
18.	Chandigarh	12.91	7.52
19.	Orissa	1.66	1.27
20.	Nagaland	1.41	0.43
Total		9538.43	6518.64

[Translation]

Computerisation of Banks

1418. SHRI HEMMAL MURMU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether all the public sector banks have been computerised;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of banks which have not yet been computerised as on date;

(d) the time by which all the bank branches of public sector banks are likely to be computerised;

(e) whether any alternate arrangements is also available in the event of failure of computers; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) to (d) As per the information made available by RBI, Public Sector Banks have been computerizing their operations in a phased manner and have commenced offering their customers computerised services like Internet Banking. The position of bank-wise computerisation of bank branches of public sector bank as on 30.9.2004 is given in the statement.

(e) and (f) As regards alternative arrangements in the event of failure of computers, banks have been advised through guidelines contained in various RBI circulars, to adopt Information System Audit Policy appropriate to their level of computerisation, formulate necessary risks associated with computer and telecommunication systems, draw up a policy outline on business continuity in case of a contingency and ensure that adequate systems are implemented and tested to meet the broad policy objectives laid down in this regard.

Statement

S. No.	Name of the Bank	List of Administrative Location	Those with LAN	% of (4) to (3)	No. of computerised Branches	Those with LAN solution	% of (7) to (6)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	State Bank of India	104	104	100.00	9838	3698	40.92
2.	State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur	10	9	90.00	813	813	100.00
3.	State Bank of Hyderabad	33	33	100.00	910	910	100.00
4.	State Bank of Indore	15	10	66.67	431	431	100.00
5.	State Bank of Mysore	19	5	26.32	623	487	78.17
6.	State Bank of Patiala	35	27	77.14	748	748	100.00
7.	State Bank of Saurashtra	6	6	100.00	418	418	100.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
8.	State Bank of Travancore	10	6	60.00	668	0	0.00
9.	Allahabad Bank	49	49	100.00	1135	1022	90.04
10.	Andhra Bank	17	17	100.00	1141	1141	100.00
11.	Bank of Baroda	72	72	100.00	2137	931	43.57
12.	Bank of India	49	49	100.00	2529	1750	69.20
13.	Bank of Maharashtra	36	36	100.00	666	666	100.00
14.	Canara Bank	52	52	100.00	2483	1284	51.71
15.	Central Bank of India	95	95	100.00	1626	1626	100.00
16.	Corporation Bank	20	20	100.00	755	754	99.87
17.	Dena Bank	20	20	100.00	1037	462	44.55
18.	Indian Bank	47	47	100.00	1141	1023	89.66
19.	Indian Overseas Bank	39	39	100.00	1477	691	46.78
20.	Oriental Bank of Commerce	25	25	100.00	1013	324	31.98
21.	Punjab & Sind Bank	48	41	85.42	839	315	37.54
22.	Punjab National Bank	86	86	100.00	4038	1921	47.57
23.	Syndicate Bank	103	78	73.79	1739	197	11.33
24.	UCO Bank	49	49	100.00	1317	336	25.51
25.	Union Bank of India	61	61	100.00	2022	369	18.25
26.	United Bank of India	30	3	10.00	1160	294	25.34
27.	Vijaya Bank	18	18	100.00	695	695	100.00

[English]

**Integrated Sheep and Wool
Development Programme**

1419. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH : Will the Minister of
TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the aid granted under the Integrated Sheep and
Wool Development Programme during last three years,
State-wise;

(b) the performance of those States on production
and development of wool during last three years; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to boost the woolen textile?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA) : (a) A statement showing the grant-in-aid given under the Integrated Sheep & Wool Development Project and Sheep & Wool Improvement Scheme is enclosed.

(b) The production of indigenous wool in the country during the last three years is as follows:—

Year	Quantity in million kg
2002-03	52.1(P)
2003-04	53.6(P)
2004-05	55.1(E)

P: Provisional E: Estimated

(Source: Department of Animal Husbandry, Ministry of Agriculture)

The state-wise figure of the production of wool is not maintained by this Ministry.

(c) The steps taken to boost the production, development and export of the woolen textiles include implementation of various schemes for the textile sectors such as Technology Upgradation Funds Scheme (TUFS), Integrated Apparel Park Scheme, Textile Centre Infrastructure Development Scheme (TCIDS), abolition of mandatory CENVAT chain, reduction in customs duty on textile machinery; schemes specific to woolens sector administered by Central Wool Development Board, Jodhpur and implemented by State Government agencies, dereservation of the garment sector, increase in limits of investment for small scale units in knitwear sector, reduction in customs duty on Apparel Grade Raw Wool from 15% to 5%, dereservation of certain hosiery goods from SSI. In addition, Wool Research Association (WRA), Thane has been carrying on R&D work specifically for woolen sector.

Statement

Last three years fund released Position under Integrated Sheep & Wool Development Project (ISWDP) and Sheep & Wool Improvement Scheme (SWIS)

(Rs. in lacs)

S. No.	Name of State	Name of Schemes/ Projects/Programmes	Name of Implementing Agency	Year			Total
				2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	9
1.	Gujarat	Integrated Sheep & Wool Development Project	Gujarat Sheep & Wool Development Corporation Ltd. Gandhinagar	64.84	34.50	99.34	
		Integrated Wool Improvement Programme (Sheep Wool improvement Scheme)			133.50	133.50	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	9
2	Rajasthan	Integrated Sheep & Wool Development Project	Direct, Animal Husbandry Department. Govt. of Rajasthan, Jaipur.	24.21	42.76		66.97
3.	Himchal Pradesh	Integrated Sheep & Wool Development Project	H.P. State Wool Procurement & Marketing Federation Ltd. Shimla	50.24	42.14	50.69	143.07
		Integrated Wool Improvement Programme (Sheep Wool improvement Scheme)				125.05	125.05
4.	Uttar Pradesh	Integrated Sheep & Wool Development Project	U.P. Poultry & Livestock Specialities Ltd. Lucknow.	30.16	16.08	25.50	71.74
5.	Maharashtra	Integrated Sheep & Wool Development Project	Punyashloka Ahilaydevi Maharashtra Mendhi Va Sheli Vikas Mahamandal Ltd., Pune.	10.80	9.68		20.48
6.	Haryana	Integrated Sheep & Wool Development Project	Haryana State Livestock Dev. Board, Chandigarh	64.80		73.09	137.89
7.	Karnataka	Integrated Sheep & Wool Development Project	Karnataka Sheep & Sheep Product Development Board, Bangalore	17.41	8.98		26.39
		Integrated Wool Improvement Programme (Sheep Wool improvement Scheme)				12.94	12.94
8.	Andhra Pradesh	Integrated Sheep & Wool Development Project	Direct, Animal Husbandry Deptt., Hyderabad	58.54	34.19		92.73
		Integrated Wool Improvement Programme	Head, (CSD). N.I.R.D., Hyderabad			8.80	8.80
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	Integrated Sheep & Wool Development Project	J&K Sheep Board, Jammu/ LAHDC, Leh	30.90	59.85	21.31	112.06

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	9
		Sheep & Wool Improvement Programme (PM)				329.32	329.32
10.	Uttaranchal	Integrated Wool Improvement Programme (Sheep Wool improvement Scheme)	CEO, Uttaranchal Sheep & Wool Dev. Board, Dehradun.		37.75	38.37	76.12

2001-02-09th Plan Scheme.

2002-03-9th Plan Scheme were continued to implement in first year of 10th Plan as 10th Plan scheme could not be approved

2003-04-10th Plan Scheme.

Closure of handloom units

1420. SHRI RAJESH VERMA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of handloom units of the country have been closed due to sickness;

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

(c) the steps taken to revive the sick handlooms?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA) : (a) The Government of India in the Ministry of Textiles, have not received any report from any State Governments for the closure of handloom units due to sickness.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Privatisation of PSBs

1421. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT :
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has received suggestions/proposals to privatise public sector banks in the country

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Scheduled Bank Status

1422. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the cooperative banks of Uttar Pradesh have been given the status of scheduled banks;

(b) the number of applications/proposals pending with the Union Government for providing the status of scheduled banks in Uttar Pradesh; and

(c) the time by which the proposals are likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) The Uttar Pradesh State Co-operative Bank Limited, Lucknow (Apex Bank) has been granted scheduled status under section 42 of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934. One Urban Co-operative Bank viz. Indian Mercantile Co-operative bank

Limited, Lucknow has also been given the status of Scheduled Bank.

(b) No application/proposal from any Urban or District Central Co-operative Bank registered in the State of Uttar Pradesh for granting status of a scheduled bank is pending with the Reserve Bank of India.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Maheshwar Hydro Power Project

1423. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the work on the Maheshwar Hydrel Power Project on the Narmada River in Madhya Pradesh has been stalled;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether the proposal to start the work on the said project through the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation is lying pending with the Central Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) and (b) The work on the Maheshwar Hydrel Project on the Narmada River in Madhya Pradesh is held up since July 2001 due to exit of the foreign equity partners, creating an equity gap.

(c) No such proposal is pending with the Central Government.

(d) Does not arise.

Handicraft Scheme In Andhra Pradesh

1424. SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether government has reviewed handicraft schemes being run in the country specially in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the lapses identified by the government and the lapses found on the part of Government officials;

(c) the other schemes of Government to promote handicrafts;

(d) whether the office of Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) does not extend required cooperation in the upliftment of artisans; and

(e) the reaction of the government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA) : (a) and (b) The schemes being implemented for promotion & development of handicrafts in the country are not state specific and are being implemented as grant-in-aid schemes through Implementing Agencies like State Handicrafts Development Corporations/Apex bodies and NGOs etc. These schemes are reviewed periodically with a view to assess their outreach and impact and based on the review, corrective measures are taken wherever required, in the form of modification/amendment of the schemes to make the delivery and outreach more effective. During the course of implementation if any such lapse comes to notice, necessary action is taken as per rules.

(c) The schemes currently in operation to promote handicrafts in the country include; Baba Saheb Ambedkar Hastshilp Viksa Yojana (AHVY); Design & Technology Upgradation; Marketing & Support Services; Export Promotion; Training & Extension; Research and Development; Bima Yojana & Special Handicrafts Training Projects.

(d) The Government provides full cooperation and support for upliftment of artisans.

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

Non-Payment of Inland Air Travel Tax

1425. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA :
DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether various aviation companies do not pay the inland air travel tax to Government in time;

(b) if so, the outstanding amount against each of such companies as on date; and

(c) the steps Government is taking to make companies pay the tax in time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) to (c) The levy of Inland Air Travel Tax (IATT) has since been fully exempted with effect from 9.1.2004. However, there are eleven defaulting airlines who have not been paying IATT in time in the past. A statement indicating the names of such Airlines with details of arrears, steps taken by the Government to recover such dues is enclosed herewith.

Statement

The names of defaulting airlines with details of amounts in respect of IATT outstanding dues and steps taken by the Government to recover the dues

S. No.	Name of the Airlines	Outstanding amount* (In lakhs)		Steps taken by the Government
		IATT	Penalty	
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Raj Aviation (P) Ltd.	46.64	15.12	Airline is not in operation. Certificate action under Sec. 142 of the Customs Act, 1962 initiated. Party filed CWP in the Mumbai High court and the matter is under litigation.
2.	Continental Aviation (P) Ltd.	74.86	—	Airline is not in operation. Certificate action under Sec. 142 of the Customs Act, 1962 initiated. The process of attachment of property is on.
3.	East West Airlines	253.23	25.72	Distraintment action of the aircraft under Rule 14(4) of IATT Rules, 1989 has been taken. Attachment of immovable property action also initiated. The party approached the Hon'ble High Court and an official liquidator has been appointed. The case is pursued by the Commissioner Customs (Prev.) Mumbai.
4.	Modi Luft. Ltd.	865.07	1737.66	Airline is not in operation. Aircraft was detained by the department. However, the party filed CWP in the Delhi High Court. On the directions of the Hon'ble High Court aircraft released against deposit of Rs.8 crore and execution of Bank Guarantee for Rs.4.50 crore. Rs.2.50 crore has also been recovered in installments of

1	2	3	4	5
				Rs.50 Lakh per month. Meanwhile the Department has also filed SLP in the Hon'ble Supreme Court. Matter under litigation.
5.	U.P. Airways	67.56	54.28	Airline is not in operation. Aircraft was distrained. Rs. 2.09 crore was recovered on the directions of Hon'ble High court. The party filed CWP in High Court and the matter is under litigation.
6.	V.I.F. Airways	20.73	15.00	Airline is not in operation. Certificate action under Section 142 of the Customs Act, 1962 initiated. Commissioner of Customs, Hyderabad is pursuing the case.
7.	Skyline NEPC Airlines	406.60	952.34	Airline is not in operation. Distraintment action of the aircrafts under Rule 14(4) of IATT Rules, 1989 have been taken. Prosecution action also taken and case filed before the appropriate Court under IPC. Properties of the party are being ascertained for further action. Matter is under litigation.
8.	NEPC Airlines	181.64	240.14	
9.	Air Asiatic Ltd.	57.58	18.20	Airline is not in operation. The company has filed CWP in the High Court, Chennai. Matter is under litigation
10.	Gujarat Airways	56.57	—	Party has already paid Rs.79.62 Lakhs and the recovery of balance amount is strongly pursued.
11.	City Link Airway	60.13	18.47	Airline is not in operation. Certificate action under section 142 of the Customs Act, 1962 initiated.

*[N.B. In all these cases interest under IATT Rules, 1989, for delayed payment will be collected at the time of recovery.]

Evaluation of Centrally Sponsored Schemes

1426.SHRI B. VINOD KUMAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government has decided to

enforce compulsory evaluation of all Centrally sponsored schemes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether it has also been decided to engage external/outside agencies to conduct the appraisal of the proposal; and

(d) if so, whether the Planning Commission had approved the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) to (d) Sir.

As announced in the Budget Speech for 2005-06, it has been decided to lay emphasis on measurement of development outcomes and programme impact through an evaluation of major plan schemes and programmes. The modalities of such an evaluation will be put in place shortly.

[Translation]

Scams in Cooperative Banks

1427. SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI :

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware that a number of cases of fraud in the cooperative banks have come to the light in the country during the last three years;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to improve the position of cooperative banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. In the years 200, 2003 and 2004 the number of frauds reported in Primary (Urban) Cooperative Banks are 164, 241 and 167 respectively. Similarly, as on 31st March, 2002, 2003 and 2004, the fraud cases reported in State-Co-operative Banks are 21, 23 and 25 and in case of District Central Cooperative Banks the number of fraud cases reported are 275, 284 and 292 respectively.

A revised manual on internal checks and branch control, the format of annual branch inspection report and guidelines on examination on various areas during internal inspection of branches have been issued by NABARD to all Cooperative Banks. Reserve Bank of India has cancelled licenses of several co-operative banks and

issued directions under Section 35A of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949(AACS). Besides, RBI has taken several steps to bring improvement in the working in cooperative banks such as a separate cell to monitor fraud, prescribing system of classification and reporting of frauds, constitution of audit committee of the Board of Directors, guidelines to urban cooperative banks for strengthening the internal control/vigilance mechanism, introduction of system of concurrent audit, introduction of electronic data processing audit system and others.

National Gramin Bank

1428. SHRIMATI KARUNA SHUKLA :

SHRI CHANDRA MANI TRIPATHI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether A.K. Purwar Committee has submitted any proposal regarding restructuring of Gramin Banks to the Government;

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

(c) the time by which Government is likely to undertake the work of restructuring of the rural banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The recommendations of the Group of CMDs were discussed in the meeting with the State Governments and a select group of CMDs of Nationalised Banks. A consensus could not be arrived at in the meeting.

(c) As a step towards the consolidation of RRBs, the Government has already initiated the process of amalgamation of contiguous RRBs sponsored by the same bank within a State in consultation with the respective State Governments and NABARD.

[English]

"Innovative Saving Scheme"

1429. SHRI K.S. RAO :

SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is planning on innovative savings scheme for the people who don't want to risk their money on shares;

(b) if so, the details thereof of the new scheme; and

(c) the time by which it will come into force?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) No proposal for introduction of a new small savings scheme is under consideration of the Government.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

IT on Foreign Nationals Involved in Films

1430. SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government is aware that many foreign nationals are working in Indian Film Industry in various capacities and their earnings are in crores;

(b) if so, whether such persons are required to pay income tax like Indian Nationals;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) Sir, no record is kept in the Income Tax Department separately for foreign nationals who earn their income by working in Indian Film Industry in various capacities. We do not have any record about particulars of income earned by foreign nationals from Indian Film Industry.

(b) Such persons, if any, are required to pay tax in India on their income in terms of the Income-tax Act, 1961 as the taxes are not charged on the basis of nationality but their residential status.

(c) and (d) In view of (a) above these do not arise.

Central Funds to States

1431. SHRI V.K. THUMMAR :

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA :

SHRI MOHD. TAHIR :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of fund released by the Union Government to the State Governments under different heads during the current year (2004-05) so far;

(b) the amount already utilized by the States;

(c) details of amount received by the State Governments, if any, any from other States and also from other sources;

(d) the details of the funds that remain unutilized, State-wise;

(e) whether the Union Government is contemplating to curtail the unutilized amount; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) and (b) Funds released by Ministry of Finance to State governments during 2004-05 upto March 4, 2005 are given in the statement. Grants are released, except for Normal Central Assistance, Special Plan Assistance, Special Central Assistance and Additional Central Assistance, based on reported utilization or meeting the laid down condition. No separate utilization reports are collected.

(c) and (d) Ministry of Finance does not maintain any data-base for amount received by states from other States or sources or utilization thereof.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Statement

(Rs. in Crore)

S. No.	States	Central Assistance for State Plan	Grants under Article 275(1)*	Fiscal Reforms Incentive Fund Grants	NCCF	Other Non-Plan Gmat/Loans \$	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2578.79	220.64	0.00	117.88	10223.51	13140.82
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	589.19	224.74	38.42	9.09	200.88	1062.32
3.	Assam	2050.30	153.93	0.00	211.55	3111.77	5527.55
4.	Bihar	2132.86	191.02	312.30	398.92	10350.75	13385.85
5.	Chhattisgarh	712.58	111.89	0.00	0.00	2553.18	3377.65
6.	Goa	67.18	1.13	0.00	0.00	596.12	664.43
7.	Gujarat	1820.20	417.81	55.40	55.00	10748.70	13097.11
8.	Haryana	387.16	144.97	0.00	0.00	2781.17	3313.30
9.	Himachal Prd	1168.91	658.62	156.96	0.00	1263.89	3248.38
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	2956.62	2010.22	0.00	50.00	1452.89	6469.73
11.	Jharkhand	789.83	50.45	42.95	0.00	3681.17	4564.40
12.	Karnataka	1752.94	206.05	184.94	39.05	7692.64	9875.62
13.	Kerala	978.46	148.05	0.00	153.00	4918.18	6197.69
14.	Madhya Pradesh	2017.14	159.70	64.63	1.70	7250.01	9493.18
15.	Maharashtra	1662.76	336.13	0.00	173.23	18973.24	21145.36
16.	Manipur	775.72	289.35	54.18	0.00	288.48	1407.73
17.	Meghalaya	441.46	245.75	0.00	6.16	289.63	983.00
18.	Mizoram	526.03	293.70	53.43	10.68	170.48	1054.32
19.	Nagaland	485.04	652.18	114.58	1.81	177.81	1431.42

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
20.	Orissa	2199.23	222.22	50.91	53.44	4846.74	7372.54
21.	Punjab	481.76	111.87	7.47	0.00	4438.58	5039.68
22.	Rajasthan	1733.18	461.83	59.77	108.00	8841.91	11204.69
23.	Sikkim	384.67	145.61	0.00	9.90	159.90	700.08
24.	Tamil Nadu	1302.62	199.98	181.06	734.47	9657.56	12075.69
25.	Tripura	636.76	403.29	75.02	0.05	536.22	1651.34
26.	Uttar Pradesh	4130.74	324.97	174.34	192.10	20480.30	25302.45
27.	Uttaranchal	1077.34	89.96	24.58	0.00	1428.00	2619.88
28.	West Bengal	2278.03	198.26	0.00	0.00	16074.56	18550.85
Total		38117.50	8674.32	1650.94	2326.03	153188.27	203957.06

* Includes grants to PRIs and urban local bodies, upgradation and special problem grants, Non-Plan Revenue Deficit Grants and Centre's Share of Calamity relief Grants.

\$ Includes NSSF's investment in State securities, Share in Central Taxes, Non-Plan Loans

[Translation]

**Promotion of Handicraft Industry
in Rajasthan**

1432. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the measures taken by the government to promote handicrafts industry in the country especially in Jodhpur city of Rajasthan;

(b) whether the handicrafts industry has been badly affected; and

(c) the schemes being formulated by the government to promote this industry?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA) : (a) Grant-in-aid schemes are being implemented by the Government for the promotion and development of handicrafts in the country, which also includes Jodhpur city of Rajasthan, through Implementing Agencies like State Handicrafts Development Corporations/Apex bodies and NGOs etc, on the basis of the merit of proposals received and availability of funds. The schemes are: Baba Saheb Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana (AHVY); Design & Technology Upgradation; Marketing & Support Services; Export Promotion; Training & Extension; Research and Development; Bima yojana & Special Handicrafts Training Project.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No new scheme is being formulated.

[English]

Clearance of Power Projects

1433. SHRI TAPIR GAO : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of power projects sanctioned for private and public sectors in the State of Arunachal Pradesh during the Tenth Five Year Plan Period;

(b) the number of such projects which are pending and the number of projects being implemented; and

(c) the estimated cost of each project?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) to (c) Section 7 of Electricity Act, 2003 stipulates that any generating company can establish, operate and maintain Thermal Generating Stations without obtaining license from the Government. However, any generating company intending to set up a hydro generating station shall prepare and submit to the Central Electricity Authority the intended project details for its concurrence.

Following two hydro electric schemes under the Central Sector have been sanctioned during 10th Plan,; i.e. from April 2002 till date:

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Executing Agency	Installed Capacity (MW)	Cleared Cost (Rs. in crores)	Date of Clearance	Commissioning Schedule
1.	Subansiri Lower	National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC)	2000	6285.33 (Dec., 2002 price level including interest during construction (IDC) 670.92)	September, 2003	2010-11
2.	Kameng HE Project	North Eastern Electric Power Corporation (NEEPCO)	600	2496.90 (March, 2004 price level including IDC 249.09)	December, 2004	2009-10

In addition, following schemes have been accorded Stage-II clearance by CEA for site development and preparation of Detailed Project Reports:—

S. No.	Name of Scheme/ Executing Agency	Installed Capacity (MW)	Anticipated Cost (Rs. in crores)
1.	Suabansiri Middle/NHPC	1600	6406.18
2.	Subansiri Upper/NHPC	2000	8753.07
3.	Ranganadi St.II/NEEPCO	130	557.58
4.	Dikrong/NEEPCO	110	510.23

Under 50,000 MW hydro initiative, following projects have been identified for Survey & Investigation and preparation of Detailed Project Reports in respect of Arunachal Pradesh:

Name of Project	Installed Capacity (MW)	Anticipated Cost (Rs. in crore)
1	2	3
Etalin	4000	14069.14
Attunli	500	2725.26
Naying	1000	3016.96

1	2	3
Tato II	700	2608.60
Hirong	500	2072.78
Demwe	3000	9539.40
Kameng Dam	600	2264.00
Talong	300	891.04
Bhareli II	600	1698.35
Bhareli I	1120	3372.45
Kapak Leyak	160	463.52
Hutong	3000	7792.29
Kalai	2600	6637.67
Badao	120	443.98
Oju II	1000	3492.99
Oju I	700	3526.28
Dibbin	100	371.52
Total	20000	64986.23

**Subsidy for New Units in
Daman and Diu**

1434. SHRI DAHYABHAI VALLABHBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Daman Industries Association have submitted a Memorandum to him seeking 15 per cent subsidy for the new units to be set up in the UT of Daman & Diu for the investment in plant and machinery; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Privatization of Power Supply

1435. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether privatization of power supply has not been able to improve power position in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) and (b) Distribution was privatized in the year 1999 in Orissa and in 2002 in Delhi. The power supply position in these states in the last three years indicated in the statement enclosed.

In Delhi, some improvement in power supply position has been reported. The distribution companies have been able to reduce Aggregate Technical & Commercial Losses as per the targets set for them. There has also been improvement in consumer service viz. large number of options are available to the consumers for payment of bills, complaint redressal system, reduction in distribution transformers failure rate and subsequent reduction in response time for attending breakdowns.

(c) Electricity being a concurrent subject, supply and distribution of electricity in all State is in the purview of the State Government/State Power Utility concerned and Central Government has a complementary role in adding generation capacity in the Central Sector through Central Public Sector Undertakings. The following steps have been taken to improve generation and availability of power in the country;

- (i) A capacity addition of 41,110 MW is targeted for 10th Five-Year Plan consisting of 22,082 MW in Central Sector, 11,157 MW in State Sector and 7,121 MW in Private Sector.
- (ii) Exploitation of hydro potential at a faster pace.
- (iii) Early stabilization of newly commissioned units.
- (iv) Creation of a robust National Grid for optimum utilization of generation capacity and inter-regional transmission of power.
- (v) To bring about reforms in distribution, Government of India has implemented the accelerated Power Development and Reforms

Programme (APDRP) for up-gradation of sub-transmission and distribution system in States as a major step towards reduction of aggregate transmission and commercial losses and attaining commercial viability of the power sector. funds are being provided to States for undertaking schemes for sub-transmission and distribution systems under the APDRP.

- (vi) Demand side management, energy efficiency and conservation measures.
- (vii) Provision of interest subsidy on loans by the Power Finance Corporation for renovation and modernization and life extension of old and inefficient generation units.

Statement

Actual Power Supply Position in Delhi and Orissa

2001-02			2002-03				2002-04		
Requirement	Availability	Surplus/ deficit	Requirement	Availability	Surplus/ deficit	Requirement	Availability	Surplus/ deficit	
(MU)	(MU)		(MU)	(MU)		(MU)	(MU)		
		MU %			MU %			MU %	
Delhi									
19350	18741	-609 -3.1	19946	19567	-379 -1.9	20440	20160	-280 -1.4	
Orissa									
12328	12318	-10 -0.1	13393	13087	-306 -2.3	13610	13375	-235 -1.7	

[Translation]

Revival of Avadh Co-operative Bank Ltd.

1436. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has received any request for according approval to a package for revival of Avadh Co-operative Bank Ltd., Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Reserve Bank of India has accorded approval in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) Reserve Bank of India has not received any request for according approval to a package for revival of Avadh Co-operative Bank Limited, Lucnkow.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Dabhol Power Project

1437. SHRI DEVIDAS PINGLE :

SHRI MOHAN SINGH :

SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU :

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY :

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA :

SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO :

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation and the GAIL propose to restart the Dabhol power project with an equity contribution of Rs.500 crores each as reported in the Economic Times, dated 06.02.2005;

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

(c) whether the Government has dropped any financial investment in the revival of the project; and

(d) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) to (d) The Government of India has constituted an Empowered Group of Ministers (EGOM) to examine and decide all issues related to the Dabhol Power Project. The EGOM has met on several occasions and is considering

the various alternate options for restructuring the Dabhol Project. The EGOM will decide on the details of the restructuring of the project keeping all relevant aspects in view.

[English]

Thermal Power Generation

1438. SHRI JUAL ORAM :

SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the target set and achievement made by National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) in the generation of power during Tenth Plan Period;

(b) the State-wise and plan-wise separate break up thereof;

(c) whether the NTPC has revised its target set for power generation during Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken to achieve that target?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) and (b) The state-wise/Plant-wise, yearly generation targets, as set by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) for National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) for 10th plan period and the corresponding generation achieved are enclosed in statement. Generation target for 2005-06 is under finalization with CEA.

(c) to (e) CEA finalizes generation targets on a yearly basis for each power station and the utilities depending upon the past Plant Load Factor (PLF) performance, the capacity expected to be added during the year, availability of fuel such as gas, liquid fuel and Coal, availability of water for hydro power projects, projected peak demand and energy requirements, grid conditions, extent of renovation and modernization of power plants being taken up by power utilities.

Statement*Generation by NTPC Power Plants with Respect to CEA Targets*

(Fig. in Million Units)

Stations/Fuel	Location/State	2004-2005 (Apr-Feb., 05)		2003-04		2002-03	
		Target (CEA) CEA	Generation Actual	Target (CEA) CEA	Generation Actual	Target (CEA) CEA	Generation Actual
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Sigrauli (Coal)	U.P	13978	14409	15400	15642	15600	16164
Rihand (Coal)	U.P	7082	7246	7600	7956	7600	7751
Unchahar (Coal)	U.P	5718	6164	6400	6451	6450	6149
Dadri (Coal)	U.P	5817	6250	6400	6181	6500	6038
Tanda (Coal)	U.P	2623	3009	2350	2911	2010	2219
Auraiya (Coal)	U.P	3940	3806	4600	4249	4700	4268
Dadri (Coal)	U.P	4991	5030	5700	5060	5700	5211
Anta (Coal)	Rajasthan	2688	2549	3000	2773	3000	2758
Faridabad (Coal)	Haryana	2660	2893	3000	2789	3000	2702
Korba (Coal)	Chandigarh	14571	15511	16050	16332	16050	16461
Vindhyachal (Coal)	MP	15262	16221	16200	16354	16800	16931
Kawas (Coal)	Gujarat	3624	2426	4400	3889	4000	4203
Gandhar (Coal)	Gujarat	3006	3647	3900	3220	3600	3370
Ramagundam (Coal)	AP	15070	15274	16050	16332	16000	16837
Simhadri (Coal)	AP	6800	7378	6880	7723	4500	4972
Kayamkulam (Coal) (Naphtha)	Kerala	1836	423	2400	2118	1850	2119
Farakka (Coal)	W. Bengal	9946	8777	8800	9486	8950	8948

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Kahalgaon (Coal)	Bihar	5396	5509	4800	5967	4700	4990
Talcher (Kaniha) (Coal)	Orissa	14751	14694	8600	10991	5500	6523
Talcher Thermal (Coal)	Orissa	2574	2921	2470	2739	2290	2255
Total		142153	144136	145000	149161	138800	140868

[Translation]

Subsidy to Small Scale Industry

1439. SHRI MOHD. TAHIR :
SHRI MUNSHI RAM :
SHRIMATI ANURADHA CHOUDHARY :
PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has sanctioned the scheme for increasing subsidy to small scale segments of the jute industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Jute Entrepreneurs Assistance Schemes (JEAS), under the aegis of the National Centre for Jute Diversification (NCJD), is operational since August, 2002. As per this Scheme, the jute entrepreneurs are entitled for capital subsidy @ 15% and 10% of the cost of Plant and Machinery for Projects under Category A & B respectively for the Jute Diversified Units having cost of Plant and Machinery upto Rs.5.00 Crores. The Scheme is intended

for setting up new units/expansion of existing units for production of diversified jute products. At present, there is no proposal to enhance the subsidy.

[English]

Rural Infrastructure

1440. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any new scheme is under consideration of the Government for the overall development of the rural infrastructure especially in remote villages;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any study has been conducted by the Government regarding the output of several rural development project which are being implemented; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) To assess the impact of various rural development schemes is a continuing process. This is being done from time to time through specific Studies.

Village based Impact Assessment Studies have been conducted in selected districts of almost all the States and it is seen that by and large the schemes have fulfilled the desired objectives.

Scheme for Handicraft Sector

1441.SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage increase in the trade of handicrafts registered during the last three years, State-wise particularly in Gujarat;

(b) whether any special scheme is being implemented for promoting handicrafts trade;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) to what extent this special scheme will improve the handicrafts trade?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA) : (a) The percentage increase/decrease in exports of handicrafts including handknotted carpets registered during the last three years is as under:

Sl. No.	Year	Exports (Rs. in crores)			% Growth
		Handi-craft	Carpet	Total	
1.	2001-02	6769.50	2436.13	9205.63	(-) 0.70
2.	2002-03	8343.41	2590.26	10933.67	+ 18.77
3.	2003-04	10465.14	2300.04	12765.18	+ 16.75

State wise export statistics is not being maintained.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. With the view to promote trade of handicrafts export promotion scheme is being implemented having components of product Development, Publicity & Marketing. Product Development components include: workshops and trainings in packaging and export

procedures; training artisans/mastercraftpersons/designers for technology development; workshops/seminars in India & abroad; selection of designers/artisans for development of prototypes for exports and invitation to foreign designers. The component of publicity and marketing include: publicity for export promotion; participation in international fairs/exhibitions; buyers-seller's meets in India and abroad and conducting market studies abroad.

(d) Increase in the export of handicrafts from Rs.9205.63 crores in 2001-02 to Rs.12765.18 crores in 2003-04 shows that this scheme has significantly contributed in improving the export of handicrafts.

Custom Duty on Powerloom

1442.SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the powerloom weavers have urged the Finance Minister to lower the custom and excise duty levels on raw cotton and cotton yarn to ensure that the price of these raw materials for domestic cotton textile manufacturing industry are saved from sharp fluctuations;

(b) whether the Government has considered these suggestions of the powerloom weavers; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

High Court Bench at Madurai

1443.SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the High Court Bench at Madurai of Madras High Court started functioning;

(b) if so, the number of cases civil and criminal, etc. transferred to Madurai bench and the jurisdiction of the Madurai Bench;

(c) the number of them which are more than three/ five and more than five years old; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to dispose the old cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The jurisdiction of the Madurai Bench extends to the Districts of Kanyakumari, Tirunelveli, Tuticorin, Madurai, Dindugal, Ramanathapuram, Virudhunagar, Sivaganga, Pudukkottai, Thanjavur, Nagapattinam, Tiruchirappalli, Perambalur and Karur in Tamil Nadu. The position regarding number of cases transferred to Madurai Bench and those pending for more than 3/5 years is as under:

	Civil	Criminal	Total
The total number of cases transferred to Madurai Bench on 24.7.2004	16337	2987	19324
No. of Cases pending for more than 3 years	10483	1225	11708
No. of Cases pending for more than 5 years	7300	638	7938

(d) The High Court has given priority to Senior Citizen Cases, Cases involving pension benefits, Criminal Cases in which the accused are in prison, Motor Accidents Claims Cases, Educational matters and the Cases relating to Claims in Land Acquisition matters are grouped and disposed of. In the said cases wherever possible they are referred to Lok Adalat for disposal.

Rate of Interest on PF of Employees of RBI

1444.SHRI PRABODH PANDA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the rate of interest paid on Provident Fund to the employees of the Reserve Bank of India is

different at from the interest paid to the other employees in the banking and insurance and public sector;

(b) if so, the rates of interest being paid by the different banks including the Reserve Bank of India to their employees on their Provident Fund dues; and

(c) the reasons for variation in rates from employees in other sectors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) The rate of interest on Provident Fund of Employees of public sector banks and Insurance Sector is decided by their respective trusts based on the income received on the investments made by the trust. The rate of interest on the Provident Fund of Employees of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is decided by RBI in terms of Reserve Bank of India Employees PF Regulation 1935 which are statutory in nature.

(b) and (c) The rate of interest on PF of different banks is worked out under the Regulations under which they function. The RBI presently does not have information in this regard. The rate of interest on PF balances of employees of RBI has been decided at 8% per annum w.e.f. April 1, 2004 taking into consideration all relevant factors and the rate offered on EPF, GPF etc. Since the rates are decided by the Trust of each bank depending upon their income, it varies from bank to bank.

Jump In Investment Proposals

1445.SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there was a jump of 26.9 per cent jump till October, 2004 in investment proposals;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is aiming at an investment led growth for the country in the coming years; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) and (b) According to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, the industrial investment proposals comprising Industrial Entrepreneurs' Memorandum, Letters of Intent and Direct Industrial Licences during 2004 (January to October) amounted to Rs.2,22,071 crore compared to Rs.66,005 crore during same period in 2003. This suggests a perceptible improvement in the overall investment climate.

(c) and (d) The Government has initiated various measures for increased investment in agriculture, operationalisation of Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act, enhanced public investment, promotion of public-private partnership for infrastructure development and liberalisation of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) policy. Budget 2005-06 has proposed enhanced investment for agriculture infrastructure, providing and facilitating investment in public goods such as roads, railways, power, seaports and airports and providing a supportive policy environment along with stable tax policies for investment in services sectors. These measures are expected to result in increased investment to achieve higher growth.

Capart

1446.SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE :

SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY :

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE :

SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA :

SHRI BALESHWAR YADAV :

SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN :

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAIISI :

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the name and number of projects sanctioned and funds allocated to each of such projects in various States by CAPART, State-wise;

(b) the details of amount released/utilized project-wise alongwith the names of institutions entrusted with the responsibility to execute the sanctioned projects including NGOs;

(c) whether the Government proposes to enhance the allocation of funds to CAPART;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether funds have also been allocated for the welfare to tribals in rural areas;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether any report regarding irregularities involving NGOs has been received; and

(h) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL) : (a) to (h) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Percentage of Subsidy Reaching the Poor

1447.SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN" :

DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have made any assessment of impact of subsidy on the poor;

(b) if so, the details of findings therefrom;

(c) whether any action has been taken by the Government to bring about improvement in the extent and quantum of subsidy reaching the poor section of the people;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) and (b)

Periodic assessment of impact of various schemes on the beneficiaries, including poor, are made through Government organisations like the Programme Evaluation Organisation (PEO), Planning Commission, expert bodies and research/academic institutes. Reports of the assessment of impact by various agencies indicate strengths and weaknesses in the design, delivery and impact of the programmes. Expenditure Reforms Commission (ERC) reviewed the subsidy regimes in detail and recommended changes. The Report "Central Government subsidies in India" presented to Parliament on December 23, 2004 contains some important findings of the impact assessment studies.

(c) to (e) Based on the suggestions contained in the studies and recommendations of the expert bodies like ERC, Government has been restructuring the system of subsidies on food, fertilizer and petroleum. The Targeted Public Distribution System operational since 1997 and changes in the Retention Price Scheme for fertilizers based on ERC's recommendations are some of the actions taken by Government to bring about improvement in the extent and quantum of subsidy reaching the poor. Government is committed to achieving the National Common Minimum Programme objective of targeting subsidies sharply at the poorer sections of the society.

**Revival of Ganesh Sugar
Mill, Anandnagar**

1448. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is considering to revive the sugar mills including Ganesh Sugar Mill, Anandnagar working under textile sector;

(b) if so, the details of the action being taken in this regard;

(c) whether the Government propose to provide funds to be incurred to revive these mills; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA) : (a) to (d) Ganesh Sugar Mills is under orders of Liquidation and is under the control of Liquidator.

However, a proposal for revival has been received from a section of workers which has been referred to IDBI for analysis.

[English]

ODA from Australia

1449. SHRI S.D. MANDLIK :

SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has revised the guidelines for the Australian ODA to India for small grant assistance for grassroots projects to be implemented by non-Governmental Organizations working in social sector in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the bilateral development assistance received from Australia during each of the last three years, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) and (b) Statement-I is enclosed.

(c) A Statement-II is enclosed.

Statement-I

ODA from Australia

As per the guidelines of Government of India all countries, including Australia, can provide grant assistance directly to autonomous institutions, universities, NGOs, etc., directing such assistance towards projects of economic and social importance only.

Development Assistance to these organizations will be governed by the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act,

1976 and only such organizations that are registered under the said Act, may receive such assistance. Organizations that are not registered under Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act should obtain prior permission from the appropriate authority under the said Act.

The recipient NGOs, autonomous organizations etc. are required to fill a prescribed proforma and submit it through the concerned external development partner along with their proposals for concurrence of Department of Economic Affairs.

Statement-II

ODA from Australia

Details of Project-wise bilateral development assistance committed by Australia to Government of India during the last three years.

S. No.	Name of the Project	Amount Committed (In Australian dollars)
1.	India Australia Training and Capacity Building Project	15 million
2.	Bangalore Water Supply and Environmental Sanitation Project	6.7 million
3.	Gangtok-Shillong Urban Water Supply and Environmental Sanitation Programme	39.4 million

Inspection of Listed Companies

1450. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN : Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of listed companies inspected under Section 209 of the Companies Act, 1956 during the last five years;

(b) whether the Government has failed in protecting

the interest of public investors by not enforcing the penal provisions by inspecting the account of listed companies which have diverted funds of public investors; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA) : (a) Inspections conducted under Section 209A of the Companies Act, 1956 during the last 5 years are as under:

Financial Year	No. of Inspections
1999-2000	230
2000-2001	221
2001-2002	244
2002-2003	150
2003-2004	109

(b) and (c) No Sir. Prosecution for established violations of the Companies Act, 1956 are ordered/launched.

Bank Branches in Rural Area

1451. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has conducted any survey regarding the existing branches of nationalised banks both in urban and rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Government has determined the percentage of the population required for opening of bank branches; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir. The present policy does not target any percentage of population for opening of bank branches. It is left to the discretion of the banks to identify the locality/center for opening of additional bank branches and they do so after taking into consideration certain factors such as business potential, viability, infrastructure, security etc.

(d) Does not arise.

**CD Ratio of Assam and
other NE States**

1452. SHRI NARAYAN CHANDRA BORKATAKY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether credit deposit ratio of Assam and North Eastern States is comparatively low to that of national level of over 45 per cent;

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

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to improve CD ratio over next three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Some of the reasons for low CD ratio in Assam and other North Eastern States are:

(i) Lack of basic infrastructure such as roads, communication and transport facilities, power and shortage of technical manpower.

(ii) Lack of investment due to the law and order situation.

(iii) Non availability of viable and bankable credit proposals.

(iv) Poor recovery of loans extended under agriculture sector and Government sponsored schemes.

(v) Lack of credit absorption capacity in the region.

(c) The RBI has been advising the banks to improve

the credit flow to the North Eastern Region (NE). The Banks performance under Annual Action Plan as well as the Credit Deposit Ratio (CD Ratio) position have been monitored regularly through various fora such as State Level Bankers Committee (SLBC), District Coordination Committee (DCC) etc. A Monitoring Group under the Chairmanship of Regional Director of RBI for NE Region has been constituted to review on monthly basis the flow of credit to the Region with special focus on Kisan Credit Card Scheme (KCC) and Micro Finance through Self Help Groups (SHGs). Further, the Regional Director of RBI is also following up with the State Governments the issues and problems faced by the banks, which require State Government's intervention.

[Translation]

Modernisation of NTC Mills

1453. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD :

SHRI TUKARAM GANAPATI RAO RENGE
PATIL :

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the assistance provided for revival as well as modernisation of the NTC Mills, Mill-wise;

(b) whether the funds earmarked for modernisation/ revival are being spent in other items;

(c) if so, the reasons therefore; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA) : (a) An amount of Rs. 281.97 crores has been provided so far for modernisation of 53 mills of National Textile Corporation (NTC) as per the details given in statement enclosed.

(b) No, Sir. As per the Rehabilitation Scheme of NTC approved by BIFR, the funds generated from sale of surplus assets, including land and machinery of the

NTC mills, are to be spent for modernisation of the viable mills.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

Statement

*Mill-wise details of amount spent on
Modernisation upto 31.3.2001*

S. No.	Name of the Mill	State	Approx. Amount (Rs. in crs.)
1	2	3	4
1.	Ahmedabad New Tex.	Gujarat	4.94
2.	Alagappa	Kerala	8.01
3.	Anantapur	A.P.	5.05
4.	Apollo	Maharashtra	3.79
5.	Arati	West Bengal	2.46
6.	Associated Industries	Assam	1.88
7.	Aurangabad	Maharashtra	1.69
8.	Barshi	Maharashtra	5.89
9.	Bihar Coop.	Bihar	0.69
10.	Burhanpur Tapti	M.P.	4.67
11.	Cambodia	Tamil Nadu	9.43
12.	Cannanore	Mahe	3.85
13.	Cannanore	Kerala	2.24
14.	Chalisingaon	Maharashtra	3.79
15.	Coimbatore Murgan	Tamil Nadu	32.69
16.	Coimbatore Spg. & Wvg.	Tamil Nadu	19.42
17.	Dhule	Maharashtra	5.61

1	2	3	4
18.	Finlay	Maharashtra	0.30
19.	Goldmohur	Maharashtra	0.25
20.	Indu No.1	Maharashtra	9.30
21.	Indu No. 5	Maharashtra	4.90
22.	Indu No. 6	Maharashtra	4.96
23.	Kaleeswarar 'B'	Tamil Nadu	9.43
24.	Kerala Luxmi	Kerala	7.01
25.	Kharar	Punjab	2.73
26.	Kohinoor No. 1	Maharashtra	0.00
27.	Luxminarayan	West Bengal	2.19
28.	Mahalaxmi	Rajasthan	2.77
29.	Minerva	Karnataka	11.24
30.	Nanded	Maharashtra	3.95
31.	New Bhopal	M.P.	3.16
32.	New City	Maharashtra	0.06
33.	Orissa Cotton	Orissa	2.98
34.	Pankaja	Tamil Nadu	8.80
35.	Parvathi	Kerala	15.96
36.	Pioneer	Tamil Nadu	5.88
37.	PODAR	Maharashtra	0.46
38.	R.B.B.A.	Maharashtra	5.99
39.	R.S.R.G.	Maharashtra	1.57
40.	Rajnagar No.1	Gujarat	6.87
41.	Shree 'Bijay Cotton	Rajasthan	4.22

1	2	3	4
42.	Sodepure	West Bengal	1.82
43.	Sree Yallamma	Karnataka	6.07
44.	Sri Bharati	Pondicherry	7.71
45.	Sri Rangavilas	Tamil Nadu	9.27
46.	Sri Sarada	Tamil Nadu	5.93
47.	Suraj	Punjab	3.77
48.	Swadesh (Maunath)	U.P.	1.48
49.	Swadesh (Naini)	U.P.	2.71
50.	Tata	Maharashtra	0.11
51.	Tirupathi	A.P.	5.83
52.	Udaipur Cotton	Rajasthan	0.25
53.	Vijay Mohini	Kerala	5.94
Total			281.97

[English]

Garment Technology Expo.

1454. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPTATHY :
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Garment Technology Expo was held in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details of the technology the Indian Companies found ideal for India in the said Expo in view of post quota regime and WTO restriction on textile trade; and

(c) the steps taken for promotion of textile industry?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH

VAGHELA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. "Garment Technology Expo 2005" was held in New Delhi from 21-24 January 2005, showcasing the latest garment technology to enable Indian garment manufacturers to exercise appropriate technology options to cash in on the opportunities of quota free regime.

(c) Government has been taking a number of steps from time to time to strengthen the Indian textile industry to meet the merging global competition. Some of the important initiatives taken are:

(i) The Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) has been made operational from 1-4-1999 to facilitate the modernization and upgradation of the sector.

(ii) The imports of specified textiles and garment machinery items has been allowed at concessional rate of customs duty to encourage investments and to make out textile products competitive in the global market. The cost of machinery has also been reduced through fiscal policy measures.

(iii) To improve the productivity and quality of cotton, Government has launched Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC). The mission comprises four mini-missions, which are being jointly implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Textiles. One of the important ingredients of the Mission is to cotton processing facilities by upgrading/modernizing the existing ginning and pressing facilities and setting up of new market yards/improvement of existing market yards.

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

- (v) For upgrading infrastructure facilities at important textile centres, a scheme titled "Textile Centre Infrastructure Development Scheme" (TCIDS) has been launched.
- (vi) The fiscal duty structure has been generally rationalised to achieve growth and maximum value addition. Except for mandatory excise duty on polyester filament yarn, synthetic and artificial fibres and synthetic and artificial filament yarns, the whole value addition chain including cotton textile and cotton clothing items have been given excise exemption option. Additional Excise Duty on Textiles & Textile Articles (AT&T) and Additional Excise Duty (Goods of Special Importance) Act have been abolished.
- (vii) The Government has de-reserved the woven segment of readymade garment from the SSI sector. It has also raised the SSI investment limit for knitted segment to Rs. 5 crores. In the Union Budget 2005-2006, an announcement has been made for de-reservation of 30 hosiery items from the SSI.
- (viii) National Institute for Fashion Technology (NIFT), its six branches and Apparel Training & Design Centres (ATDCs) are running various courses/programmes to meet skilled manpower requirements of textile industry especially apparel in the field of design, merchandising and marketing.
- (ix) Facilities by way of eco-testing laboratories have been created to enable exporters to get the garments/textile pre-tested for conforming to the requirements of importing countries.

World Bank Technical Assistance

1455. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether World Bank is providing technical and

analytical help to Union and State Governments in the new pension system;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount of assistance received by the Government so far and the amount released to State Government of Maharashtra; and

(d) the employees likely to be covered under the said assistance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The World Bank has approved a grant of US\$ 4,50,000 to support institutional capacity building for reforming India's pension system.

(c) The Government has so far received an amount of about US\$ 1,10,000. However, no amount has been released to any State.

(d) The Technical Assistance will address pension concerns of new entry civil servants.

Achievements under SGSY

1456. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of major achievements of Swarnjayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana (SGSY) after amendments made in the guidelines to make the programme more effective; and

(b) the amount allocated under this scheme during the last one year. State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL) : (a) and (b) No major amendment has been made in the SGSY Guidelines. However, achievements made under the scheme since its inception i.e. 1st April, 1999 till December, 2004 are as under:

No. of self help groups formed 1943010
 Total Swarozgaris assisted 5333144

A statement showing funds allocated (Central releases) during 2003-04 is enclosed.

Statement

*Amount allocated (Central Releases) during
 2003-04 under SGSY*

(Rs. in lacs)

S. No.	State/U.T.	Amount Allocated (Central Releases)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3942.42
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	139.60
3.	Assam	5313.00
4.	Bihar	5488.81
5.	Chhattisgarh	2025.44
6.	Goa	17.65
7.	Gujarat	1508.00
8.	Haryana	932.06
9.	Himachal Pradesh	304.77
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	427.45
11.	Jharkhand	2817.41
12.	Karnataka	2777.12
13.	Kerala	1435.18
14.	Madhya Pradesh	4397.14
15.	Maharashtra	5712.39

1	2	3
16.	Manipur	56.75
17.	Meghalaya	117.12
18.	Mizoram	99.96
19.	Nagaland	157.80
20.	Orissa	4553.07
21.	Punjab	444.25
22.	Rajasthan	2261.24
23.	Sikkim	110.76
24.	Tamil Nadu	3690.70
25.	Tripura	696.74
26.	Uttar Pradesh	11756.85
27.	Uttaranchal	686.02
28.	West Bengal	2617.59
29.	Andaman & Nicobar	0.00
30.	Daman & Diu	0.00
31.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.00
32.	Lakshadweep	0.00
33.	Pondicherry	25.00
Total		64512.29

N.R. = Not Reported.

External Assistance for Projects

1457. SHRI G. KARUNAKARAN REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has taken any loan from foreign countries for the schemes related to infrastructure development, poverty alleviation and environmental development;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the terms and conditions of the said loan;

(d) the projects likely to be financed by this amount, project-wise and State-wise particularly in Karnataka; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b), (d) and (e) Information is placed at Statement-I.

(c) Information is placed at Statement-II.

Statement-I

External Assistance for Projects

S. No.	Creditor Countries	State	Loan amount (Million in Loan Currency)	Likely date of completion
1	2	3	4	5
INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT				
			(in Yen)	
JAPAN				
1.	Tuirial Hydro Electric Power Project	Mizoram	11695	18.6.2009
2.	Simhadri Thermal Power Project	Andhra Pradesh	19817	24.6.2007
3.	Simhadri Thermal Power Project-II	Andhra Pradesh	12194	7.6.2008
4.	Simhadri Thermal Power Project-III	Andhra Pradesh	27473	26.3.2009
5.	Simhadri & Vizag Transmission System Project-II	Andhra Pradesh	6400	2.8.2009
6.	West Bengal Transmission System Project-II	West Bengal	3127	2.8.2009
7.	Simhadri Thermal Power Project-IV	Andhra Pradesh	5684	22.8.2009
8.	Bakraewar Thermal Power Station Unit Extension Project	West Bengal	36771	31.7.2009
9.	Purulia Pumped Storage Project-II	West Bengal	23578	18.6.2009

1	2	3	4	5	6
10.	Dhauliganga HE Power Plant Construction Project-III		Uttaranchal	13890	12.7.2009
11.	Umiam Stage-II Hydro Powe Station Renovation & Modernisation Project.		Meghalaya	1964	18.6.2012
12.	Delhi Mass Rapid Transport System Project		Delhi	14760	21.10.2007
13.	Calcutta Transport System Project		West Bengal	10679	29.12.2005
14.	Delhi Mass Rapid Transport System Project-II		Delhi	6732	7.6.2008
15.	Delhi Mass Rapid Transport System Project-III		Delhi	28659	27.3.2009
16.	Delhi Mass Rapid Transport System Project-IV		Delhi	34012	31.7.2009
17.	Delhi Mass Rapid Transport System Project-V		Delhi	59296	18.6.2008
18.	Naini Bridge over River Yamuna		Uttar Pradesh	10037	11.3.2005
19.	Rajghat Canal Irrigation Project		Madhya Pradesh	13222	29.5.2006
20.	Rengali Irrigation Project-II		Orissa	6342	18.6.2011
21.	KC Canal Modernization Project-II		Andhra Pradesh	4773	18.6.2012
	GERMANY			(In Euro)	
22.	Power Sector Reforms-I (Extension of Vijayawada Thermal Power Station)		Andhra Pradesh	281.057	30.12.2010
	POVERTY ALLEVIATION				
	JAPAN			(In Yen)	
23.	Integrated Natural Resource Management & Poverty Reduction Project		Haryana	6280	18.6.2014
24.	Kerala Water Supply Project		Kerala	11997	3.6.2006
25.	Bisalpur-Jaipur Water Supply Project (Transfer system)		Rajasthan	8881	19.10.2013
26.	Attapaddy Wasteland Project		Kerala	5112	26.3.2005

1	2	3	4	5	6
27.	Chhattisgarh Sericulture Project		Madhya Pradesh	2212	5.2.2005
28.	Manipur Sericulture Project		Manipur	3962	28.7.2005
ENVIRONMENT DEVELOPMENT					
JAPAN				(In Yen)	
29.	Eastern Kamataka Afforestation Project		Karnataka	15968	29.5.2005
30.	Tamil Nadu Afforestation Project		Tamil Nadu	13324	29.5.2005
31.	Punjab Afforestation Project (II)		Punjab	5054	31.7.2009
32.	Rajasthan Forestry and Biodiversity Project		Rajasthan	9054	31.7.2010
33.	Yamuna Action Plan Project (II)		Delhi, UP, Haryana	13333	31.7.2010

Statement-II*External Assistance for Projects**General Terms and Conditions of External Loans to Government of India*

(As of January 2005)

Sl. No.	Source	Currency	Type of Loan (Concessional/ Mixed)	Grace Period (Years)	Period of Repayment after grace Period (Years)	Current Rate of Interest (in %)	Commitment charges on undisbursed loan amount (in %)	Remarks
1.	Germany	Euro	Mixed					
			(A) Govt. Portion	10	30	0.75	0.25	
			(B) Bank Portion	2	10	5.07 to 6.79	0.25	
2.	Japan	Yen	Concessional	10	20 and 30	1.3 and 0.75		Interest is charged at a fixed rate as indicated in each loan agreement.

German Assistance for Economic Reforms

1458. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Germany provides both financial and technical assistance for economic reforms and development of the market system;

(b) if so, the details of the projects assisted by Indo-German cooperation during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the terms, and conditions of such assistance;

(d) the details of the targets fixed for such projects and the targets achieved so far under such projects; and

(e) the details of the debts outstanding as on date and the time by which such assistance will be repaid?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) No financial and technical assistance for economic reforms and development of the market system has been provided by Germany to India in the last three years.

(b) to (e) Question does not arise.

[Translation]

Circulation of Mutilated Currency Notes

1459. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware that mutilated currency notes are in circulation throughout the country particularly in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is aware that even the nationalised banks are not accepting the mutilated currency notes as a result of which the common people are facing difficulties; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Occasional complaints of circulation of mutilated currency notes in the country have been received.

(c) and (d) Clean Note Policy announced in January, 1999 by the RBI envisages making available fresh and clean notes to the citizens and to provide them facility for exchange of their soiled and mutilated notes through banking channels. Mutilated currency notes are also mopped up from circulation through sustained measures like special campaign, mobile vans, keeping open select branches on Sunday etc.

RBI has issued directions to banks to sort out notes into issueable & non-issueable notes and issue only clean notes to the public. Its implementation is monitored by RBI through regular inspection of bank branches and exhorting the public through media to insist upon only clean notes from the banks.

[English]

Corporate Bonds by FIs

1460. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has suggested the RBI the task of framing a comprehensive policy on investment in domestic corporate bonds by foreign institutional investors.

(b) if so, whether this has been done considering the overall implications of this issue on interest rate management in the country

(c) if so, whether any concrete policy in this regard has been formulated by the RBI;

(d) if so the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) In view of (a) above, do not arise.

"Multilateral Assistance for Reconstruction of Tsunami Hit Areas"

1461. SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have approved multilateral agencies for assistance in the reconstruction of tsunami hit areas which is estimated to cost \$ 1.5 billion;

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

(c) the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) to (c) A Joint Assessment Mission of the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) had visited the affected states of Andhra Pradesh, Kerala and Tamil Nadu, and the Union Territory of Pondicherry during Feb. 1-15, 2005 to define the quantum of assistance required for post Tsunami reconstruction activities from the World Bank, the ADB and the UNDP. International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) has also confirmed its willingness to provide assistance towards rehabilitation of Tsunami affected communities.

Urban Haats

1462. SHRI RAVICHANDRAN SIPPAPARAI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of "Urban Haats" set up by the Government in country till date alongwith location-wise details;

(b) whether the government propose to set up new "Urban Haats" in the country specially in chennai or other places in Tamil Nadu;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA) : (a) Thirty two urban haats have been approved to be set up in the country out of which five have become operational. Location-wise details are as per Statement enclosed.

(b) and (c) Setting up of new urban haats in the country including the state of Tamil Nadu can be considered on receipt of viable project proposals through the respective State Governments as per norms of the scheme.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement

S. No.	State	No. of Urban Haat approved	Location
1	2	3	4
1.	Haryana	1	Uchana (Kamal)*
2.	J&K	2	(i) Jammu* (ii) Srinagar
3.	Punjab	1	Patiala
4.	Rajaethan	2	(i) Jodhpur (ii) Jaipur
5.	Delhi	1	Mehrauli
6.	Uttar Pradesh	4	(i) Agra (ii) Kanpur (iii) Lucknow (iv) Varanasi
7.	Uttaranchal	1	Dehradun

1	2	3	4
8.	West Bengal	1	Kolkata
9.	Orissa	3	(i) Bhubaneshwar* (ii) Konark (iii) Puri
10.	Jharkhand	2	(i) Ranchi (ii) Hazaribagh
11.	Andhra Pradesh	1	Tirupati*
12.	Kerala	1	Thiruvananthapuram
13.	Pondicherry	1	Pondicherry
14.	Karnataka	1	Mysore
15.	Gujarat	3	(i) Ahmedabad (ii) Bhuj (iii) Surat
16.	Maharashtra	2	(i) Pune (ii) Mumbai
17.	Madhya Pradesh	1	Bhopal*
18.	Chhattisgarh	1	Raipur
19.	Assam	1	Guwahati
20.	Nagaland	1	Dimapur
21.	Tripura	1	Agartala
Total		32	

*Urban haats which have become operational.

Credit Under Self Employment Schemes

1463. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether credit schemes available to unemployed youth through public sector banks have been failed to some extent;

(b) if so, the reasons for such failures;

(c) whether the Government has launched any new credit scheme for unemployed youth; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the extent to which it would benefit the unemployed youths?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) and (b) According to the information furnished by Reserve Bank of India, the credit schemes available through banks to unemployed youth i.e. Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rojgar Yojana (SJSRY), and Prime Minister's Rojgar Yojana (PMRY) have not failed. The extent of success has been 59.87% in SGSY (Physical), 51.21% in SJSRY (Financial) and 60% for PMRY (Physical) during 2003-04.

(c) Government of India has not launched any new credit scheme for unemployed youth.

(d) Does not arise.

SGSY

1464. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government is implementing Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana in the States;

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

(c) whether with a view to assist self help groups to market their products, the Government has taken up the marketing issue with various departments/corporations for marketing the products of self help groups; and

(d) if so, the steps taken or being taken by the Government to ensure the implementation of this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL) : (a) and (b) The Ministry of Rural Development has been implementing the Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) as a major Self Employment Programme in rural India w.e.f. April, 1999. The objective of the SGSY is to bring the assisted poor families (Swarozgaris) above the poverty line by organizing them into Self Help Groups through the process of social mobilization, their training and capacity building and provision of income-generating assets through a mix of Bank Credit and government subsidy. It is credit linked scheme, wherein credit is the key element and subsidy being an enabling component. A statement showing the physical and financial progress, state-wise, of the scheme during the year 2003-04 is enclosed.

(c) and (d) The Government has not taken up the marketing issue with various departments/corporations for marketing the products of self help groups directly. However, the Ministry of Rural Development has been organizing SARAS fairs at the national and regional levels to market products of self help groups to enable them to cross the poverty line.

Statement

*Physical and Financial achievement during
2003-04 under SGSY*

(Rs. in lakh)

S. No.	States/U.T.	Total Allocation	Utilisation of funds	Total No. Swarozgaris Assisted
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5651.84	5631.80	79736
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	295.37	176.17	1220
3.	Assam	7674.87	7417.91	45480

1	2	3	4	5
4.	Bihar	13446.63	11216.49	111613
5.	Chhattisgarh	2985.12	2975.36	22928
6.	Goa	66.67	51.31	364
7.	Gujarat	2127.44	2415.12	21462
8.	Haryana	1251.60	1437.07	11863
9.	Himachal Pradesh	527.11	642.77	7928
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	652.36	842.03	6965
11.	Jharkhand	5068.11	4711.54	66644
12.	Karnataka	4267.92	4711.28	43293
13.	Kerala	1915.00	2054.13	20062
14.	Madhya Pradesh	6399.53	7040.11	41979
15.	Maharashtra	8436.65	8839.88	60659
16.	Manipur	514.51		NR
17.	Meghalaya	576.44	161.90	5514
18.	Mizoram	133.39	138.00	1457
19.	Nagaland	395.44	105.63	3536
20.	Orissa	6464.51	6699.20	59289
21.	Punjab	608.27	671.96	6554
22.	Rajasthan	3240.80	3157.57	28618
23.	Sikkim	147.68	230.30	1942
24.	Tamil Nadu	4997.47	5852.91	61120
25.	Tripura	928.97	967.15	6581
26.	Uttar Pradesh	19358.31	19564.60	140622
27.	Uttanchal	1017.33	1356.48	10780

1	2	3	4	5
28. West Bengal		7184.01	5298.25	27008
29. Andaman & Nicobar	50.00		4.24	350
30. Daman & Diu	50.00			0
31. Dadra & Nagar Haveli	50.00		6.16	125
32. Lakshadweep	50.00		2.53	26
33. Pondicherry	50.00		44.91	708
Total		106583.00	104424.76	896424

N.R. = Not Reported.

Lok Adalats

1465. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up some more Lok Adalats in every State;

(b) if so, the number of Lok Adalat organized in each State during the last three years; and

(c) the number of cases disposed off in those Lok Adalats during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY) : (a) Yes, Sir. Organization of Lok Adalats is a continuing process and is need-based.

(b) and (c) A Statement showing details as to number of Lok Adalats organized and number of cases disposed off in the Lok Adalats. State-wise, during the last three financial year viz. 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04 is enclosed.

Statement

S. No.	Name of the State Legal Services Authority	2001-02		2002-03		2003-04	
		Lok Adalats organised	Cases disposed	Lok Adalats organised	Cases disposed	Lok Adalats organised	Cases disposed
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8,483	1,00,420	9,545	75,670	8,539	86,242
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	4	98
3.	Assam	103	14,152	452	15,191	367	16,973
4.	Bihar	1,608	15,714	852	35,672	1,016	19,305
5.	Chhattisgarh	0	0	0	0	340	2,825
6.	Goa	61	460	10	545	9	426
7.	Gujarat	5,250	206,425	3,617	126,258	7,658	248,609
8.	Haryana	222	41,900	134	20,274	177	34,063

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9.	Himachal Pradesh	425	3,157	447	3,049	443	4,865
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	175	2,267	122	2,653	189	3,415
11.	Jharkhand	0	0	56	4,047	37	6,547
12.	Karnataka	811	45,457	850	23,172	1,678	32,860
13.	Kerala	1,895	11,514	781	8,330	1,106	5,834
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1,461	36,953	1,259	27,086	1,219	25,103
15.	Maharashtra	1,477	30,185	1,315	28,336	962	19,483
16.	Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	0
17.	Meghalaya	7	1,021	3	512	2	161
18.	Mizoram	47	30	52	52	58	39
19.	Nagaland	1	61	0	0	1	96
20.	Orissa	722	377,123	732	310,435	718	174,078
21.	Punjab	472	38,248	266	21,286	224	51,018
22.	Rajasthan	6,486	140,157	7,769	155,466	7,802	123,711
23.	Sikkim	39	128	21	229	21	205
24.	Tamil Nadu	1,745	12,155	4,545	16,408	6,619	58,426
25.	Tripura			19	18	40	1,131
26.	Uttar Pradesh	1,363	3,45,698	1,427	348,540	3,315	248,341
27.	Uttanchal	0	0	56	13,109	228	2,972
28.	West Bengal	278	4,821	202	5,077	139	3,405
29.	Andaman & Nicobar	0	0	0	0	1	22
30.	U.T. Chandigarh	6	7,073	9	4,317	7	4,360
31.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	2	258	0	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
32. Daman Diu		0	0	0	0	0	0
33. Delhi		665	12,825	621	6,053	554	5,068
34. Lakshadweep		0	0	0	0	0	0
35. Pondicherry		6	270	5	236	19	890

External Assistance for UP Project

1466. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the ongoing various projects of Uttar Pradesh with the help of various International Financial Institutions;

(b) whether the Union Government has recently received any request from Uttar Pradesh Government for more financial support to its development projects;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the response of the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) A statement showing externally aided projects in Uttar Pradesh in Central as well as State Sector is enclosed.

(b) to (d) A proposal received from Government of Uttar Pradesh namely "UP-Diversified Agricultural Support Project-II" was posed to World Bank for financial assistance. Two more proposals received namely "The project for Development of Ground Water in the State of Uttar Pradesh" and "Development of Buddhist Circuit Phase II in Uttar Pradesh" have been posed to Government of Japan. Project preparation/finalization is going on.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Sector Central/ State	Amount (In US\$ million)
1	2	3	4
World Bank			
1.	Rural Roads Project	Central	399.5
2.	Integrated Disease Surveillance Project	Central	68
3.	Elementary Education Project	Central	500
4.	Allahabad Bypass project	Central	240
5.	Food and Drugs Capacity Building Project	Central	54.03
6.	Uttar Pradesh State Roads Project	State	488

1	2	3	4
7.	Technical/Engineering Education Quality Improvement Project	Central	250
8.	Uttar Pradesh Water Sector Restructuring Project	State	149.2
9.	Grand Trunk Road Improvement Project	Central	589
10.	Third National Highways Project	Central	516
11.	Uttar Pradesh Health Systems Development Project	State	110
12.	Immunization Strengthening Project	Central	142.6
13.	Uttar Pradesh Third District Primary Education Project	State	182.4
14.	National HIV/AIDS Control Project (02)	Central	191
15.	Uttar Pradesh Sodic Lands Reclamation Project (02)	State	194.1
16.	Woman and Child Development Project	Central	300
17.	National Agricultural Technology Project	Central	196.8
18.	Rural Women's Development and Empowerment Project	Central	19.5
19.	Tuberculosis Control Project	Central	142.4
Govt. of France			
20.	Supply of Equipment to Sanjay Gandhi Postgraduate Institute of Medical Sciences Lucknow	State	FF 29.522 m
Deptt. for International Development (DFID)			
21.	National AIDS Control Project II	Central	£ 87.74 m
Govt. of Japan			
22.	Yamuna Action Plan Project-II	State	JY 13333 m

*Amount in case of multistate and central sector projects is the commitment for the entire project including other beneficiary States

[Translation]

Amendment to RRB Act, 1976

1467. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHAWAHA :
SHRI SANTASRI CHATTERJEE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to amend the Regional Rural Banks Act, 1976; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Accidents In Coal Mines

1468. SHRI B. VINOD KUMAR : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware of frequent occurrence of accidents in coal mines in different parts of the country and more particularly in the Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL);

(b) if so, the steps taken for safety and security in the coal mines so as to prevent recurrence of the accidents;

(c) whether the Government has any proposal to give special financial package to coal companies specially to SCCL to meet the expenditure for purchase of State of art safety devices for the workers as also to strengthen the safety infrastructure in the mines;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO) : (a) Yes, Sir. Govt is aware of occurrence of accidents in coal mines and is constantly striving to reduce such accidents.

(b) Provision for safety of persons employed in mines are contained in the Mines Act, 1952, and the Rules and Regulations framed there under. The safety laws are kept under constant review and amended from time to time. Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS), under Ministry of Labour & Employment, issues guidelines in the form of circulars for improving safety measures. The provisions are required to be complied with by the mine

management. The officers of Directorate General of Mines Safety inspect the mines periodically to oversee the status of compliance of the safety provisions, and to take action as provided for under the Mines Act, 1952, in case of default.

To improve the status of safety in mines, Government through DGMS have promoted a three-pronged initiative viz., developmental, promotional and advisory role in the safety management. Some of such initiatives are as follows:

- Issue of guidelines for safer operations in identified thrust areas through circulars.
- Promoting participation of workers in safety management.
- Promoting self regulation by management.
- Tri-partite and Bi-partite review of safety status at various levels.
- Observance of safety week and safety campaigns.
- Generating safety awareness and information dissemination.
- National Conference on Safety in Mines.
- National Safety Awards.
- Interactions at different forums with a view to promote safety, health and welfare of persons employed in mines.
- Introduction to the concept of Risk Assessment, preparation of Safety Management Plan and development of Emergency Response System.
- Facilitating introduction of new technology in mining with low potential risk.

(c) to (e) No Sir. Each coal company including SCCL makes a separate safety Budget in which adequate funds

are provided to meet the expenditure for the purchase of the state of the art safety devices for workers and also to strengthen the safety infrastructure in the mines.

**Percentage of Repayment
out of Borrowing**

1469. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA :
SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) the repayment as percentage of borrowings as on date and ten year before;
- (b) whether repayment is percentage of borrowings has increased; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) The repayment as percentage of Central Government's total borrowings, from all sources and of all maturities, is estimated at 79.25% in 2004-05 (Revised Estimates), as against 84.56% in 1994-95 (Actuals).

- (b) No, Sir.
- (c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

**Restrictions on Textile Industry
In Rajasthan**

1470. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether restrictions are being imposed on the textile industry in the country specially in Rajasthan in the name of environmental pollution;
- (b) whether the Government propose to formulate any scheme in this regard; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA) : (a) The environmental pollution norms notified for the textile industry are applicable throughout the country and are not state-specific. These norms are for sustainable development of the industry.

- (b) and (c) Do not arise.

Job on Compassionate Ground

1471. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK :
SHRI B. MAHTAB :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) the no. of employees who had expired while in service during the last three years till date, bank-wise;
- (b) the details of dependents who have been provided with the suitable jobs on compassionate grounds;
- (c) the details of dependents who have not yet been provided with jobs on compassionate grounds;
- (d) the details of the requests received for providing job on compassionate grounds in Punjab National Bank and Allahabad Bank and the action taken by the Government thereon; and
- (e) the time by when jobs on compassionate grounds are likely to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

**World Bank Aided Projects
In Maharashtra**

1472. SHRI DEVIDAS PINGLE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) the World Bank and other FFIs aided projects in Maharashtra;
- (b) the financial sanctioned by the World Bank/FFIs to these projects Institution-wise;

(c) the amount allocated during the current year in this regard; and

(d) the status of the work done on these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) to (c) The details of ongoing State sector projects with World Bank assistance in Maharashtra are:

(in US \$ Million)

S. No.	Project Name	Amount Committed	Cumulative Utilization (upto 31.01.05)	Utilization during the FY 2004-05 (upto 31.01.05)
1.	Maharashtra Rural Water Supply and Sanitation "Jalswarajya" Project	181	10.41	1.41
2.	Mumbai Urban Transport Project	542	82.62	25.55
3.	Maharashtra Health Systems Development Project	134	75.32	15.17

There are no ongoing state-sector Asian Development Bank (ADB) and International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) projects in Maharashtra.

(d) The project above are in sectors such as health, rural water supply and infrastructure sectors. The area of work of these projects involves, improving access of rural households to improved and sustainable drinking water supply and sanitation services; facilitation of urban economic growth and improvement in quality of life by developing an efficient urban transport system; assisting the local government to improve the efficiency of health resources; and improving the performance of health care system. The work on the above activities in various parts of the State is currently under implementation in order to achieve the development objectives of these projects.

[English]

Loan to SSI

1473. SHRI JUAL ORAM :
SHRI MADAN LAL SHARMA :
SHRI RAJESH VERMA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the public sector banks/FIs are providing loans to the small entrepreneurs of setting up industry in various States;

(b) If so, the number of applications received by various public sector banks for setting up of industries during 2004-05, bank-wise and State-wise;

(c) the number of applications sponsored by the District Industry Centres (DIC) in Orissa to the public sector banks in the above financial year; and

(d) the number of applications received loans from different public sector banks for the said period, bank-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) It has been reported by Reserve Bank of India that they do not capture data on the number of applications received by various public sector banks, Bank-wise and State-wise for Small Entrepreneurs. The

amount outstanding in the books of public sector banks, State-wise, including state of Orissa as on March, 2003 in respect of advances to SSI sector is given as per enclosed statement.

Statement

(Rupees in thousands)

States	Total Advances to SSI	
	No. of Accounts	Amount Outstanding
1	2	3
Haryana	45870	20768307
Himachal Pradesh	17784	2267445
Jammu & Kashmir	6778	1535320
Punjab	99095	40052565
Rajasthan	63410	18404037
Chandigarh	3162	3579328
Delhi	32708	44432489
Assam	22412	2569034
Manipur	3335	220815
Meghalaya	2863	280534
Nagaland	2093	209671
Tripura	7546	301810
Arunachal Pradesh	609	62200
Mizoram	949	84709
Sikkim	2556	27025
Bihar	99377	6009261
Jharkhand	34511	5045429
Orissa	50088	7107841

1	2	3
West Bengal	319255	35444260
Andaman and Nicobar	488	73926
Madhya Pradesh	75440	14217392
Chhattisgarh	15621	4710351
Uttar Pradesh	181003	42038845
Uttaranchal	9860	3206186
Gujarat	53412	29821866
Maharashtra	96551	100714215
Daman and Diu	70	89644
Goa	3122	1875644
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	146	128324
Andhra Pradesh	110751	36590677
Karnataka	67567	28771099
Kerala	94610	16066805
Tamil Nadu	197640	59332804
Pondicherry	1123	419235
Lakshadweep	18	1096
All India	1721823	526460189

[Translation]

Bank Loan to Women

1474. SHRI MOHD. TAHIR :
SHRI MUNSHI RAM :
SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHAWAHA :
SHRIMATI ANURADHA CHOUDHARY :
PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has directed the public

sector banks to realise the target of providing at least 5% of bank loans to women by the end of March, 2004;

(b) if so, the total number of banks which have achieved this target by the end of the above-said period, bank-wise;

(c) if, not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether any action has been taken against such banks which have not achieved the aforesaid target;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the aforesaid banks have made available loans to the women during the current year; and

(g) if so, the total amount of loans granted so far, during the last two years/bank-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has advised all the Public Sector Banks (PSBs) to earmark 5% of their Net Bank Credit (NBC) for lending to women within three years, requiring the target to be achieved by 31.03.2004 respectively.

(b) and (c) 19 PSBs, out of 27 achieved the target by 31.03.2004. Bank-wise details of such banks are given in statement enclosed. However, out of the remaining 8 PSBs who did not achieve the target by the stipulated date, the Oriental Bank of Commerce achieved the target by September, 2004 and State Bank of India, State Bank of Saurashtra & Central Bank of India, by December, 2004.

The remaining four banks, namely Corporation Bank, Bank of India, Dena Bank & UCO Bank are likely to achieve the target soon. The shortfall in achieving the target of 5% of NBC by these banks was mainly on account of higher rate of growth in NBC.

(d) to (g) The banks which could not achieve the target of lending 5% of NBC to women have been advised both by the RBI and the Govt. to take necessary steps to enhance credit to women in order to achieve the stipulated target.

The following banks which have not yet achieved the target of 5% of NBC to women have reported the amount of loans granted to the women during the last two years as under:-

S. Name of Bank	Amount Rs. in crores	
	2003-04	2004-05 (Up to Dec.2004)
1. Corporation Bank	225.27	231.55
2. Bank of India	460.69	514.83
3. Dena Bank	318.15	315.84
4. UCO Bank	556.02	1016

Statement

Particulars of Credit to Women by Public Sector Banks as on March 2004

(Amt. in Lakh)

Name of the Bank	Net Bank Credit	Credit to Women		
		No. of A/cs	Amt. O/s	% to NBC
1	2	3	4	5
Allah Bk.	1625927	165000	88223.66	5.43
Andhra Bk.	1337876	223165	87404.00	6.53
BOB	2430711	255192	130998.64	5.39
BOM	1131208	125087	57538.07	5.09
BOI	2788152	268910	120244.00	4.31
Can Bk.	4456600	674155	259600.00	5.83
CBI	2247100	215609	104056.00	4.83
Corp Bk.	1265536	58454	46081.57	3.64
Dena Bk.	941592	63217	31815.13	3.68

1	2	3	4	5
IND Bk.	1304184	284484	92721.31	7.11
IOB	1826327	374660	99969.00	5.47
OBC	1967966	69685	70388.80	3.58
PNB	4655156	526321	260650.00	5.59
P & S Bk.	609952	38508	36899.00	6.05
Synd. Bk.	1672500	299869	109060.00	6.52
Union Bk.	2904242	261274	154478.35	5.32
United Bk.	836500	164806	44717.44	5.34
UCO Bk.	1635900	162548	55602.71	3.40
Vijaya Bk.	1049601	112099	55379.19	5.28
SBI	13288200	1294836	424168.00	3.19
SBBJ	884576	74827	45027.23	5.09
SB Hydr	1117010	426458	56409.00	5.05
SB Indore	655826	37570	35021.06	5.33
SB Mys	569704	83654	34965.00	6.14
SB Patiala	1077688	41892	55435.41	5.14
SB Saur	513140	25517	6797.00	1.32
SB Travan	997152	84005	65562.00	6.57
Total	55790326	6411802	2629211.57	4.71

[English]

On-going power Projects

1475. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD :
SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN :
SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of power projects under construction in the country as on date, State-wise;

(b) the amount allocated to each project by the Union Government and the State Governments, separately, during the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) the number of power projects completed during the period and the number out of them on which work is still in progress, category-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) :

(a) At present, there are 41 Thermal Power Projects and 31 Hydro electric Power Projects are under construction in the country. State-wise details of Hydro Projects in the enclosed Statement-I and Thermal Projects is in the enclosed Statement-II.

(b) The information with regard to project-wise and year-wise allocation by the Central Government and the State Government in respect of Central Sector and State Sector Projects is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

(c) Details of Power Projects commissioned during 2002-03, 2003-04 & 2004-05 are given in the Statement-III enclosed.

Statement-I

Hydro Power Projects which are under construction in the Country

Name of Scheme	State	Capacity (MW)	Comm. Sch. Latest
1	2	3	4
Central Sector			
Dhauliganga (NHPC)	Uttaranchal	280.00	2004-06

1	2	3	4
Dulhasti (NHPC)	Jammu & Kashmir	390.00	2005-06
Teesta St. V (NHPC)	Sikkim	510.00	2006-07
Sewa-II (NHPC)	Jammu & Kashmir	120.00	2006-07
Tessta Low Dam-III (NHPC)	West Bengal	132.00	2006-07
Indira Sagar (NHDC)	Madhya Pradesh	125.00	2003-05
Omkarashwar (NHDC)	Madhya Pradesh	520.00	2006-07
Tehri St.I (THDC)	Uttaranchal	1000.00	2005-06
Koteshwar (THDC)	Uttaranchal	400.00	2006-07
State Sector			
Northern Region			
Bagliahar-I	Jammu & Kashmir	450.00	2006-07
Larji	Himachal Pradesh	126.00	2005-06
Maneri Bhali-II	Uttaranchal	304.00	2006-07
Western Region			
Sardar Sarovar	Gujarat/Madhya Pradesh Maharashtra.	1000.00	2004-07
Madhikheda	Madhya Pradesh	40.00	2005-06
Bansagar Tons PH IV	Madhya Pradesh	20.00	2005-06
Ghatghar PSS	Maharashtra	250.00	2005-06
Southern Region			
Priyadarshni Jurala	Andhra Pradesh	78.00	2006-07 (Two Units)
Almatti Dam	Karnataka	165.00	2003-06
Pykara Ultimate	Tamil Nadu	150.00	2005-06

1	2	3	4
Bhawani Barrage I	Tamil Nadu	30.00	2005-06
Kuttiyadi Addl. Ext.	Kerala	100.00	2006-07
Eastern Region			
Balimela Extn.	Orissa	150.00	2006-07
Purulia PSS (NHPC)	West Bengal	900.00	2006-08
North-Eastern Region			
Karbi Langpi (Lower Borpani)	Assam	100.00	2006-07
Myntdu	Meghalaya	84.00	2007-08
Private Sector			
Vishnu Prayag	Uttaranchal	400.00	2006-07
11th Plan			
Central Sector			
Parbati St. II (NHPC)	Himachal Pradesh	800.00	2009-10
Kol Dam (NTPC)	Himachal Pradesh	800.00	2008-10
Subansiri Lower (NJPC)	Arunachal Pradesh	2000.00	2010-11
Kameng (NEEPCO)	Arunachal Pradesh	600.00	11th Plan
State Sector			
Northern Region			
Uhi-III	Himachal Pradesh	100.00	2007-08
Southern Region			
Priyadarshni Jurala	Andhra Pradesh	156.00	2007-08 (Four Units)
Total (Sanctioned-Ongoing)		12280	

Statement-II**Thermal Power Projects which are under Construction in the Country**

As on 09-Mar-2005

Sector State	Project Name	Impl. Agency	Unit No.	Cap. (MW)	Ant. Synchr. Date
1	2	3	4	5	6
Central Sector					
Bihar	Kahalgaon STPS-II (Ph-I)	NTPC	U-5	500	Nov-2006
			U-6	500	Mar-2007
	Kahalgaon STPS-II (Ph-II)		U-7	500	Mar-2007
Chhattisgarh	Sipat STPP-I		U-1&2	1320	Apr-2008
			U-3	660	Oct-2008
	Sipat STPS-II		U-4	500	Feb-2007
			U-5	500	Mar-2007
Jharkhand	Chandarpura TPS Extn.	DVC	U-7	250	Nov-2006
			U-8	250	Jan-2007
Madhya Pradesh	Vindhyachal TPS-III	NTPC	U-09	500	Mar-2006
			U-10	500	Sep-2006
Uttar Pradesh	Rihand STPS-II		U-4	500	Jun-2005
	Unchahar TPS-III		U-5	210	Mar-2006
West Bengal	Mejia TPS	DVC	U-5	250	Nov-2006
			U-6	250	Jan-2007
State Sector		Sub-Total		7190.00	
Andhra Pradesh	Rayalaseema TPS-II	APGENCO	U-3	210	Mar-2006
			U-4	210	Jul-2006
Chhattisgarh	Korba East TPP St.-V	CSEB	U-1	250	Nov-2006

1	2	3	4	5	6
			U-2	250	Feb-2007
Gujarat	Akrimota TPP	GMDCL	U-1	125	Mar-2005
			U-2	125	Jun-2005
	Dhuvaran CCPP Extn	GSECL	GT	70	Dec-2005
			ST	42	Jan-2006
	Kutch Lignite TPP	GEB	U-4	75	Jul-2006
Haryana	Yamuna Nagar TPP	HPGCL	U-1	300	Mar-2007
			U-2	300	Jun-2007
Karnataka	Bellary TPP	KPCL	U-1	500	Mar-2007
Maharashtra	Paras TPS Expn.	MSEB	U-1	250	Aug-2006
	Parli TPS Extn.		U-1	250	Mar-2006
Madhya Pradesh	Amarkantak TPP	MPSEB	U-5	210	Feb-2007
	Birsingpur TPS Extn. St-III	MPEB	U-5	500	Sep-2006
Nagaland	Dimapur DGPP	Gov. of Nagaland	DGs	22.92	Mar-2006
Punjab	Guru Har Gobind TPS	PSEB	U-1	250	Oct-2006
			U-2	250	Feb-2007
Rajasthan	Dholpur CCPP (Ph-I)	RRVUNL	GT-1	104	May-2006
			GT-2	104	Jul-2006
			ST	122	Dec-2006
	Grial TPP		U-1	125	Mar-2006
Tripura	Rokhia GT Extn.	Govt. of Tripura	GT-8	21	Feb-2006
Uttar Pradesh	Parichha TPS Extn.	UPRVUNL	U-3	210	Mar-2006
			U-4	210	Sep-2006
West Bengal	Bakreshwar TPS-II	WBPDCCL	U-4	210	Mar-2007
			U-5	210	
	Durgapur TPS Extn.	Durgapur Project Ltd.	U-7	300	Jan-2007

1	2	3	4	5	6
	Sagardighi TPP	WBPDCCL	U-1	300	Jan-2007
			U-2	300	Mar-2007
	Santaldih TPP		U-1	250	Jan-2007
Private Sector		Sub Total		6655.92	
Andhra Pradesh	Gautami CCPP	Gautami Power Ltd.	GT-1	145	Feb-2006
			GT-2	145	Feb-2006
			ST	174	Jul-2006
	Jegrupadu CCPP Extn.	GVK Industries	GT	140	Jul-2005
			ST	80	Sep-2005
	Konaseema CCPP	Konaseema EPS OPL	GT-1	140	Sep-2005
			GT-2	140	Dec-2005
			ST	165	Aug-2006
	Ramagundem TPP	BPL Power Project	U-1&2	520	
	Vemagiri CCPP	Vemagiri Power Gen. Ltd.	GT	233	Oct-2005
			ST	137	Nov-2005
Chhattisgarh	Raigarh TPP (Ph-I)	Jindal Power Ltd.	U-1	250	Mar-2007
			U-2to4	750	Dec-2007
Jharkhand	Jojobera TPP	TPCL	U-1	120	Aug-2005
Karnataka	Nagarjuna TPP	NPCL	U-1&2	1015	Dec-2008
Maharashtra	Dabhol CCPP-II	Dabhol Power Co.	GTs+STs	1444	Jan-2007
Tamil Nadu	Karuppur CCPP	Aban Power Comp. Ltd.	ST	49.8	Mar-2005
	Valanthuravai CCPP	Arkay Energy Ltd.	GT	38	Mar-2005
			ST	14.8	Mar-2005
		Sub-Total		5700.60	
		Total		19546.52	

Statement-III

Project-wise status of 10th Plan capacity addition programme—Commissioned

Central Sector

(figs. in MW)

Name of Project	Units commissioned
1	2
Thermal	
NTPC	
Simhadri	500
Talcher-II	2000
Ramagundam	500
Rihand-II	500
	3500
Wo Coal - NLC	210
NLC Extn.-I	210
	420
DVC	210
Mejia-4	210
Central Sector (Thermal)	4130
HYDRO	
NHPC	
Chamera-II	300
Indirasagar	875
	1175

1	2
SJVN	
Nathpa Jhakri	1500
	1500
NEEPCO	
Hydro	
Kopilli-II	25
	25
Central Sector (Hydro)	2700
Central Sector (Nuclear)	0
Overall Central Sector	6830
	State Sector
THERMAL	
Delhi	
Pragati (T)	225.78
Haryana	
Panipat Unit 7	250
Panipat Unit 8	250
Rajasthan	
Suratgarh-III (T)	250
Ramgarh-II (T)	75.32
Kota-IV (T)	195
Gujarat	
Dhuvaran Gas (T)	106.62
Tamil Nadu	
Perungalam (Valuthur) GAS (T)	94

1	2	1	2
Kuttalam Gas (T)	100	Potteru Ph.II U-1 (H)	3
Karnataka		Nagaland	
Raichur U-7 (T) (additional unit identified)	210	Likim Ro U-3 (H)	8
Mizoram		State Sector Hydro	1074
Bairabi DGPP (T)	22.92	Overall State Sector	2919.64
Manipur		Private Sector	
Leimkhong DG	18	THERMAL	
Tripura		Tamil Nadu	
Baramura GT (T)	21	Nevyeli Zero (T)	250
Rokhia GT (T)	21	Karuppur CCPP GT (Addl. Project identified)	70
A&N Islands		Andhra Pradesh	
Rangat Bay (T) DG 1&2	6	Pedapuram (T)	78
State Sector (Thermal)	1845.64	Island	
HYDRO		Bamboo flat DG (T)	20
Madhya Pradesh		Private Sector Thermal	418
Bansagar-III (H)	20	HYDRO	
Bansagar-II (H)	15	Himachal Pradesh	
Gujarat		Baspa (H)	300
Sardar Sarovar (multi state) (H)	450	Private Sector Hydro	300
Andhra Pradesh		Overall Private Sector	718
Srisailem LBH (H)	450		
Karnataka		Grand Total	10467.64
Almati Dam (H)	125		
Orissa		Housing Loans by Public Sector Banks	
Potteru Ph.I U-1 (H)	3		

1476. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) The total rural housing scheme funded by the nationalized banks in the country, particularly in Karnataka;

(b) whether a study based on findings of the 58th round of the National Sample Survey pointed that disbursement of housing loans by public sector banks in rural area was grossly disproportionate to the reach of the network;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any nationalized banks has extended loan to the rural people of country during the last three years;

(e) if so, the details of the same, bank-wise; State-wise; and

(f) the extent to which the people living in rural areas would be benefited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a), (d) and (e) The National Housing Bank (NHB) has launched Golden Jubilee Rural Housing Finance Scheme (GJRHFS) in 1997. Under the scheme, housing loans are permitted to be given for construction, purchase or improvement of houses in rural areas and the scheme is being implemented through Scheduled Commercial Banks, Housing Finance Companies and the Cooperative Sector Institutions. Till date, about 13 lakh dwelling units in the rural areas have been financed under the Scheme by the primary lending institutions. Out of these, 6,53,625 units have been financed by Public Sector Banks (PSBs). In the State of Karnataka, PSBs have financed 30,056 units during three years period 2001-04. The Bank-wise and State-wise details of housing loan for dwelling units extended by the banks under GJRHFS during the last three years are indicated in the enclosed statement-I & II.

(b) The National Sample Survey Organisation has not conducted any study based on the NSS 58th round on disbursement of housing loans by Public Sector Banks in rural areas. However, according to the NSS Report No. 488 of NSS 58th round (July-December 2002) shows that 8.2 percent finance was contributed through government

sources for construction of houses undertaken in rural areas.

(c) Does not arise.

(f) The GJRHF scheme has received good response from the borrowers in the rural areas. As a result the targets under the scheme had been steadily increased over the years from 50,000 in 1997 to 2.50 lakh in 2003-04.

Statement-I

Bank-wise achievement under Golden Jubilee Rural Housing Scheme during 2001-02 to 2003-04

S. No.	Banks	No. of dwelling units financed		
		2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Allahabad Bank	1764	1399	1636
2.	Andhra Bank	0	3016	5105
3.	Bank of Baroda	3523	3428	6781
4.	Bank of India	9777	522	970
5.	Bank of Maharashtra	333	161	192
6.	Corporation Bank	1243	2082	2686
7.	Canara Bank	5643	16236	7823
8.	Central Bank of India	967	1882	1263
9.	Dena Bank	399	381	679
10.	Indian Bank	895	1355	2132
11.	Indian Overseas Bank	2199	667	435
12.	Oriental Bank of Commerce	1146	1440	1700
13.	Punjab National Bank	4459	6521	6505
14.	Punjab & Sind Bank	1004	1162	1331

1	2	3	4	5
15. State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur	1687	720	16674	
16. State Bank of Hyderabad	509	1126	1460	
17. State Bank of India	48415	27689	81236	
18. State Bank of Indore	611	894	424	
19. State Bank of Mysore	663	650	164	
20. State Bank of Patiala	868	2018	2585	
21. State Bank of Saurashtra	232	988	899	
22. State Bank of Travancore	7940	9060	12120	
23. Syndicate Bank	4597	4991	8217	
24. UCO Bank	2198	2745	1096	
25. Union Bank of India	3646	3675	3104	
26. United Bank of India	647	726	471	
27. Vijaya Bank	719	1761	3492	
Total	106084	97295	171180	

Statement-II

State-wise achievement by Banks under Golden Jubilee Rural Housing Scheme during 2001-02 to 2003-04

(Rs. in lakh)

Name of the State/UT	Dwelling units financed by banks.		
	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	5416	6304	15894

1	2	3	4
Arunachal Pradesh	5	3	25
Assam	329	497	659
Bihar	1430	1269	1864
Chhattisgarh	1078	426	580
Goa	573	1354	584
Gujarat	2603	2173	4591
Haryana	1475	1355	2851
Himachal Pradesh	1410	1911	3919
Jammu & Kashmir	219	161	434
Jharkhand	1445	421	791
Karnataka	9143	9800	11113
Kerala	14802	16021	16827
Madhya Pradesh	3963	2863	2128
Maharashtra	7490	7438	7274
Manipur	80	0	17
Meghalaya	61	14	94
Mizoram	611	239	89
Nagaland	2	1	2
Orissa	20619	2855	44352
Punjab	3279	3362	5977
Rajasthan	3142	2059	3122
Sikkim	323	326	343
Tamil Nadu	6162	11392	8502
Tripura	45	37	84

1	2	3	4
Uttar Pradesh	8081	4419	3506
Uttaranchal	2103	1186	2488
West Bengal	4735	7142	7188
Andaman & Nicobar	30	60	103
Chandigarh	265	39	842
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0	0	0
Delhi	360	331	132
Daman & Diu	0	0	0
Lakshadweep	1	2	0
Pondicherry	528	398	114
Others	0	0	0
Total	101808	85858	146489

Note: State-wise totals may be different from actual achievement during a particular year because state-wise break-up is not provided by some of the Banks.

Financial Crises in Cooperative Societies in Tamil Nadu

1477. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware that most of the weavers cooperative societies located in the country specially in Tamilnadu are facing acute financial crisis due to accumulation of stocks and decline in exports and are under the threat of closure;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has received any proposals in this regard to protect these societies; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA) : (a) and (b) There has been accumulation of stocks with the weavers' cooperative societies in the country in general, which is one of the causes of the financial problems of the societies. As regards decline in exports, Handloom Export Promotion Council has not received any report in this regard. So far as Tamilnadu is concerned, the Government of Tamilnadu has informed that the exports which was of the order of Rs. 195.02 crore during 2003-04 has in fact increased to Rs. 265.11 crore during 2004-05 (upto 28-2-2005). It has also been maintained by the Government of Tamilnadu that the Weavers Cooperative Societies in Tamilnadu are availing adequate working capital assistance from NABARD and as such there is no acute financial crisis due to accumulation of stocks and decline in exports. The Government of Tamilnadu has further informed that it has not received any proposal to protect the Weavers' Cooperative Societies from financial crisis.

(c) and (d) Proposals under the following schemes for the welfare and development of handloom weavers are received from various State Governments and assistance is released:

1. Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana
2. Marketing Promotion Programme
3. Handloom Export Scheme
4. Mill Gate Price Scheme
5. Scheme for reimbursement of one time rebate @ 10% given by the handloom agencies on the sale of handloom cloth
6. Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme
7. Weavers' Welfare Scheme comprising of (i) Health Package Scheme; (b) Thrift Fund Scheme and (iii) New Insurance Scheme.

8. Bunker bima Yojana
9. Integrated Handloom Training Programme
10. Implementation of Handlooms (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985

[Translation]

Captive Power Projects

1478. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN" :

SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

- (a) the annual power generation capacity of captive power projects in the country at present, State-wise;
- (b) the estimated quantum of power to be generated during the 2005-06 in this sector;
- (c) the untapped quantum of power generated in the captive sector;
- (d) whether the Government has formulated any scheme to utilize this power which goes unused; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) As per information available with Central Electricity Authority, state-wise installed generating capacity and generation of the captive power projects (1 MW and above) in the country as on 31.3.2004 is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) and (c) The installed capacity of captive power plants as on 31.3.2004 was reported to be 18740.31 MW. Assuming 5% growth during 2004-05 and 2005-06, the estimated installed capacity of captive power plants at the end of 31.3.2006 would be 20600 MW. (The PLF of the captive power plants is around 40% at present).

Similarly, energy generated by captive power plants during 2003-04 was 68173.12 GWh. Assuming 5% growth during 2004-05 & 2006-06, the estimated energy generated by captive power plants during 2005-06 would be 75616 GWh.

However if all the captive power plants are made to run at 70% PLF, the total energy generated would be 126693 GWh. The untapped quantum of energy available from captive units, which could be sold would be (126693-75161) 51532 GWh i.e. say 50000 GWh.

(d) and (e) Under the Electricity Act, 2003, captive power plants, including group captive, have been freely permitted. The Act provides that any person may construct, maintain or operate a captive generating plant and dedicated transmission lines. Further, under the provisions of the Act, every person, who has constructed a captive generating plant and maintains and operates such plants, shall have the right to open access for the purposes of carrying electricity from his captive generating plant to the destination of his use subject to the availability of transmission capacity.

Statement

The Annual Electric Statistics of Captive Generating Plants of capacity 1 MW & above

States/UTs	Total Installed Capacity as on (KW) 31.3.2004	Generation (GWh) (03-04)	Auxiliaries Consumption (GWh) (03-04)	Net Generation (GWh) (03-04)	Export to Utilities (GWh) (03-04)	Energy used in industry out of self gen. (GWh) (03-04)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Haryana	511314	916.01	33.29	882.72	96.76	785.96

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Himachal Pradesh	122842	59.05	5.22	53.83	0.00	53.83
Jammu & Kashmir	8560	0.49	0.00	0.49	0.00	0.49
Punjab	326180	755.26	113.45	641.81	20.35	621.46
Rajasthan	687698	3001.47	152.41	2849.06	4.44	2844.62
Uttar Pradesh	1606125	7241.56	721.19	6520.37	83.74	6436.63
Uttaranchal	96510	402.05	32.90	369.15	0.00	369.15
Chandigarh	8533	2.82	0.02	2.80	0.00	2.80
Delhi	1292	1.76	0.07	1.69	0.00	1.69
Sub-Total (NR)	3369054	12380.47	1058.55	11321.92	205.29	11116.63
Gujarat	2556759	11740.16	591.70	11149.46	608.90	10539.56
Madhya Pradesh	834844	2274.57	114.79	2159.78	8.28	2151.30
Chhattisgarh	1020910	3641.74	136.14	3505.61	896.08	3409.52
Maharashtra	1252767	4773.80	157.74	4616.06	130.36	4485.70
Goa	67406	161.58	6.60	154.99	0.00	154.99
Daman & Diu	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	31172	12.07	0.19	11.88	0.00	11.88
Sub-Total (WR)	5763858	22603.92	1007.16	21596.78	843.62	20752.95
Andhra Pradesh	2056837	7058.45	571.03	6487.42	1961.34	4526.08
Karnataka	1195132	3698.24	282.56	3415.68	285.22	3130.46
Kerala	241830	451.07	19.54	431.53	2.26	429.27
Tamil Nadu	1891562	5432.72	394.79	50327.93	1096.68	3941.25
Pondicherry	45931	50.69	1.98	48.71	0.00	48.71
Lakshadweep	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Sub-Total (SR)	5431292	16691.17	1269.90	15421.27	3345.50	12075.77
Bihar	157091	198.85	20.35	178.47	0.00	178.47
Jharkhand	921391	3904.54	577.24	3327.30	0.00	3327.30
Orissa	1826949	9196.80	1015.79	8181.01	1169.93	7011.08
West Bengal	882212	2098.79	174.46	1924.33	2.60	1921.73
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	2664	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sikkim	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sub-Total (ER)	3790307	15398.98	1787.87	13611.11	1172.53	12436.58
Assam	385800	1098.58	85.57	1013.01	0.00	1013.01
Manipur	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Meghalaya	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Negaland	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tripura	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Arunachal Pradesh	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mizoram	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sub-Total (NER)	385800	1098.58	85.57	1013.01	0.00	1013.01
Total (All Indian)	18740311	68173.12	5209.05	62964.09	5566.94	57396.94

[English]

**Approval for Transfer of Shares
through FIPB/RBI**

1479. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether earlier there was a option to either approach FIPB/RBI Central office for getting approvals for transfer of shares;

(b) whether that now companies have to only approach RBI for the purpose causes considerable delay in the process; and

(c) the steps being taken to route these approvals through both RBI or FIPB for quicker disposal of applications?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) Earlier

transfer of shares from resident shareholders to non-residents of an Indian company required prior permission of the Government (FIPB) followed by approval from RBI as per Regulation 10 A of Foreign Exchange Management (Transfer of security by a person Resident outside India) Regulations, 2000 notified vide Notification No.FEMA.20/2000-RB dated 3rd May, 2003.

(b) and (c) In order to make the environment in India more attractive for foreign investors and to simplify the procedures, Government has dispensed with the requirement of obtaining prior approval of the Government (FIPB) in respect to shares/convertible debentures, by way of sale, from residents to non-residents (including transfer of subscriber's shares) of an Indian company in sectors other than financial services sector (i.e. Banks, NBFCs and Insurance) provided the following conditions are complied with:

- (i) The activities of the invested company are under the automatic route under FDI policy and transfer does not attract the provisions of SEBI (SAST) Regulations, 1997.
- (ii) The non-resident shareholding after the transfer, complies with sectoral limits of FDI policy.
- (iii) The price at which the transfer takes place is in accordance with pricing guidelines prescribed by SEBI/RBI.

The onus of complying with sectoral cap/limits prescribed under FDI policy as well as other guidelines/regulations would rest with the buyer and seller/issue.

All automatic route approvals only envisages 'ex-post' reporting to RBI within 30 days of investment being made in India.

Representation In Board

1480.SHRI NARAYAN CHANDRA BORKATAKY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the representation of independent

Directors from Assam and North East States in the Boards of Nationalised Banks is very less;

- (b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) the number of independent Directors from Assam & North East States represented in the Boards of Nationalised Banks; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The non-official directors on the boards of nationalised banks are appointed under clause.

(g), (h) and (i) of sub-section (3) of section 9 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970/1980. There is no provision in the Act to reserve seats on regional basis. As per the criteria laid-down under the guidelines of selection part-time non-official directors on the boards of nationalised banks, the suitability of nominees is assessed in terms of formal qualification and expertise, track record, integrity etc. Recently, these guidelines have been amended to provide that efforts should be made to ensure representation of all the six zones of the country, i.e. North, South, East, West, Central and North-East on the boards of nationalised banks taken together.

T and D Reforms Training Programme

1481.SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to launch a distribution reforms training programme in the country;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the institutes in which this programme is likely to be conducted; and

(d) the other initiatives being taken by the Government to improve the power distribution system?

THE MINISTER POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) and (b) Ministry of Power in collaboration with United States Agency for International Development (USAID) has initiated Distribution Reforms, Upgrades and Management (DRUM) project with the purpose of demonstrating "the best commercial and technological practices that improve the quality and reliability of 'last mile' power distribution in selected urban and rural distribution circles in the country". As a part of the DRUM project, training programme has been designed to provide training to over 20,000 utility engineers, managers and personnel of the distribution sector.

(c) The following institutes have signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for conducting training programmes under the DRUM project:

- i. Administrative Staff College of India (ASCI), Hyderabad.
- ii. Centre for Power Efficiency in Distribution (CENPEID) of North Delhi Power Ltd., New Delhi.
- iii. Central Institute for Rural Electrification (CIRE) of Rural Electrification Corporation, Hyderabad.
- iv. Central Power Research Institute (CPRI), Bangalore
- v. Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur
- vi. Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur
- vii. National Productivity Council (NPC), New Delhi.
- viii. National Power Training Institute (NPTI), Faridabad
- ix. Power Management Institute (PMI), Noida, Gautambudh Nagar.
- x. Reliance Energy Management Institute, Mumbai
- xi. The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), New Delhi

(d) The initiatives taken by the Government to improve the power distribution system include;

- (i) Metering of 11kV feeders and consumer metering;
- (ii) Energy accounting and auditing;
- (iii) Strengthening the provisions, relating to theft of power in Electricity Act, 2003;
- (iv) Implementation of the Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP) for upgradation and strengthening of sub-transmission and distribution system and providing incentive for reducing cash losses by SEBs/ Utilities;
- (v) Establishment of regulatory mechanism at central as well as state level;
- (vi) Loan assistance by Power Finance Corporation (PFC) and Rural Electrification Corporation (REC);
- (vii) IT initiatives like consumer billing and customer care;
- (viii) Introduction of High Voltage Distribution System (HVDS).

Allocation for Karnataka State Under 11th Finance Commission

1482. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) State-wise allocation by Tenth Finance Commission, along with population of the States;
- (b) State-wise allocation by Eleventh Finance Commission along with population of the States;
- (c) whether the allocation of Eleventh Finance Commission for Karnataka was drastically reduced in comparison to its allocation by Tenth Finance Commission; and

(d) If so, the reasons for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) and (b) A Statement is enclosed.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement

*Allocation for Karnataka State under
11th Finance Commission*

(In lakhs)

States	Tenth F.C. Total Estimated Transfer 1995-2000	Eleventh F.C. Total Estimated transfer 2000-05	Popula- tion 1971 census	Popula- tion 1991 census
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	1808154	3143605	435.03	665.08
Arunachal Pradesh	176836	231977	4.68	8.64
Assam	832805	1342371	146.25	224.14
Bihar	2465556	5727826	563.53	863.74
Goa	62225	82931	7.95	11.70
Gujarat	887559	1226094	266.97	413.10
Haryana	279311	430381	100.37	164.64
Himachal Pradesh	476166	749421	34.60	51.71
Jammu & Kashmir	732208	1647329	46.17	77.19

	1	2	3	4	5
Karnataka	1052083	1997809	292.99	449.77	
Kerala	772181	1252522	213.47	290.99	
Madhya Pradesh	1609397	3540515	416.54	661.81	
Maharashtra	1370908	1987984	504.12	789.37	
Manipur	213662	322638	10.73	18.37	
Meghalaya	188885	297129	10.12	17.75	
Mizoram	180201	253852	3.32	6.90	
Nagaland	279304	445479	5.16	12.10	
Orissa	970655	2098882	219.45	316.60	
Punjab	358947	556090	135.51	202.82	
Rajasthan	1140087	2384024	257.66	440.06	
Sikkim	69889	163598	2.10	4.07	
Tamil Nadu	1336057	2200375	411.9	558.59	
Tripura	287321	437620	15.56	27.57	
Uttar Pradesh	3615891	7937210	883.41	1391.12	
West Bengal	1498042	3565264	443.12	680.78	
Total	22664330	44020926*	5430.80	8348.61	

* Includes Rs.530386 lakhs as Centre's share of Incentive Fund recommended by EFC in its supplementary report.

**Setting up of Power Projects
In Uttaranchal**

1483.SHRI SUGRIB SINGH : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the NTPC and Central Electricity

Authority have signed any memorandum of understanding to set up Tapovan Vishnugad and Laharinag Pala hydro power projects in Uttaranchal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the estimated cost and power generation capacity of each project;

(d) the time by which the work on these projects is likely to be started;

(e) whether Rishikesh-Chilla Hydro Electric Project in the State has been assisted by any external agency; and

(f) if so, the details thereof along with the earning there from so far?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) and Central Electricity Authority (CEA) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 3.1.2005 for consultancy services to be provided by CEA to NTPC for design and engineering of electro-mechanical works in respect of Tapovan Vishnugad Hydroelectric Project and Loharinag Pala HEP of Uttaranchal. NTPC has signed on 23.6.2004 an implementation Agreement with the Government of Uttaranchal for execution of these projects.

(c) The estimated cost and generation capacity of the projects is as given below:

Project	Estimated Cost* (Rs. Cr.)	Generation Capacity (MW)
Loharinag-Pala	2417.77	600
Tapovan-Vishnugad	2545.52	520

*CEA cleared costs; as per 1st Quarter, 2004 price level.

(d) NTPC has conducted site specific studies for these projects. Details Project Report (DPR) was submitted

to CEA in April, 2004. CEA accorded techno-economic clearance to these projects in August, 2004.

The works on the projects have already been started. Loharinag Pala HEP and Tapovan Vishnugad HEP are programmed to be commissioned in the year 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively.

(e) and (f) The information is being collected from the Government of Uttaranchal.

[Translation]

Centres of National Institute of Fashion Technology

1484. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of centres of National Institute of Fashion Technology, location-wise as on date;

(b) the amount spent over proper functioning and maintenance of these centres during the said period, Centre-wise;

(c) whether any proposal for the establishment of 'NIFT' Centres are under consideration of the Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA) : (a) There are seven centres of National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) at Delhi, Mumbai (Maharashtra, Kolkata (West Bengal), Chennai (Tamil Nadu), Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh), Gandhinagar (Gujarat) and Bangalore (Karnataka).

(b) A statement is enclosed.

(c) and (d) Board of Governors of NIFT decided that the existing centres need to be strengthened and consolidated.

Statement
Revenue Expenditure of various Centres

Name of the Centre	(Rs. in Lakhs)											
	86-87	87-88	88-89	89-90	90-91	91-92	92-93	93-94	94-95			
New Delhi & HO	69.54	286.03	270.16	328.44	163.39	260.50	257.06	318.08	309.32			
Bangalore	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Chennai	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Kolkata	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Gandhinagar	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Hyderabad	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Mumbai	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Grant Total	69.54	286.03	270.16	328.44	163.39	260.50	257.06	318.08	309.32			
Name of the Centre	95-96	96-97	97-98	98-99	99-00	00-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	Total		
New Delhi & HO	430.98	643.39	419.32	1839.82	2219.59	2414.51	1984.14	1508.54	1633.54	15366.35		
Bangalore	—	—	36.08	57.74	78.98	99.27	170.17	201.58	248.86	892.68		
Chennai	39.82	46.63	78.66	125.54	136.66	149.06	200.67	218.39	238.04	1233.47		
Kolkata	51.06	71.87	91.85	134.97	147.01	194.47	210.11	256.26	317.9	1475.50		
Gandhinagar	45.62	49.55	59.02	80.51	104.94	180.94	202.34	253.55	308.16	1284.63		
Hyderabad	52.88	58.15	77.14	101.18	116.11	133.32	203.63	239.76	253.83	1236.00		
Mumbai	25.81	61.19	92.68	133.85	144.61	152.19	144.13	189.08	193.7	1137.24		
Grant Total	646.17	930.78	854.75	2473.61	2947.9	3323.76	3115.19	2867.16	3194.03	22615.87		

Source : NIFT, New Delhi

[English]

Debt Recovery Tribunals

1485. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up more Debt Recovery Tribunals in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the DRT so set up in the country so far, location-wise; and

(c) the details of new DRTs set up/to be set up in the coming years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) Yes, Sir. -

(b) So far 29 Debts Recovery Tribunals (DRTs) have been set up in the country. The details of these DRTs are given in statement enclosed.

(c) It has been decided, in principle, to process the proposal for setting up new DRTs in Ahmedabad, Chandigarh, Chennai and Coimbatore and one DRT in the State of Jammu & Kashmir.

Statement**Location Wise Details of Debt Recovery Tribunals Set up in the Country so far**

S. No.	Location of DRT	State/UT
1	2	3
1.	Aurangabad	Maharashtra
2.	Mumbai-I	
3.	Mumbai-II	
4.	Mumbai-III	
5.	Nagpur	

1	2	3
6.	Pune	
7.	Chennai-I	Tamilnadu
8.	Chennai-II	
9.	Coimbatore	
10.	Kolkata-I	West Bengal
11.	Kolkata-II	
12.	Kolkata-III	
13.	Delhi-I	Delhi
14.	Delhi-II	
15.	Delhi-III	
16.	Allahabad	Uttar Pradesh
17.	Lucknow	
18.	Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh
19.	Visakhapatnam	
20.	Jaipur	Rajasthan
21.	Bangalore	Karnataka
22.	Ahmedabad	Gujarat
23.	Guwahati	Assam
24.	Patna	Bihar
25.	Jabalpur	Madhya Pradesh
26.	Ernakulam	Kerala
27.	Cuttack	Orissa
28.	Ranchi	Jharkhand
29.	Chandigarh	Chandigarh

Ramagundam Power Project

1486. SHRI B. VINOD KUMAR : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Stage-III of Ramagundam Thermal Power Plant has been commissioned;

(b) if so, the total power generation capacity of the plant and the plant load factor (PLF) of the unit;

(c) whether renovation and modernization of existing units of Ramagundam Thermal Power Project has been taken up;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether power generation capacity is likely to be enhanced after the renovation and modernization of the project; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) Yes, Sir. Stage-III of Ramagundam Super Thermal Power Project has been commissioned in August, 2004. The unit is presently under stabilization.

(b) The total power generation capacity of Ramagundam Super Thermal Power Station under commercial operation is 2100 MW. The corresponding PLF for the period from April, 2004 to February, 2005 is 89.42%. The Stage-III is under stabilization and has not been declared under commercial operation, as yet.

(c) to (f) Yes Sir. Renovation and Modernization (R&M) has been taken up in Ramagundam Super Thermal Power Project, Stage-I (3x200 MW) and Stage-II (3x500 MW) at an investment of Rs.94 crores. Renovation and Modernization (R&M) activities have been taken up in order to sustain the present level of performance.

[English]

Proposals from U.P.

1487. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the proposals sent by Uttar Pradesh Government regarding Integrated Rural Water Supply Projects; and

(b) the action taken so far or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA) : (a) No proposal regarding Integrated Rural Water Supply Project has been received from Uttar Pradesh Government.

(b) Does not arise.

Advisory Group for Banks Board

1488. SHRI DEVIDAS PINGLE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether RBI has constituted any advisory group to strengthen the supervisory role of bank boards;

(b) if so, the subjects under consideration of the said advisory group; and

(c) the time by which the aforesaid group is likely to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) to (c) Recently, RBI has not constituted any advisory group to strengthen the supervisory role of bank boards. However, RBI had earlier set up, in November, 2001, the Consultative Group of Directors of banks and financial institutions, under the chairmanship of Dr. A.S. Ganguly, to review the supervisory role of Boards of banks and financial institutions and to obtain feed back on the functioning of the Boards viz-a-vis compliance, transparency, disclosures, audit committees etc. and make recommendations for making the role of Board of Directors more effective with a view to minimising risks and over exposure. The group submitted its report in April, 2002.

On examining the recommendations of the Group, the same were forwarded along with the report, to scheduled

commercial banks (excluding foreign banks) with a request to place the same before their Boards and to adopt and implement the same based on the decision of the respective Board.

[English]

**Diversion of Foodgrains under
Rural Development Schemes**

1489. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government is aware of the misuse of the foodgrains released under various schemes to the State Governments;

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

(c) whether the Union Government intends to set up a special monitoring cell to look into such instances;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time likely to be taken to set up special monitoring cell?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL) : (a) and (b) Foodgrains are provided under the normal Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) and Special Component of SGRY. Primary responsibility for effective implantation of this programme lies on the part of State Government/Union Territory Administration. As and when such irregularities come to the notice to the Union Government, the concerned State Government/UT Administration is advised to take appropriate action to investigate and take appropriate action under the law.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

**Duty Pending Realization with
Various Commissionerates**

1490. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether several crores of rupees on account of duty were pending with various Commissionerates;

(b) if so, the details in this regard as on 31st March, 2004;

(c) the measures taken by the Government to recover the said amount; and

(d) the details of pending duty recovered during each of the last three years?

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

Bio-Mass Energy

1491. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether project namely Bio-Mass Resource Atlas of India have been taken up by the Union Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the achievement made by the Government so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. A project for compilation of a Biomass Resource Atlas for India has been sponsored by the Ministry, jointly to the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore and Regional Remote Sensing Service Centre, Bangalore. The Atlas aims at utilization of data on generation of different types of

biomass materials in various parts of the country for integration with data on their use pattern so that estimates of surplus biomass materials could be derived. Collection of required data and development of computer applications for verifying and deploying the same are in progress. The project is expected to be completed by March, 2007.

[Translation]

Survey for New Coal Deposits

1492. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK :

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY :

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is conducting survey on regular basis to identify new coal reserves in the country.

(b) if so, the details such surveys conducted during the last three years till date, State-wise;

(c) the details of coal reserves identified during the said period, location-wise; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to extract coal from these coal reserves?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO) : (a) Geological Survey of India (GSI) is conducting survey on a regular basis to identify new coal resources in the country. Apart from it, Ministry of Coal provides fund for Promotional Exploration to supplement the efforts of Regional Exploration by GSI, on plan-to-plan basis.

(b) The State-wise details of the surveys conducted during last three years by Geological Survey of India and by Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited and Central Mine Planning & Design Institute Ltd. under Regional/Promotional Exploration Programme are as under :

S.No.	State	Coalfield	No. of Blocks/ areas/sectors
1.	West Bengal	Raniganj, Birbhum	8
2.	Jharkhand	East Bokaro, South Karanpura, North Karanpura, Rajmahal Group of Coalfields	10
3.	Orissa	Talcher, Ib-River	9
4.	Chhattishgarh	Mand-Raigarh, Korba, Hasdeo-Arand, Tatapani-Ramkola, Sonhat	21
5.	Madhya Pradesh	Sohagpur, Singrauli, PENCH Valley, Tawa Valley, Sonada-Gurgunda	22
6.	Maharashtra	Kamptee, Wardha Valley, Katol, Bander	10
7.	Assam	Makum	2
8.	Andhra Pradesh	Godavari Valley	12
9.	Sikkim	Rangit Valley	1

(c) The location-wise detail of coal resources estimated under Regional & Promotional Exploration Programme are given in statement enclosed.

(d) The Exploration for new coal deposits gives regional information about the block/area. If the coal block

is found promising, further detailed exploration would be required before the scheme is taken up. Normally, it takes 5 to 7 years for completion of detailed exploration and thereafter mining project report/mining plan preparation is taken up.

Statement

Details of coal reserves, location-wise, estimated under Regional and Promotional Exploration Programme during the last three years.

Sl. No.	State	Name of block/area/Sector	Coalfield	Resource in (million tones)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	West Bengal	Rampur-Mallarpur	Birbhum	378.59
		Bistupur-Dandeswar	Raniganj	191.49
		Mahanpur	Raniganj	15.69
		Krishnanagar	Raniganj	22.13
		Barul-Bagdiha	Raniganj	24.58
		Churulia	Raniganj	200.24
		Jamgram sector	Raniganj	36.91
		Bamundihi sector	Raniganj	15.02
2.	Jharkhand	Gopalnagar-Ganpur	Birbhum	508.95
		Hetoli	South Karanpura	8.91
		Patel (West)	South Karanpura	13.91
		Umra-Paharitola	Rajmahal Group	484.44
		Chaudhar-Gariapani	Rajmahal Group	136.27
		Saharpur-Jamarpani	Rajmahal Group	973.90
3.	Madhya Pradesh	Kulkulidangal-Sitasal sector	Rajmahal Group	355.50
		Manpura	Sohagpur	14.43
		Patasi	Sohagpur	152.13

1	2	3	4	5
		Chopna-Shaktigrh	Pench-Kanhan	14.75
		Ghunghuti block	Sohagpur	144.87
		Singhpur block	Sohagpur	100.73
		Bicharpur block	Sohagpur	133.59
		Panwari block	Sohagpur	55.47
		Ujhenei-Gondbahere	Singrauli	532.04
		Bandha block	Singrauli	387.69
		Labji Pusta	Sonhat	669.00
		Suliyari Betwar	Singrauli Main Basin	81.00
4.	Chhattishgarh	Kerwa	Korba	72.50
		Ongan-Potiya	Mand-Raigarh	325.43
		Jilga-Barpali	Mand-Raigarh	545.79
		Sursa	Ramkola Tatapani	28.67
		Kente	Hasdo-Arand	102.77
		Budhajhoria	Hasdo-Arand	97.10
		Sarapal - Nuapara	Talcher	701.16
		Kudanali - Laburi	Talcher	396.10
		Nuagaon - Telisahi	Talcher	733.83
		Barpali - Karmitikra	Mand-Raigarh	179.51
		Amgaon - Khaunga	Mand-Raigarh	393.60
		Bhelmi block	Tatapani Ramkola	109.27
		Batati Kolga	Mand-Raigarh	2304
5.	Maharashtra	Bhatali	Wardha Valley	1.99
		Bharatwada	Kamptee	168.00

1	2	3	4	5
		Bhivkund	Wardha Valley	159.00
		Kalambi Kalmeshwar	Katol basin	98.00
Andhra Pradesh		Jaganathpuram - Gudipada	Godavari Valley	25.10
		Venkatapur (N)	Godavari Valley	155.95
		Dharmacheria - Abbugudem	Godavari Valley	21.52
		Santinagaram	Godavari Valley	11.85
		Chintalchilka	Godavari Valley	36.43
		Vajanagudem	Godavari Valley	29.86
		Recheria-Narsapuram	Godavari Valley	43.10
		Chandrugonda	Godavari Valley	135.00
		Yellandu	Godavari Valley	44.00
7. Orissa		Tribira block	Talcher	1049.51

Pay Scale of Employees of RRBs

1493. SHRIMATI KARUNA SHUKLA :

SHRI CHANDRA MANI TRIPATHI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Supreme Court has ordered to pay the employees of Regional Rural Banks the same scale of pay and allowances as are being paid to the equal rank employees of their promoter bank;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which the Government proposes to implement the Supreme Court's order; and

(d) the additional expenditure likely to be incurred by the Union Government as a result of implementing the said facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) to (c) In pursuance of the Hon'ble Supreme Court's judgement dated 31.1.2001 and 7.3.2002, the Government have issued order on 11.4.2001 and on 17.4.2002 respectively under second proviso to section 17(1) of the Regional Rural Banks Act, 1976 revising the pay scales of the eligible employees of all Regional rural Banks (RRBs) granting them pay scales equal to that of their counter parts in commercial banks as on 01.04.2000 by granting the benefits of 6th & 7th bipartite settlements.

(d) There is no immediate direct financial burden on Government of India on this account. It is expected that the RRBs would be in position to bear the additional expenditure on this account out of their existing resources and by improving their financial position.

12.00 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SISH RAM OLA) :

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 Bharat Gold Mines Limited, Kolar Gold Fields, for the year 2003-2004.

(ii) Annual Report of the Bharat Gold Mines Limited, Kolar Gold Fields, for the year 2003-2004, along with 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 (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1688/05]

[English]

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKARSINH VAGHELA) : I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Jute Industries' Research Association, Kolkata, for the year 2003-2004, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Jute Industries' Research Association, Kolkata for the year 2003-2004.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) show-

ing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1689/05]

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Textiles Committee, Mumbai, for the year 2003-2004, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Textiles Committee, Mumbai for the year 2003-2004.

(4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1690/05]

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the 191st Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Law Commission of India on Regulation of Funds Collected for Calamity Relief – December, 2004.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1691/05]

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the National Electricity Policy (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. 23/40/2004-R&R (Vol.II) in Gazette of India dated 12th February, 2005, issued under sub-section (1) of section 3 of the Electricity Act, 2003.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1692/05]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : On behalf of Shri S.S. Palanimanickam, I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy of the Post Office Recurring Deposit (Amendment) Rules, 2004 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 838(E) in Gazette of India dated the

27th December, 2004 under sub-section (3) of section 15 of the Government Savings Banks Act, 1873.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1693/05]

- (2) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Housing Bank, New Delhi, for the year 2003-2004, along with Audited Accounts under sub-section (5) of section 40 of the National Housing Bank Act, 1987.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1694/05]

12.01 hrs.

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON URBAN
DEVELOPMENT**

Fourth Report

[English]

MD. SALIM (Calcutta – North East) : I beg to present the Fourth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Urban Development (2004-2005) on Action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the First Report (14th Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants 2004-2005 of the Ministry of Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation.

12.02 hrs.

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE**

Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Reports

[English]

SHRI UDAY SINGH (Purnea) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Action Taken Reports (Hindi

and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Health and Family Welfare :—

- (1) Fourth Report of the Committee on Action Taken by the Department of Health on the Recommendations/observations contained in the First Report of the Committee on Demands for Grants (2004-2005) of the Department of Health;
- (2) Fifth Report of the Committee on Action Taken by the Department of Family Welfare on the Recommendations/observations contained in the Second Report of the Committee on Demands for Grants (2004-2005) of the Department of Family Welfare; and
- (3) Sixth Report of the Committee on Action Taken by the Department of AYUSH on the Recommendations/observations contained in the Third Report of the Committee on Demands for Grants (2004-2005) of the Department of AYUSH.

12.03 hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Eighth Report

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : I beg to present the Eighth Report of the Business Advisory Committee.

12.04 hrs.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND

MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : Sir, with your permission, I rise to announce that Government Business during the week commencing Monday, the 14th March 2005 will consist of :

1. Consideration of any item of the Government Business carried over from today's Order Paper.
2. Introduction, consideration and passing of :
 - (a) The Appropriation (Railways) Vote on Account Bill, 2005; and
 - (b) The Appropriation (Railways) Bill, 2005.
3. General Discussion on General Budget for 2005-2006.
4. Discussion and Voting on the following Demands and Introduction, consideration and passing of the related Appropriation Bills :
 - (a) Demands for Grants on Account (General) for 2005-06; and
 - (b) Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 2004-05.

THE SUNIL KHAN (Durgapur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:

- (i) An immediate settlement of IISCO (Indian Iron and Steel Company) merger with SAIL, a long pending revival project, should be discussed.
- (ii) The employees and workers of public sector enterprises like BOGL, HSCL, NPCC, Bum Standard, and others are not being paid four to twenty months salaries. The matter should be discussed for providing them livelihood and basic education for their children.

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, please restrict yourselves to what you have mentioned in the notices. Shri V.K. Thummar.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri V.K. Thummar, do you want to make any submission on next week's business? Please be attentive. What are the subjects that you want to be included in the next week's business?

[Translation]

SHRI V.K. THUMMAR (Amreli) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:

1. To change the rules for allotting BSNL's Simcard Agency so that alongwith experienced persons inexperienced persons may also be eligible to get agency.
2. To conduct repair work and provide new modernised, broad gauge rail service in Saurashtra and to provide basic facilities on the railway stations of Saurashtra.

PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR (Chimur) : Sir, the following items may be included in the next week's agenda of Lok Sabha :

1. The Murpar Coal Mine in Chandrapur district of Maharashtra was established in 1992. 500 tonnes of coal can be mined daily from this coal mine. In Urmed of Chandrapur district, a huge quantity of coal is being stolen by coal mafia. To extend the Murpar coal mine in Chandrapur district of Maharashtra and to start the Nand Besur, Minjhari, Bhansuli, Murpur Bandar coal mines.
2. In the Bhandara, Chandrapur, Garhchirauli district of Maharashtra state less than 50 percent amount has been spent under the Sam Vikas Yojana during the last two years. In the same manner a very small portion of the amount given for the District Rural Development Agency was spent during the last two years. The amount spent on the work of Pradhan Mantri Gramin Sadak Yojna during the last two years is also much less.

Therefore, it is necessary to investigate implementation of Sam Vikas Yojana, Rural District Development Agency and Pradhan Mantri Gramin Sadak Yojana. Immediate steps should be taken to complete the projects and to spend the previous funds during the current year.

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY (Mandsaur) : Sir, the following items may be included in the next week's agenda of Lok Sabha:

1. Many factories in the Country which have been declared sick are in a good condition and can be revived. Naya Gaon Cement factory of Neemuch district is one such factory which requires to be started again. There is a need to discuss the working of cement industry and to revive the closed cement factories.
2. If we look at the development in Telecom Sector throughout the country, we find that Madhya Pradesh is very backward and Neemuch, Ratlam, Mandsaur and Ujjain districts of Malvanchal in Madhya Pradesh are very backward in telecommunication. There is a need to provide telecom facilities in these areas.

SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD (Salempur) : Sir, the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:

1. Establishment of a Navodaya School in Deoria district.
2. Prevention of erosion caused by the Ghagra, the Rapti and the Chhoti Gandak rivers and construction of dams.

SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' (Almora) : Sir, the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:

1. Need to construct a national highway from Moradabad to Bhatraun Khan-Bhikyasen-

Chaukhatia via Ramnagar in Uttaranchal To facilitate traffic and to promote tourism.

2. Urgent need to formulate lift pumping drinking water scheme for Manila-Barkinda, Gangolihat, Bhaunkhal-Kathki, Naob, Danya-Dhauladevi, Chilyanaula-Ranikhet in Uttaranchal keeping in view the serious drinking water crisis there.

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA (Surat) : Sir, the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:

1. Pending railway projects may be included in the railway budget to defuse the tension caused by negligence of Gujarat in the railway budget and train services from Surat to Patna and Surat to Puri may be introduced.
2. Stoppage of Rajdhani Express 2432 and 2431 running between Hazrat Nizamuddin and Trivendrum may be provided at Surat.

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA (Ujjain) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:

1. Paramount priority may be accorded to power generation schemes in the country and the Union Government may provide required funds for this purpose. Gas based power generation plan in Madhya Pradesh may be installed in Ujjain district.
2. Sufficient power and water supply may be ensured for irrigation for farmers and to ensure remunerative price mechanism for agricultural products.

[English]

SHRI P. MOHAN (Madurai) : Sir, Vanakkam, I would like to submit that the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:

1. Right to employment may be made a Fundamental Right and a special discussion in this

[Shri P. Mohan]

regard may be mooted in the House for necessary Constitution Amendment; and

2. 33 per cent reservation for women in Parliament and Legislative Assemblies may be provided immediately through a relevant Constitution Amendment Bill within this Budget Session.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the following items may be included in the next week's agenda.

1. Oil refinery may be set up only in Rajasthan, not elsewhere after the exploration of natural oil in the region.
2. Financial package may be given to Rajasthan on the lines of other States

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South-Delhi) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs in Jharkhand has averred that the pro-tem Speaker of UPA has got no right to take up vote of confidence...*(Interruptions)*. One of our Members has been arrested there. There was lathi-charge and tear-gas was used...*(Interruptions)* Attempt is being made there to convert the minority into majority...*(Interruptions)*

MD. SALIM (Calcutta-North East) : Matters of Legislative Assembly cannot be discussed here...*(Interruptions)*. They had taken them to Rajasthan...*(Interruptions)* They have no regard for Legislature, they honour only the Supreme Court. So they should move the Supreme Court...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Malhotraji, let me speak for one minute.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I am deeply concerned over what you

have said about an hon. Member of the House. I do not know the details. Please give the name. I shall ask my office immediately to see that proper attention is given to him because you say that he is injured. That is my duty also and I shall do it. Please give me the particulars.

Secondly, you know very well that we cannot discuss the Assembly affairs here.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : They are not allowing voting there. They are trying to stop voting...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I am sitting here from 11 o'clock. I do not know anything about it. Nobody has informed me of it. Please appreciate this. What can I do sitting here? I have said about an hon. Member that I shall immediately take action. Please let me have the particulars.

With regard to the other matters I cannot do anything. I do not even know what was happened there. I am sitting here from 11 o'clock. I know nothing.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : It is not correct. You have not given any notice. I am sitting here since 11 o'clock. Hence I do not know what is happening there.

(Interruptions)

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : They are not allowing voting there...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please go back to your seats.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will be recorded.

(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I know nothing. I do not know anything.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : What are you doing? No notice has been given to me. Nothing is told. I am sitting here from 11 o'clock. How do I know anything?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Matters concerning Assembly cannot be discussed here.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No, I will not allow?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have already responded about the issue you have raised about the hon. Member. I do not know his name even. It is my duty to protect him. I shall do it. But I do not know anything about it.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : What is happening?

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN (Khurja) : Democracy is being murdered there....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I cannot do anything. This is not the way.

(Interruptions)

*Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER : I know nothing.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I cannot hear anything. What can I do?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned till 12.30 p.m.

12.17 hrs.

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

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Thirty minutes past Twelve of the Clock.

[Mr. SPEAKER in the Chair]

12.30 hrs.

SUBMISSION BY THE MEMBERS

Re: Political Situation in the State of Jharkhand

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, please take your seats. Shri Malhotra strongly feels about some issue. Although it relates really to an Assembly, yet in view of the feelings that have been expressed, without creating a precedent, I will allow Shri Malhotra to speak and also give opportunity to other hon. Leaders, if they wish to intervene. But, please hear. Let us listen to each other in silence, in a proper decorum and dignity.

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the issue of Jharkhand is being discussed in the entire country for the last so many days and everybody knows what the condition of democracy is there. Mr. Speaker, Sir, today order was issued to take up vote of confidence in Jharkhand and the order was

[Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra]

complied with. Protem Speaker convened a meeting wherein the vote of confidence was taken up but it happened first time in the history of this country. The Protem-Speaker there belongs to UPA Party and the Parliamentary Affairs Minister of the State stated there that Protem Speaker had no right to take up vote of confidence. What can be more incorrect than this? There was Protem Speaker in Goa as well and he also belonged to UPA. He conducted vote of confidence there. At that time every thing was alright but Protem speaker of their own Party told that he had no right to take up vote of confidence therefore no meeting should be convened. They are clearly in minority. They have a total of 34 MLAs and 45 MLAs are in Opposition. That is why it was told that it would not happen there. The meeting was convened at 11 o'clock. The meeting of the Assembly was postponed till 11.40 of the clock and when the Assembly reassembled at 11.40 a.m., it was again postponed till 11.45 and when it was reassembled at 11.45, it was again post-poned till 12 o'clock. Again it was postponed till 12.15 p.m. Now, it has been postponed till 2 P.M. It seems that vote of confidence will not take place there today. It implies that a conspiracy is being hatched to uphold the minority Government in power there. U.P.A. leaders are sitting here is it being done at the behalf of the Government?...*(Interruptions)* I would like to know whether the Prime Minister is involved in it. Whether Chief of the Congress is involved in it, by whose orders this is being done. Do not kill democracy there.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You have made your point.

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Vote of confidence should be taken there. We shall see to it at 2 o'clock...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I will call everyone to speak. Please have patience. [English] My only request is, be brief.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj, Bihar) :

Mr. Speaker, Sir, uncertainty has been prevailing in Jharkhand since the day elections were held there and the Government came into power. Everybody knows that the Bhartiya Janata Party emerged as the single largest party and its alliance has also won the maximum number of seats. It enjoys support of certain other MLAs as well, who are with the alliance....*(Interruptions)**

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please do not mention 'Rajyapal'. You know that is not permissible. [Translation] Please confine yourself to the issue under discussion.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : It is related to that only.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Do not mention that. I cannot permit it. After all, I am here to see this.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : I would like to submit that leaders of all the parties made comment on the action which was taken there in regard to the formation of the Government. So much so that CPM, CPI and even Congress Chief Smt. Sonia Gandhi expressed their resentment saying that action be taken, as per the constitution. Thereafter, when the members of the N.D.A. were not satisfied, they visited His Excellency Mr. President in a delegation. The Hon. President called the Governor and the Governor decided that the vote of confidence would take place on 15th of March. The former Chief Minister of Jharkhand Shri Arjun Munda filed a writ in the Supreme Court and whatever decision was given by the Supreme Court, made you unhappy as well. You convened an all party meeting yesterday, and I had also attended it. We are sitting in the Supreme elected body of the country observing all decorum. It is necessary to reflect upon all what is taking place in the Country. Earlier it happened in Goa, now it is taking place in Jharkhand. When incidents of this nature take place we feel compelled to question

*Not recorded.

and at times feel helpless and wonder what indeed we can do from here. Through you, I would like to know from the Government whether we can do any justice, take any decision, find any solution. If not, then where can we find the forum from where we can address these issues of injustice and harassment?

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the way the House has been adjourned thrice in Jharkhand and the incidents of physical assault have taken place and it has been informed telephonically that the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs has raised a question mark over the authority of the Protem Speaker to seek confidence vote, I know they are not in majority there. Not only we, but the entire Country apprehends that Congress is playing a mischief, that this action is being taken with the intention of invoking President's Rule in Jharkhand. Through you, I would like to state that....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Prabhunath Singh, you have made your point. You have made it very forcefully.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : This way the constitution is being violated. Stringent measure should be taken to check this and some action should be taken by taking the House in to Confidence.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri) Mr. Speaker, Sir, experiments are going on in this country, earlier it was in Goa, now it is in Jharkhand...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Let us not repeat what others have said. Mr. Braja Kishore Tripathy, you associate with what Prof. Malhotra has said....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : The U.P.A. Government intends to form Government there. If not, then

President's Rule should be invoked there. I feel the U.P.A. Government is trying to create the similar situation which existed during 1975. All this is being done to sabotage and finish democracy. This way democracy will no longer remain in the country. How will there be parliamentary democracy when people like us are sitting here... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please co-operate. We should not create a precedent like this.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : If the high level constitutional authority will not abide by the constitution and by the decision of the Supreme Court then how will democracy survive in the country...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Neither myself nor the House can do it.

[Translation]

We can not take decision.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : I would like to tell the U.P.A. Government and leader of the ruling party sitting here, that the entire country is apprehensive of what is taking place in Jharkhand. I feel that such things should not take place. The majority party should form the Government which is not and I associate myself with it and express my opposition. All this drama is being played to invoke President's Rule there. It should not happen.

SHRI ANANT GANAGARAM GEETE (Ratnagiri) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, In constitutional democracy...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please associate yourself with what Prof. Malhotra and Mr. Prabhunath Singh have submitted.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : The role of majority is vital in Parliamentary democracy and the way even after majority was proved in Goa....(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Nalanda) : Sir, I should also be given a chance to speak.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Prabhunath Singh has spoken on your behalf. You have lost your chance.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : How can I lose my chance? ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : My weakness for you should not be taken to that length... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Geete ji, please speak on the issue.

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am coming to that.

What happened in Goa is being repeated in Jharkhand. Today they are trying to do the same in Jharkhand. That is why we are always apprehensive about it. The common people of the country get apprehensive when the Government says that they have nothing to do with this, they say that we should respect the constitution. It is the responsibility of the Hon'ble Governor, who is the Constitutional head, to respect the Constitution but unfortunately when it is time to do so.... (Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : That will not go on record. You may speak, except that portion.

[Translation]

You please sit.

*Not recorded.

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : Therefore when the majority was proven in Goa, the assembly was dissolved and so was the Government. Now it is the same situation in Jharkhand. Mr. Speaker, Sir, today in Jharkhand... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I asked you to speak, but do not misuse it.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : The reality will always come out. The present situation in Jharkhand is such that those who have formed the Government are in minority and inspite of that they were allowed to form the Government and the Government was formed there... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now, Shri Mohan Singh. Please cooperate with the Chair.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : Later the NDA proved its majority in front of the Hon'ble President. Today the NDA Government has full majority in the House. Pro-tem Speaker has been appointed there. The Supreme Court has given the decision... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please conclude, everybody knows that.

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : But the decision of the Supreme Court is not being complied with over there. Now the Government is taking this stand that Pro-tem Speaker has no right to run the House to prove the majority to form the Government... (Interruptions) Like this they are gradually trying to bring the same situation in Jharkhand as it is in Goa today. A conspiracy is being hatched to impose Presidents rule over there.... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I am appealing to you, I have allowed

some discussion which is not permitted. Even then, you are not cooperating. This is not fair. You give your word, but do not keep it up. Do not think it as a weakness of the Chair.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : There are talks of again imposing the President's rule over there... (Interruptions) Mr. Speaker, Sir, they are subverting the democracy over there under a conspiracy... (Interruptions) The democracy is being killed over there and the Union Government is keeping quiet... (Interruptions) The manner in which democracy is being killed... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Geeteji, what is this? We trust you, you also cooperate with us.

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : That is why the people of the country believe that the Union Government is responsible for all this.... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing more of him will be allowed to go on record.

(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Now, Shri Mohan Singh will speak, at the request of Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, whatever is happening in Jharkhand is a cause of concern for anyone who believes in Parliamentary Democracy and I do not believe that the Government will somehow be able to conceal its own fault in this. I believe it is very unfair and it goes against the spirit of the Constitution if our Constitution intends to establish the hegemony of Union Government by smothering the States' rights. We are against the NDA. Yesterday the NDA protested strongly against our Government. In spite of that we are in favour

*Not recorded.

of letting the parties or coalition having majority in a State to form the Government and not to deprive them on their right. I believe that if Centre's rule is imposed somehow and the States are run by the Union Government these, it is against the spirit of our Constitution. Therefore, I would like to appeal to the Government that the whole country is watching them if they try to conceal their mistakes by pleading innocence and say that the Union Government does not have any hand in this.

MR. SPEAKER : Please don't ask me.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : Sir, I am not saying anything to you, I am saying it to the Government. I would like to warn the Union Government that the majority party in Jharkhand should be called to form the Government. To decide as to who has the majority on date in the assembly there... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please do not interfere.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : A sitting of the assembly was held there. The assembly over there met only for this... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Mohan Singh ji, you are a very senior Member.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : The sitting of assembly was held to decide as to who has the majority over there at present. A situation is being created over there to postpone this issue so as to implement president's rule. This situation will be sad for the future of democracy in this country... (Interruptions) I am saying so while looking at the lurking danger on Uttar Pradesh... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Okay. You have made your point. Nothing will be recorded except the observations of the hon. Members whom I call.

Now, Shri Gurudas Dasgupta.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (Panskura) : Respectful Speaker, Sir, let me make it very clear that our Party - L.

[Shri Gurudas Dasgupta]

in general - does not approve of the things that are developing or allowed to develop in Jharkhand. We are extremely sorry because democracy is being tinkered with, not by one Party but by a number of Parties. Country is losing because democratic institutions are loosing ...*(Interruptions)* I will come to that later on, if you allow me to speak.

MR. SPEAKER : You may ignore him, because that is not being recorded.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : I am of the opinion that Shri Shibu Soren should not have been allowed to form the Government. So hastily, he should not have been allowed to form the Government. We are of the opinion that the Assembly should not be prevented from deciding who is in the majority. The Assembly should be allowed to function to decide about the combination having majority and as to who should form the Government. We are also of the view that the President Rule should be the last resort because there had been voting, an arithmetic and an election. While saying so, may I very honestly and frankly submit, if hon. Members remain patient, I have made my position clear with regard to what has happened in Jharkhand but I am very sorry to say the way in which the MLAs were taken from Jharkhand to Rajasthan ...*(Interruptions)* I am very sorry, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : What is this. Please conclude now.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : I am only saying that the democracy can survive if the political Parties agree to conform to the rule of the game. If the rule of the game has been violated by one Party in Jharkhand, it is equally true that the rule of the game has been violated by almost kidnapping the MLAs from Jharkhand. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members's importance is not being determined by the order in which I call them to speak. It just happens like this. All are very hon. Members.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam) : Sir, the whole country knows that according to the judgement of the Supreme Court, the *pro tem* Speaker has to seek the show of strength on the floor of the House. So far, the House has been adjourned four times. It seems that he wants to create a mess in the House which will ultimately lead to the President's Rule in the State. This will lead to the burial of democracy. We will have to save the democracy. Parliament is the supreme body. The action of the *pro tem* Speaker is the most illegal. The UPA Government is engineering all these things. We will have to take a decision. This is not good for the democracy. The Supreme Court order should be implemented as it is. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You have made your position clear. I cannot implement it.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It is not being recorded. I appeal to all the hon. Leaders, to please allow other hon. Members to speak. I have allowed him, and all the hon. Leaders present here. to speak.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur) : I have a different opinion on this. Is it something unprecedented that the House is discussing the functioning of the Assembly of a State?...*(Interruptions)* We were listening to him when he was speaking, we made no protest. Now let me speak.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I am requesting all the hon. Leaders to request their party Members to cooperate.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we did not interfere when they were speaking. Now, when I am speaking they should listen to me. I feel it quite strange that we are discussing the functioning of

Jharkhand assembly whereas we do not have any confirmed information as to what is happening over there...*(Interruptions)*

Mr. Speaker, Sir, is there any hon'ble Member to give authentic information regarding what is happening in Jharkhand State Assembly. He may please tell, this is my first question? ...*(Interruptions)* Sir, we want to know ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please listen. Sit down. Malhotra ji, I have told you twice, please ask your members to keep quite. We have listened to all. I have to listen to all the Members.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to know as to who has the authentic information about the Jharkhand State Assembly? What is the issue that we are discussing here?...*(Interruptions)* This discussion is immature.

(English)

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing else, except the hon. Member whom I have called, will be recorded.

(Translation)

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am surprised that it will not be good if the level of discussion goes down like this. Yesterday we raised this question in the House that there should be no discussion on it and there should be no confrontation between Judiciary and Parliamentary democracy, Parliament or the Legislature. After a lot of discussion we called an all party meeting and said that it is a very sensitive issue. If such a practice is established once, then everytime anything that will take place in any assembly would also be discussed here.

(English)

MR. SPEAKER : Your point is noted.

(Interruptions)

(Translation)

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Therefore, we should maintain a high standard of discussion. The topic being discussed in the House today is not according to the rules, it is against the precedent...*(Interruptions)*

(English)

MR. SPEAKER : I have said that I am allowing it without creating any precedent.

(Interruptions)

(Translation)

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Sir, I would like to ask the Members, who are talking of majority, whether a person from their party which was in minority was not sworn as the Chief Minister in Bihar?

(English)

MR. SPEAKER : Please cooperate. I have called Shri Rupchand Pal.

(Interruptions)

(Translation)

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Maintaining the convention, even that time we did not hold any discussion concerning the role of Governor. I would like to ask him again, did we not help their Government in Bihar to have vote of confidence?...*(Interruptions)* That time also I had said so and still I say that the role of the Governor should not be debated here.

MR. SPEAKER : I did not allow a debate on the role of the Governor and you are aware of it. So, please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Mr. Seaker, Sir, it should be investigated as to how the legislators from Jharkhand were abducted and taken to Rajasthan. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing else except what Shri Rupchand Pal says, will be recorded.

(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Nalanda) : Mr. Speaker, sir, Shri Devendra Prasad Yadavji has directly referred to something...(Interruptions)

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Sir, I have, not named anything. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : All right, he has not named but he indirectly referred to Therefore, I also should be given as opportunity to speak. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : There was a solemn agreement. I am sure all of you wish to comply with that agreement. Please be brief and to the point. There is no question of repetition.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hooghly) : In your wisdom you have allowed the issue to be raised and you have also stated that this should not be taken as a precedent. The House should not be used in such a manner, as is transpiring or happening in the Assembly. At the State level, the Assembly Members should take their own decision on the floor of the Assembly. But what is happening to the democracy today is a matter of great concern to all of us. This side or that side is not a matter because their track record is very much known. The ultimate thing which they have done by kidnapping the MLAs and keeping them in confinement...(Interruptions) they have no moral right to raise this issue.

*Not recorded.

Sir, to put the records straight, I would submit that in the interest of democracy, the floor should be the ultimate deciding factor to form the Government and to elect the Chief Minister in all these cases. What is happening is a matter of great concern. Interference in the legislature by the judiciary is also another matter of great concern.

[Translation]

SHRI BRAJESH PATHKA (Unnao) : Mr. Speaker, sir, this issue was supposed to be debate in the Legislative Assemblies, whereas it is being debated in this House. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : At least, sometime you should listen to the request of the Chair.

[Translation]

SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to make my views clear on this issue on behalf of my party - Bahujansamaj Party. It has been enshrined in the constitution that welfare measures should be taken for upliftment of dalits, backward class and the tribals. But, how said it is that when a tribal took oath of the office of Chief Minister, there has been hue and cry through out India. ...(Interruptions)

Mr. Speaker, Sir, Hon. Members should be instructed to hear me as you have allowed me to speak. There is pandemonium in the House.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Let there be an order in the House. Please conclude. Please be brief.

[Translation]

SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK : I would conclude with these two lines.

"Chaman ko sinchane main kutch pattiyan jhar gayi hongI.

Ijham hai mujh par bewafai ka.

Jinhone kaliyon ko rond dala.

Ve dawa kar rahen hain watan ki rahanumai ka"

Friends, it is an open-secret what happened to the previous Government in Bihar?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Pathak ji, Please be brief.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to say that it is the policy of BSP that the oppressed, and backward classes should be given participation in the governance. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now the Leader of the House to speak.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Do not record anything. Nothing will be recorded except the intervention of the hon. Leader of the House. Please keep you promise.

*(Interruptions)**

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : Sir, with your permission, I would like to make a small submission. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Ramdas Athawale, nothing will be recorded. Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It seems, you are defying the Chair deliberately.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You are defying the Chair.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You are defying the Chair. This is the third warning. After third warning, you do not know what will happen.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : Sir, I did not have any intention of participating in this discussion as I believe

*Not recorded.

that Constitution has clearly earmarked the areas of functioning, jurisdiction of the State Legislative Assembly, and Parliament. Therefore, what is relevant to the State should be discussed and debated on the floor of the Assembly including the expression of confidence or no-confidence. This is the exclusive jurisdiction of the members of the State Legislative Assembly in respect of State political executive. But while making observations, some hon. Members have drawn the inference as if what is happening in Jharkhand, Union Government is responsible for that or the Congress Party is responsible for that. ...*(Interruptions)*

Most respectfully I would like to submit that I have listened to you with rapt attention and patience and I expect the similar treatment to me when I speak. It is not necessary that you should agree with what I say or I should agree with your views. But here we have the right to exchange our views and minimum thing which we demand, as you have very correctly pointed out, is the patience of listening to each other.

Certain references to Goa and other things have also been made. I had the privilege of being in the other House for a pretty long time. We discussed the State matters when the State is brought under the President's Rule under Article 356. We will have the opportunity to discuss what has happened in Goa and what has happened in Bihar when we would discuss their Budgets and the Resolutions for the approval of the Presidential Proclamation as these two States are under President's Rule. Therefore, we will respond to those points which have been referred to and what led to the imposition of President's Rule in Goa. This is not the occasion to discuss that.

This is an occasion to discuss what has happened in Jharkhand. What is happening in Jharkhand Assembly is not known to us authoritatively because whatever is happening there is still unfolding. We have heard from the media that the State Assembly has been adjourned from time to time. The Government will have to ascertain the factual position from the authoritative sources if they want to share it with the House. There are procedures for that.

[Shri Pranab Mukherjee]

The short point which I want to clear is that we want a decision should be taken on the floor of the Jharkhand Assembly. We would expect that the people of Jharkhand would have whichever Government they want.

13.00 hrs.

But so far as the Union Government is concerned, we have nothing to do with the developments whatever are taking place in Jharkhand. We have made it quite clear. Even political functionaries, party functionaries, the hon. Prime Minister, the hon. Home Minister have made it quite clear and I am reiterating that what is happening there is a matter of the State and there is no occasion where the Government of India has to intervene. In the Constitution there is a provision when the Government of India has to intervene. Unless that situation arises, there is no question of the Government of India's intervention. We have nothing to do with what is happening there right now....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Priyaranjan Das Munshi ji said that Sonia ji had sent him for forming the Government.(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2 p.m.

13.01 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch
till Fourteen of the Clock.*

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch
at Four minutes past Fourteen
of the Clock.*

14.04 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

RAILWAY BUDGET, 2005-06—GENERAL
DISCUSSION
DEMANDS FOR GRANTS ON ACCOUNT—
(RAILWAYS), 2005-06
DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS –
(RAILWAYS) - 2004-05

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : We will now take up item Nos. 10 to 12 together pertaining to Railway Budget, 2005-06.

Shri Jai Prakash (Hissar) was on his legs when the House adjourned yesterday, So, I would request Shri Jai Prakash to continue his speech.

[Translation]

SHRI JAI PRAKASH (Hissar) : Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I was saying that the hon. Minister of Railways has taken a highly praiseworthy steps by providing 75% concession in train fares to the children of rural areas for undertaking tours. Often children born and brought up in rich families only get a chance to tour the country and the children of poor labourers, farmers or from other poor families are deprived of such facility. So, the UPA Government have done a commendable job in this regard. But I would like to request the hon. Minister of Railways that 50% rebate in freight for carrying dead body should be made cent percent.

Railway is a very large Ministry. Recruitment to group 'D' posts in Railways should be direct and youths from rural areas, who are poor and unemployed indeed should be recruited. If the Ministry recruits such youth to group 'D' posts railways, will no doubt, progress ahead.

My colleagues were telling yesterday that train fares have not been increased but freight rates have been. I would like to tell them that freight rates were increased neither last year not this year. And it is highly praiseworthy.

The rebate in case of carriage of kerosene oil, Gas etc., items of common utility is also praise-worthy.

The Minister has taken good steps for expansion of rail network, for setting up rail-coach, sleepers factory and for resource mobilisation. I would like to tell the hon. Railway Minister that in the current Budget, he has made no provision for starting any new train in Haryana, locked by Delhi from three sides. Jind is the political capital of Haryana. There is a great need of an over-bridge over there. So an over-bridge over NH-71 should be constructed. Ujhanakalan is a historically important place. As this city is divided into two parts by a line therefore, there is a need of over-bridge at Ujhanakalan also. When special trains are deployed to carry grains for FCI, railway crossing remains closed for hours. This morning I had talks with our newly sworn in Chief Minister in this regard. He assured that the State Government would provide funds for it. When the Central Government grants approval we would provide our share of funds. A railway over-bridge should also be constructed in Narwana. It is also divided into two parts. A train from Jind to Chandigarh should be started. Neither laying of a track or any other work is required for this purpose. Track exits on Jind - Narwana, Kathal - Kurukshetra, Ambala - Chandigarh line and a train already runs between Jind and Kurukshetra. My submission is that it should be extended upto Chandigarh. Chandigarh is the capital of Haryana. Train fare is lesser than that of buses and train journey is safe also. If the said train is extended upto Chandigarh it would facilitate people of low income group in reaching Chandigarh. It is a well known fact that train journey is quite safe and inexpensive also. Therefore, this train may please be extended upto Chandigarh.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Why should it not be extended upto Delhi?

(Interruptions)

SHRI JAI PRAKASH : There is a direct track from Jind to Delhi. When Choudhary Bansi Lal was the Railway Minister he introduced a train from Bhiwani to Rohtak-

Chandigarh. However, this area does not have rail facility. Now, I would take up his state. Since Beas is a very important place, a train between Jind and Amritsar should be started. People travel daily from Jind to Beas. My submission is that introduction of a train between Jind and Amritsar would not only facilitate the commuters but would also generate revenue for the railways. Since the combination of Haryana no new railway station has been added to it. Jharoda Kalan is a historical place in district Jind. Jain pilgrims visit this place as it is Jaini's biggest pilgrim centre in India. He would be astonished to know that even local Jats too believe in Jainism. Jain's all over the country through to this place. At least, if a halt is provided at this place, the people would be highly obliged.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the land of farmers was acquired for laying railway line. At several places there is no railway crossing. Similarly, no railway crossing exists for transportation of grains by farmers, fodder for animals or for going to the fields. My submission is that there is a need for constructing railway crossing at 4-5 places so that it can facilitate farmers to cross the line while carrying the grains as crop is grown twice in a year. They have to travel many kilometers. In absence of any proper railway crossing, it is quite risky to cross the railway line as the train may arrive any time which may cause accident. My submission is that these crossings should be constructed. I am not talking of any particular state, I meant there is a need to carry out these works in Haryana. Railway is the only means which connects the entire India. The way we talk of national language for integrity of our country, the same way railway is the biggest means of integration. A poor man travel by train whereas rich people travel either by air or buses or in private vehicles. Therefore, my submission is that rail network should be further expanded so that the common man may avail its benefits.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, yesterday my several colleagues were saying that this Budget presented by Lalaji is meaningless. They are right to a certain extent as Lalu's ideology is different from its meaning. This Budget takes care of the poor, common man and the farmers. One can see that the rate of accidents in railways has fallen

[Shri Jai Prakash]

in present UPA's regime and the Ministry of Railways is functioning in a better way.

I mentioned about milk. My friends ask how it would be carried in trains? They are not aware from where the milk comes and how it is carried. Even today, milk is transported to the metros from as far as 100 kms. Take the case of Delhi. In Delhi milk is supplied both from Uttar Pradesh and Haryana. Common men have been given concession in this Budget. And that is why a common man praises the Budget but it pinches the pinch. During their rule, second class fares were increased whereas first class fares decreased. Today, Lalaji has not increased second class rail fares and it is highly praiseworthy. I would like to say that the extant Budget is quite good and it is a pro-common-man and pro-poor Budget. Thus all should speak in favour of it. So far as the role of opposition is concerned, let them perform it. They can debate over it, criticise it but should not treat it this way. Opposition should praise good work and if it is wrong, they should surely criticise it. Therefore, I would like to tell my friends sitting that side that they can point out lapses of the Ministry but they should at least sometimes say that the Ministry is functioning very well and that they praise it. I again welcome this Rail Budget.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore) : During our rule, when was first class fare decreased and that of second class increased? Please give one example. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : This will not go on.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI JAI PRAKASH : They plotted Godhara carnage...*(Interruptions)* Now, Banerjee report will be presented*...*(Interruptions)* I would request hon. Lalaji to lay Banerjee report. ...*(Interruptions)*

*Not recorded.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : Tell him to cite such an example...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing should be recorded.

*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

SHRI SITA RAM SINGH (Sheohar) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the rail budget presented by the Railway Minister is very progressive. This budget is for the poor, common and unemployed people. Therefore, I would like to thank the Railway Minister. Many rail budget have been presented in the House so far and the House has been approving them but the budget for 2005-2006 is very important in itself. Without increasing passenger fares and freight rates the Ministry is earning profit and hence this budget is important in itself. Hon'ble Members have had a comprehensive debate on the proposals made by the hon'ble Railway Minister in the rail budget for passenger facilities and on other issues mentioned by him during his speech. While talking of passenger facilities I would particularly like to mention that the farmers and milkmen of this country had no relief earlier in rail journey. However, this is the first budget of its kind in which concession in fares has been provided to the small, middle class farmers and milkmen as poor people were already getting relief. That is why it is a note worthy feature.

They had already made provisions in the budget for Central Government jobs. But this time concession in fares has been given to the unemployed youth for appearing in State Government services that is really worth mentioning. One more thing that I found important while going though the rail budget is that earlier there was no vacancy system in the reservation of bogies. However, this

*Not recorded.

time I have read in the rail budget that the vacant seats will be mentioned for passengers facility, this is a good thing and it will discourage their employees from misusing it and the passengers will become aware of the vacancies and those seats will certainly be provided to them.

Sir, the provisions made by him in this rail budget to provide employment to the Schedule castes, Schedule tribes, backward classes, minorities without giving tenders is praise worthy. It was not so earlier. It is true that there was a hue and cry everywhere when Railway Recruitment Board started recruiting group-D employees. People faced great difficulties. A proposal has been made to make changes in that. This is a laudable step. Now the applicants will be able to appear in the examinations and get selected in the same railway zone where they are residing. This will provide relief to the applicants.

Sir, I have been listening to the speeches of many hon'ble Members saying that rail facility has not been provided in their areas or has not been provided as per their requirement. In this year's rail budget a proposal has been made to lay important rail lines and to start new projects in the entire country. I would like to clarify that no rail budget can resolve all the railway related problems and meet the demands of the entire country in one time and that no Government can have so many resources with them. It is very good to make a proposal to use the sources available with the Union Government and Railway Ministry properly and systematically. The hon'ble Railway Minister is going to inaugurate a number of new important trains today evening. I would like to say that ever since Shri Lalu Prasad Yadav Ji has become Railway Minister he has been trying to provide maximum possible facilities to the poor people, farmers, unemployed and common people of the country. In this process the hon'ble Railway Minister is trying to lay railway lines in areas where there was no rail line till now. I appreciate his efforts. Here, I would like to say that there are some problems persisting in Bihar and they are very important. The funds allocated for the bridge being constructed over the Ganga river are inadequate, the amount should be increased. I would like

to request the hon'ble Minister to set a time limit for its completion and additional funds should be provided for this purpose.

Sir, secondly, I would like to say that there is a place Bairgania in Sitamarhi district on the border of Nepal where agitation has been going on for years and a number of people have committed suicide for this. There is a bridge in Bairgania, known by the name of Vanshi Chacha since ages. It is an important bridge situated between Bairgania and Dheng and it connects India and Nepal. I had shown this bridge to the hon'ble Minister also. That bridge have not been included in this year's budget. I would request him that some provisions should be made for this bridge which connects two countries and for which agitations have been going on for years. At two places between Hajipur and Ekhara there are level crossings that cause a lot of delay. This is an important state highway which connects many districts with the capital. There is a need to construct overbridges at those two places. In this Rail budget places like Madhubani, Sitamarhi, Bairgania etc. have been misprinted. It needs to be corrected. This rail route goes to Chakia, Madhuban, Sheohar, Sitamarhi and upto Madhubani. It should be corrected because it has been misprinted in the rail budget. This was included in the proposal only on my request. On the Sitamarhi-Narkatiaganj Rail line train passes through Babhangama. Therefore, I demand that a halt should be provided at Babhangama and an fullfledged station should be constructed over there. Patna is the Capital of Bihar. Patna-Gaya rail line is very old. There is a heavy rush there because a number of people travel on this route daily. Neither a new rail line has been constructed nor any new train has been started. Therefore, DMU train should be run there for public convenience.

There is a bridge between Jahanabad and Arbal. It is a very old and narrow bridge which can cause accident anytime. Therefore, either a new bridge should be constructed there or its maintenance should be done properly.

With these words I support the rail budget and conclude my speech.

SHRI RAJARAM PAL (Bilhaur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I thank you for providing me an opportunity to speak on the railway budget. I also take this opportunity to express my felicitations on behalf of the Bhaujan Samaj Party to Mr. Speaker, the entire House and the hon. Prime Minister. I have gone through the entire railway-budget very carefully. I am short of words to appreciate the concern shown by the hon. Railway Minister in making provisions for the poor people, Dalits, backward classes, deprived people and people residing in the rural areas in his railway budget.

It was stated by Father of the Indian constitution Dr. Ambedkar that however good the Constitution may be unless the intent of the people responsible for enforcing the constitution is noble, the constitution would not serve its purpose however good it may be.

Railway budgets have been introduced in the House on earlier occasions as well. Though our colleagues sitting in the opposition may have been talking about poor people, dalit classes and backward people and may even have been sharing khichdi – Bhoj (during table) with them but they never talk about actually embracing their cause or empowering them. A commendable work has been done in this railway budget by providing facilities for the people being oppressed for thousands of years. Several new trains have been introduced in the railway budget keeping in view the convenience of the public and several important decisions like doubling of railway tracks and gauge conversion of certain routes, have been taken. I welcome these provisions also on behalf of my party.

I welcome also the decision to provide reservation in the railway facilities to people belonging to the scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and all the sections of the backward classes. I also welcome the decision of providing 50 per cent concession in railway fares to unemployed youths travelling to appear for interviews for jobs. The concession in fares given to farmers and milk producers travelling from one state to another is also a welcome step. I also welcome the step of providing 75 per cent

concession in second class fares to girl students studying in government rural schools and candidates appearing for national-level competitive examinations in engineering, medical and vocational courses.

Alongwith this, I would like to give certain suggestions. Special attention should be paid to convert the brake system of the trains from the existing general vacuum system to the air / pressure brake system. I would also like to request the hon. Minister of Railways to pay special attention to the facilities for passengers in the waiting list in addition to those having reservation in the sleeper bogies of all mail express trains running from Delhi to Kanpur, Patna, Howrah, so that all passengers travel with reservation. Attention should also be paid to cleanliness and power supply and safety of trains to facilitate comfortable and safe journey to passengers.

These days incidents of maltreatment of passengers by the para-military forces are reported in the newspapers. Some passengers were thrown out of a moving trains after quarrel between passengers and para-military force. Therefore, it is requested that separate arrangement may be made for paramilitary forces by attaching additional bogies to all the major trains.

Uttar Pradesh is the largest state of this country but this state has been ignored in this budget. Additional provision should be made for Uttar Pradesh in this budget so that it may not appear that it is either being ignored or neglected in this budget.

Alongwith this I would like to place certain demands for my constituency and Uttar Pradesh before the hon. Minister of Railways. The railway track from Kanpur to Manikpur via Banda may be doubled and electrified. A computerised railway reservation centre may be opened at Udyognagari, and Sumerpur railway station on the Banda-Kanpur rail route. Rewa Express train should be provided stoppage at Fatehpur railway station between New Delhi and Allahabad An overbridge should be constructed at Bindki road on the New Delhi-Allahabad route.

I had referred to my Parliamentary Constituency Bilhaur and Kalyanpur legislative assembly constituency of Uttar Pradesh during discussion on the last budget as well there are several crossing due to which there are traffic jams. Last time also it was requested by me that the railway line from Kanpur Central Station to Rawatpur-Mandhna-Farrukhabad may be closed and the said line may be extended from the Kanpur Central station upto Mandhana Farrukhabad via Panki. The proposal of changing the route of the train from Kanpur Central station to Rawatpur Mandhna, Farrukhabad and to make it from Kanpur Central to Panki via Mandhna Farrukhabad be accepted in this budget. Alongwith this another request to was made construct an overbridge at Rawatpur crossing owing to heavy traffic jams. There is Bhavpur Maintha railway station in my constituency from where Nursery and Higher Secondary School children hardly find a passage and due to which accidents are also very frequent. I had made a written request in this regard even last time. I would like that an overbridge or an under-pass may be constructed over there. Poor people, deprived class, dalits, all have been shown proper concern in this budget. Particular attention should be paid to all kinds of problems enumerated by me in Kanpur. With this I conclude my speech by welcoming this railway budget.

*SHRI P. MOHAN (Madurai) : Let me convey my appreciation at the outset congratulating our hon. Railway Ministers both Shri Lalu and Shri Velu for their commendable performance in presenting for the second consecutive year a burden-free Budget. There is no increase in fare for the second year in a row.

Government school students from rural areas and patients travelling by train for treatment and Dalit students are getting rail travel concession. I welcome them.

You have introduced 46 new express trains. Of these 6 will be directly benefitting Tamil Nadu. Hence I thank the Railway Minister both as an MP from Tamil Nadu and the people's representative from Madurai.

*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil

There is another welcome announcement in this Budget with regard to unemployed youth. Last year it was announced that candidates attending interview for Central Government jobs would be getting free travel concession. This year it has been extended to candidates attending job interviews held by State Governments. Let me appreciate this gesture. This has been announced to benefit unemployed youth attending personal interviews for jobs both in Central and State Government services. As such announcements are good but it would be better still if they are implemented. What is there in reality? I have an apprehension whether Railways and authorities are aware of the ground reality which is far from enthusing. As such personal interviews have become a rare thing in selection for posts both in Central and State Governments. There are direct written test selection procedures. In such recruitments personal interviews are rare. Based on performance in competition and skill tests candidates are selected. Hon. Railway Minister has announced free travel concessions only to candidates appearing for personal interviews which are becoming increasingly rare.

I know personally two families from Thanjavur. Youth from these families attended written and skill tests more than twice for a single selection at Bangalore for Hubli division. Both the lady candidates from rural areas were called for both written test and skill test for the post of Stenographers last year. They went for medical tests also. This selection was for Railways. But still they were given neither travel concession nor fare reimbursement as part of free travel concession scheme. On enquiry they were informed by the Railway officials that only those who cleared medical tests would be eligible for travel concession when they come with the order of appointment on selection. This happened in August 2004 during the selection of stenographers. This only shows that there is no personal interview in Railways' own selection and hence free travel concession announcement in itself is a vain attempt. So I urge upon the hon. Railway Minister to extend this announced free travel concession to all the unemployed candidates appearing for all recruitment tests both in Central and State Governments.

[Shri P. Mohan]

Both the hon. Railway Ministers Shri Laluji and Shri Veluji recently participated in a function at Madurai. They were accorded a warm reception. Even Laluji picked up some Tamil words like 'Vaango and 'Pongo which means 'please come' and 'please go'. He announced of introducing 'Sampark Kranthi Express' a direct express train from Madurai to Chennai. This train has not become popular for two reasons. Departure and arrival timings are unearthly and always tickets are not available even when the trains run without enough passengers. I have taken this to the notice of the officials also. Despite my drawing their attention not much has been done as yet. I am afraid there is an attempt to withdraw or cancel once and for all that train. I charge the Railways that this is a deliberate attempt made both in Delhi and in Madurai.

I have a copy of the ticket to travel by Sampark Kranthi Express train from Delhi to Madurai. The ticket was booked on 6.1.05 for travel on 18.1.05. The ticket was given with waiting list number 2, 3 and 4 and the RAC number 5, 6 and 7.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri P. Mohan, if you are reading your printed speech then please lay it on the Table of the House.

SHRI P. MOHAN : Sir, I want to explain one important matter. Then, I will lay it on the Table of the House.

On 18th of January when those passengers went to board the train they noticed that the train was almost empty and there were only very few passengers. More than half of the coach was vacant. Many other coaches were also found vacant. When that is so how can there be non-availability of confirmed tickets for bookings made at least 12 days in advance. It is incomprehensible. This is third time my attention has been drawn to this kind of state of affairs.

Let me come to fund allocation to announced projects and ongoing projects in Tamil Nadu. On the day when

Budget was presented this year, our hon. Minister Shri R. Velu met the press. He announced that Rs.438 crore were allocated for projects to be carried out in Tamil Nadu this year. Let men compare it with 'Tamil Nadu at a Glance' statement for the year 2004-05. The allocation made last year was Rs.354.38 crore. In that event Tamil Nadu has got just an increase of Rs.113.62 crore. Last year also new lines were not announced for Tamil Nadu. This year also there are no new projects. Even for ongoing schemes the fund allocation is nil or negligible. For instance 150 kms stretch of Tiruchy-Manamadurai section was conceived at a cost of Rs.187.91 crore. In 2002-03 only Rs.1.05 crore was allocated for this project and it was Rs.0.56 crore in the subsequent year. This year no fund indicated and is also stated that the target date for completion has not been fixed as yet. So is the fate of Trichy-Nagore-Karaikal (200 kms) project. Anticipated cost was Rs.211.36 crore. In 2002-03 the allocation was Rs.93.59 crore and it was Rs.6.85 crore in the subsequent year. Now Thanjavur-Tiruvarur section has been completed and a mere 30 kms Tiruvarur Nagore-Karaikal link has been left incomplete without fixing target date.

This year's Budget as well as last year's Budget do not carry new gauge conversion projects and new doubling works. Sir, new trains have been announced but no new lines are forthcoming even when there is a huge demand.

Our Minister of State for Railways Shri Velu announced recently about the introduction of weekend express trains directly between Chennai and Madurai soon. But I do not find a mention of it and also Nagarcoil-coimbatore in the current Budget. I request the hon. Minister to ensure that it does not end up as mere announcement. He had already announced in a press meet at Madurai some months back that there would be a day time passenger train between Madurai and Viluppuram. There is no reference to it in the year's Budget. I urge upon the Railways to run both these trains as announced. But still I welcome the announcement about introduction of new trains considering their utility value to the public.

When it comes to road over bridges Madurai Ellis Nagar, Madurai Vaigai Paalam, Madurai Shanthi Nagar – Koodal Nagar are still under construction. I request the Railway Minister to expedite the completion of these projects while taking up the much emphasised Thirupparankundram ROB project at the earliest. The new line Dindigul-Periyakulam-Sabarimalai has not been announced in this year. Madurai-Anupukothai-Tuticorin gauge conversion is not there. Gauge conversion of Tuticorin-Tirunelveli is also not there. Doubling of Madurai-Dindigul top has not been taken up this year. Hence I express my deep anguish for their non-inclusion. Madurai-Bodi survey has been done many times in the past. But it has been announced that it is being updated still. This is inappropriate. When TN projects need more than Rs.2500 crore only about 430 crore of rupees have been earmarked that too without new projects. At least Rs.1000 crore must be apportioned at least in the revised Budget this year itself. Kindly look into it.

Now there is a welcome announcement that recruitment for 'D' group will be made soon. At least 85 thousand workers will be recruited and appointed as per the announcements made by Shri Lalu Prasad. It is a welcome decision. But at the same time act apprentices are yet to be appointed.

In 1982 there were many casual labourers. They had gone to Supreme Court and got a direction that they should be appointed. But those who were working 1980 are left to fend for themselves. They also must be appointed and shown due consideration. What is the mistake they have committed?

I have an order of appointment with me, Southern Railways' appointment order. Office Order No.130 informs about the appointment of 155 people for the post of Temporary Trackmen. The qualification required is a mere 8th class pass. But you will be surprised and pained to go through the list. Among the people who have been appointed BE graduates are 5, post graduates are 22, graduates are 78, diploma holders are 18, SSLC +ITI are 6, SSLC passed are 38. Most of them or almost all of them

are over qualified for this temporary job which calls for a mere 8th class pass. These people with higher qualification should have been considered for suitable higher posts commensurate with their qualification. Now unfortunately they have deprived the best suited 8th class pass candidates who would be doing that job more diligently as per their qualification. I do not mean to say that those who have been appointed now should not have been given that job. But they should have been given better job they deserve. Hon. Railway Minister must look into it. Unemployment problem is taking up its ugly head. The poor and less qualified are left high and dry. Compassionate ground appointments were there in Railways as a last post. That too has been stopped recently. Ban on recruitment must be lifted. I would like to reiterate that the recruitment to the D group posts must go to the ideally suited and qualified candidates as per recruitment.

Railway schools were there for the children of railway men in places where there were more railmen living in residential areas nearer to Railway establishments. Many of them are facing closure these days. It was appropriate for Railway Administration to run schools for railmen's children. In Arakkonam just because the railway school was a Tamil medium school it was closed. So also there is a need to improve the quality of service in Railway Hospitals. They must not face closures. Emphasising all my demands again with a hope that they would be considered let me wind up my speak reiterating my support to this Budget.

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY (Mandsaur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, today we are discussing the railway-budget for the year 2005-06. As far as railways are concerned they have an organised mechanism and proper administrative system. The contribution of railways has been vital to the Country's development. The railways have given their special contribution in the progress and prosperity of the country. During the last many years we have witnessed that the steps taken for the development of railways and to revamp the system have resulted in the

[Dr. Laxminarayan Pandey]

lopsided development and have increased regional imbalance. Certain measures were taken by the former N.D.A. Government to do away this imbalance and out of these measures I would like to refer to the ones taken in Madhya Pradesh by way of creation of new zones and introduction of new trains in that state. But after going through this budget I am a little disappointed for Madhya Pradesh. It appeared that perhaps the Railway Minister was not inclined to doing anything for the state and for got that Madhya Pradesh is a good state, it is a developed state heading towards prosperity. Railway facilities are required there. Initiatives may be taken to provide those facilities there.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have hon. Railway Minister's budget speech for the year 2004-2005 with me. The pre-budget 2004-2005 assurances given by him have remained merely announcements. Be these regarding Sampark Kranti Express or gauge conversion or increasing the speed of trains, all these have proved to be announcements. If one goes through the speech of the hon. Minister of Railways it would be found that only 25 percent of his assurances have been fulfilled. When assurances of the last budget have not been fulfilled the new ones would also remain unfulfilled. The target of gauge conversion upto several kilometers was fixed by the Government in South India, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan or Madhya Pradesh. From this point of view assurances regarding gauge conversion of several lines were made but none of these is likely to be fulfilled. The funds meant to be provided for gauge conversion have not been made available. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister in this regard and would like to know as to what action is likely to be taken by the Government to fulfill the assurances made. If this situation continues then despite according priority to gauge conversion for a longer period if the work scheduled for the year 2004-05 is not completed by the year 2005-06 and two more years are taken then what is the meaning of according priority. The assurances should be fulfilled by according priority. I would like to cite

the example of my constituency, gauge conversion of Neemuch-Ratlam rail line was discussed. In the first phase its cost was fixed at Rs. 105 crore which was increased upto Rs. 115 Crore. Now its cost has been estimated to be increased from Rs. 130 crore to Rs. 160 Crore. Earlier it was stated to be completed by the year 2003-04, I do not think that it would be completed by the year 2004-05 rather it will perhaps be completed by the year 2006-07. 75 percent work of gauge conversion of this rail route has been done. The remaining work should be completed soon. I request the Government to take up gauge conversion of Indore-Ratlam route and Ajmer-Chittor section alongwith this rail route only then link up with other routes would be possible. It would make an alternative line available. This is an important scheme from the point of view of development. It would prove useful not only for Madhya Pradesh but Rajasthan and Gujarat also. These work have been granted priority hence these work should be completed soon.

My second submission is about overbridges and I have asked questions about them several times. Announcements have been made by him that the state government should provide funds for overbridges, Shri Kanti Lal Bhuria, Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Development is present here, the state government was requested and money was sanctioned for an overbridge. But railways attitude is so lackadaisical that this work is not being completed. The places where bridges have been announced, be it in Ratlam, Jawara, Neemuch or Mandsaur and the state government has also recommended as well provided funds but railways are not extending its contribution and not carrying out the prescribed work. I would like to say that work regarding announcements made in the railway budget be it regarding gauge conversion, overbridges or any other work, should be carried out in an effective way. The railways should ensure that those work should be undertaken properly. For how long the public would wait? I request the hon. Minister to reply to these issues while making his speech.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister towards two-three issues. Railways have several institutes and organisations like coach factory of Kapurthala, Integrated coach factory or Chitranjan locomotives which are performing very well. However, I would like to know as to why the production capacity of factories and organisations is not being utilized. Some of them are utilizing only 60 percent of their capacity, some are using 50 percent of their capacity and some are utilizing even less. I would request the hon. Minister to pay attention towards this. Their production capability should be utilized fully then there would be no reason to import coaches or other material of railway. Our Kapurthala factory has so much capacity that we can export many parts that we are importing now. I would like that coach factories be it integrated factory or Chitranjan locomotives and apart from them, other institutions of railways like Indian Railways Finance Corporation, International Railways Trade Corporation, Indian Container Corporation and RITES, should be utilised to their maximum potential. These are some of the organisations which should be put to maximum use to make railways strong from every point of view. We should make good use of them. Today we should get the benefits of Indian Railways Finance Corporation but the development which should take place through it is nowhere to be seen. The organisations that I have mentioned are very productive and they are doing a good job. They are not only famous in the country but abroad also. I would like to know as to why we are not putting RITES and other organisation to optimum utilisation, which can contribute wholeheartedly in the development of railways in the country, hence we should utilize their capacity fully so that the railways could fully avail the benefits of these organisations. Railways Finance Corporation should be made viable and its scope should be expanded. There is a demand to enhance the capacity of the Container Corporation of railways to extend its service but it is not being done. The businessmen and entrepreneurs are putting up this demand of increasing container services but we are saying that we do not have required resources to do so. It is my submission that

such organisations should be made viable and it would be better if he would consider this issue from this viewpoint.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would speak in brief and will not go into details. Today there is an urgent need to pay attention towards passenger facilities. We have made announcements several times that platforms would be clean but these remain only words. Cleanliness is being ignored. Likewise, there is a need to strengthen infrastructure at every place. It is right that the trains are being extended and number of passenger coaches are being increased but it has been observed while trains have 24 or 25 coaches, the length of platforms is so small that they end at 15 to 18 coaches. Due to which the passengers of other coaches have a difficulty in boarding or alighting. Neither the level of the platforms has been raised nor their length has been expanded. It is quite troublesome for women, handicapped and children. There is a need to expand and raise the level of platforms for the convenience of the people, otherwise they would be of no use as people fall down and accidents are caused. As there is a need to raise the level of railway platforms, Shyamgarh and Garauth railway station in my constituency need to be expanded as per requirement. Their sheds need to be raised. These work should be undertaken. Moreover, setting up toilets at railway stations is also needed. There is no proper lighting arrangement. Platforms are pitch dark at several stations when trains arrive at 2 o'clock or 3 o'clock in the night. Passenger amenities are discussed at length but they are not provided effectively. Therefore, the hon. Minister should pay attention towards this.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister towards one last issue and then I would conclude. Several passenger trains need to be given stoppage at many places. It is important because at times superfast trains run nearly empty. The demand to give stoppage to a particular train at a particular station is overlooked. I would like to request that these trains be given stoppage wherever needed. I request that stoppage should be given to two-three trains in my constituency.

[Dr. Laxminarayan Pandey]

Intercity Nizamuddin express should be given stoppage at Garauth Railway station of West Bengal Railway this request has been made by Madhya Pradesh Government and the public too. Representations have been given several times to senior railway officers and citizens have made this request time and again that Jammu-Tawi Superfast Express should be given stoppage at Shyamgarh which is a very important railway station of West Central Railway. Suvasara railway station is another important station in West Central Railway. Jaipur-Indore train should be given stoppage here so that passengers and businessmen belonging to Indore could get a direct train, it would be in the interest of the passengers if August-Kranti running between Mumbai and Nizamuddin is given stoppage at Shyamgarh.

As my colleagues from Rajasthan and myself have requested in my earlier letters that keeping in view the large number of passengers, a MEMU or general passenger train should be introduced between Kota and Nagda, railway administration has taken preliminary action in this regard and additional trains were introduced on certain sections on experimental basis that proved successful. Therefore, it is my request that MEMU should be introduced between Kota and Nagda.

In the end, I would like to talk about reservation facility. Computerised reservation counters were set up at some places by the previous government. The places where reservation counters have started functioning include Neemuch, Mandsaur and Shyamgarh, Jawara has also been included among them but it has not started functioning hence this facility is not available there. I request that computerised reservation facility should be provided there and required staff should be deployed there for this purpose.

While on the one hand many powers have been given to RPF from the point of view of protection of railway, it should also be ensured that RPF personnel do not

misbehave with passengers, behave with them properly and protect the railway properties along with the protection of passengers.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like that the hon'ble Minister would take appropriate action on my suggestions. Since there is paucity of time so I would like that you should allow me to lay remaining part of my speech on the table of the House.

*The announcements like completion of gauge conversion work and construction of over-bridges within stipulated time, laying of Ujjain-Ramganj Mandi, Indore-Godhra rail line, introduction of new trains or extending their destination remained mere announcements. I would like that the projects announced for Madhya Pradesh should be complete at the earliest. Gauge conversion work especially of Neemuch and Ratlam should be completed during the current finance year and the gauge conversion work of Ajmer-Chittorgarh and Ratlam-Mahu should also be done.

As far the question of catering facility to passengers is concerned, some contractors are doing it well, however, some contractors are acting arbitrarily and it is on account of this that passengers have to face difficulties. So, it would be better if catering facility is provided by the railway administration itself. I would like the hon'ble Minister to take necessary action regarding the points that I have suggested today. I would once again like to submit that many things are required to be done in the interest of the railway employees so that their demands are fulfilled and also that the gauge conversion work going on between Ratlam and Neemuch under the Western Railway should be completed at the earliest so that the passengers may avail its facility and the revenue of Railway may increase.

YOGI ADITYA NATH (Gorakhpur) : Mr. Deputy, Speaker, Sir, not a single Cabinet Minister is present here. How will it do?...*(Interruptions)*

*Speech was laid on the Table of the House.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : But the Minister of state is prevent here.

SHRI K.C. SINGH 'BABA' (Nainital) : Let me speak. Yesterday too this issue was raised. Since I have to take train so please let me speak...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways is here.

SHRI K.C. SINGH 'BABA' (Nainital) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, first of all, I must thank you for allowing me to speak on the Railway Budget. It is not an easy task and a lot of hard work has been done by the hon. Minister of Railways in bringing in popular and common man's Railway Budget. He has done an excellent job. A lot of stations have been computerised for booking railway tickets. A number of steps have been announced for passenger amenities and in the information technology sector of Railways. A lot of new trains have been introduced. Concessions for young men and young women travelling for job interviews have been given. A lot of accidents used to take place before, but accident prevention measures have been taken by the present UPA Government, and a lot of accidents have been avoided. We are very happy that these measures have been taken.

Sir, this is one Ministry where sportsmen are helped and appointed in large numbers. There are many other Departments in Government of India that appoint sportsmen, but in respect of strength athletes, Railways is one of the very few Departments that appoints strength athletes, like weightlifters, wrestlers and power-lifters in large scale.

15.00 hrs.

Sir, I request our hon. Minister to increase more sports quota for these strength athletes. That will encourage the sports and our youths who are trained so hard can get employments in the Railways and can earn their livelihood.

This is basically a poor and common man's budget. Everybody have welcomed this popular budget. I do not think there should be any objection to an excellent budget like the budget that has been presented by our hon. Minister. I back this budget wholeheartedly.

[Translation]

I had raised the problems related to our State in the previous Budget also and today I would like to repeat the same. Our hon'ble Chief Minister, Shri Narayan Datt Tiwari had also written several letters to the hon'ble Minister of Railways regarding several issues. Sir, Uttaranchal is a newly carved state which is also known as the Devabhumi i.e. land of gods. Gangotri-Yamunotri, Haridwar, Kedarnath, Badrinath, Nanak Matta, Punya giri Kaatiyar Sharif—all these are important pilgrim places here and the said places are required to be connected by railway not only from the point of view of promoting international and national tourism but also from the view point of the development of the State.

Sir, I would again like to highlight some of the problems in the Budget for the year 2005-2006. As I have told that Uttaranchal is a newly carved state and the main earning of the State will come from tourism only that is our main objective. The introduction of new trains are very essential for this. First of all, I would like to request that the new trains should be introduced for Ram Nagar, Kashipur, Muradabad and Delhi. You must have heard the name of the world famous Jim Corbet National Park. A large number of national and international tourists visit this place. First class AC compartment should be attached to Corbet bound new trains. Besides this AC-1 compartment should also be attached to the existing Ranikhet Express for Kathgodam and Ram Nagar. One new train should be introduced from Lal Kuan, Kashipur Moradabad for Punjab and Jammu-Tawi. A large number of people of punjabi community reside in our state. They have played important role in the development of this region. My demand is that the said train should be introduced at the earliest as it is very essential. I would like to request the hon'ble Minister

[Shri K.C. Singh 'Baba']

that he should pay attention towards this as soon as possible and give approval to the introduction of new trains on this route. More fund is required for laying new railway tracks at Nanakmata, Sitarganj and Khatima. Some funds have been allocated for this, however, more fund is required as the said rail line may connect the entire Uttaranchal at later stage. The flyovers on railway line are urgently required on National Highway No. 58 and 72 at Raywala, Lachhiwala, Shyampur and Motichur. The capital of Uttaranchal is Dehradun and the Highcourt of the State is located in Nainital. I would like to request that the railway connectivity between Dehradun and Nainital should be made more convenient and the train should be made daily.

Sir, the existing Bareilly-Tanakpur metre gauge line should be converted into broadgauge.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the same thing was submitted by the hon'ble Member from Sitapur. The railway line between Bareilly and Tanakpur via Pilibhit is required to be extended to Purnagiri. Purnagiri is a pilgrim place of national fame which is nearly 15 k.m. ahead of Tanakpur. So only 15 k.m. long railway line is required. The railway track from Pilibhit to Bareilly should be converted into broadgauge.

Sir, old compartments of Dehradun-New Delhi Shatabadi Express should be replaced by new bogies. The survey for laying rail line from Ram Nagar-Kashipur-Jaspur to Dhampur was conducted earlier. I could not know about its present position as to how much progress has been achieved in this direction, however, I would like to submit that it is an important railway line. As I have said about Tanakpur that it connects one corner of the State with the other. Similarly, there is Rampur-Kashipur-Jaspur rail line. This new rail line is very essential for us. I would like to request that it should be constructed at the earliest. It is very much essential to add two bogies in Sampark Kranti Express running between Kathgodam and Delhi at Lal

Kuan Station from Ram Nagar and Kashipur. It will provide facility of atleast one day train to the people of this neglected area.

Sir, it is very essential to convert Mathura-Kasganj-Bareilly to Lal Kuan metre gauge line into broadgauge. If new rail line is laid from Ram Nagar, Bajpur, Gadar Pur, Rudra Pur, Kichha, Sitaraganj, Khatima, Tanakpur and from here to Dehradun then our Uttaranchal will be connected from one corner of the State to the farthest corner. Computerised railway reservation facility should be provided at Bajpur Railway station. New railway line should be laid between Rishikesh and Kam Prayag to introduce Badri Nath Express. Similarly, it is essential to construct railway line in Chaurkeria of Rampur, district Almora. It has come to my notice that the survey work for the said rail line has already been conducted. This railway line is very essential so it is required to be constructed at the earliest. Railway line is required from National Corbet Part to Ram Nagar via Kotabagh, Kathgodam junction.

Sir, in the end, I would like to submit that Mahuakhedaganj is the first railway station when one enters into Uttaranchal from Moradabad and Kashi. So, through you, I would like to request the hon'ble Minister that all the trains coming from outside the state should halt at Mahuakhedaganj. All the trains must halt at this station.

In the end, through you, I would like to request the hon'ble Minister of Railways that he should solve the problems related to railways at the earliest. I would once again like to extend my thanks to the hon'ble Minister and to support the Railway Budget.

SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH (Allahabad) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble Railway Minister has presented rail budget in the House, without any increase in passenger fares and freight rates. I thank him for that. The common people of the country travel by the trains only.

Sir, Indian Railway is a very old organisation. But in the matter of railways we are still lagging far behind as compared to other developed countries or to the neighbouring country like China-Metro train is being operated in entire. China to connect all cities whereas in India metro train was first introduced only in Kolkata and then now it has been introduced in Delhi. Therefore, if we want to develop our nation, we should atleast emulate China if we are not able to follow other developed countries. At the same time we should consider that in France, Germany and China Bullet trains are being operated which have the speed of 250 km. whereas the speed of trains being operated in our country is not even 150 km.

Sir, through you, I would like to request the hon'ble Minister of Railways that atleast a train should be introduced from Delhi to Allahabad for that matter. If this train cannot be run at the speed of 250, atleast its speed should be 170-175 km. or a Shatabdi train should be introduced upto Allahabad. Allahabad is a cultural, religious and educational place.

Sir, Shatabdi trains are being run almost to all important cities, however Allahabad has been neglected from this point of view. Every year lakhs of people from our country and abroad visit Allahabad and moreover, Allahabad is the second important city of Uttar Pradesh after Lucknow. In the entire country only platform no. 1 of every station is maintained properly whereas other platforms remain neglected, they are in bad condition. I request that all the platforms be it number one or number two, should be maintained properly.

Sir, in most of the cases, spurious water is sold at stations. Hence I request that the water which the railway have started selling should be sold in every compartment of the train so that the passengers can purchase when they feel its necessity.

Sir, I would also like to point out some problems of my constituency Allahabad. I have already mentioned the

significance of Allahabad. A train, Ganga-Gomati runs between Allahabad and Lucknow. The Distance between Allahabad and Lucknow is 210 km. This train covers that distance in four and a half hours. In request that a train should be started from Lucknow to Allahabad to cover the same distance in two and a half hours and a stoppage of that train be provided at Raebareli...*(Interruptions)* I want that the railway line, which is being doubled upto Raebareli should be extended upto Allahabad for the sake of smooth traffic.

Sir, there is a TSL factory in Allahabad which is considered as one of the best unit for fabrication in India. It has received order for manufacturing railway wagon. I want that the factory should be assigned the work of manufacturing wheel and wagon because it is being operated by Department of Public enterprises. It is a public sector company and at present it is on the verge of closure. I would also like that special status should be given to Allahabad as Central Zone Headquarter is also situated there. However it has not been developed so far as it should be.

I would like to give a proposal to Minister of Railways regarding setting up of ROW in Allahabad. Two railway lines of North Eastern Railway and North Central Railway fall in Rambagh and about 3-4 lakhs people reside there who are affected by these lines. I request that the work for setting up of an ROW in Rambagh should be sanctioned. I promise that whatever share of the funds required for this purpose, would be provided by the government of Uttar Pradesh.

There is a place called Sunai in my earlier Assembly constituency. During freedom struggle the station was burnt by people there due to which that railway crossing has been closed. The railways have decided that no new railway crossing between Howrah to Delhi would be constructed ...*(Interruptions)* I am concluding my speech. This railway crossing was already there but during freedom struggle it was closed. I want that Sunai Railway crossing should be reopened at the earliest.

[English]

SHRI L. GANESAN (Tiruchirappalli) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I should, at the very outset, extend my heartfelt thanks for having given me this opportunity to make my observations and to record my views on the Railway Budget.

Undaunted by jibes and jeers, cat-calls and slogan-shouts and underterred by walk-outs, Shri Lalu Prasad Yadavji, the Railway Minister stood like a rock and presented the Railway Budget which is welcomed by one and all, and by every cross-section of the society. In spite of the fact that he was pre-occupied in his home State, in his election campaign, he has presented the Budget which is really admirable and appreciable.

I just want to highlight certain salient features of the Budget, and they are, there is no increase in passenger fares; there is no across-the-board increase in freight rates; there is no increase in parcel rates. In spite of all this, the earnings grew by a record 8.3 per cent up to December 2004. About 1400 kms. of broad gauge lines are likely to be added in this fiscal year Plan outlay is Rs. 15,349 crore; Railway Land Development Authority is also planned. The proposals are that 46 new trains are to be introduced in 2005-06; extension of 28 trains are proposed; there would be an increase in the frequency of 10 trains; soon, there would be booking of tickets from landline phones; there will be 75 per cent concession in second class fares to Government and rural school students once a year for study tour; there will be 75 per cent concession in second class fares to girls from rural areas appearing for exams such as medical and engineering; 50 per cent concession in second class fares to farmers and milk producers travelling for training; and full concession in second class to unemployed youth appearing for interviews for Government jobs.

When I highlight and praise the salient features of the Budget, it does not mean that they are without demerits and defects. When I point out the demerits and defects of

the Budget, all I would request is that you should set your mind on them and try to set right the things.

The Minister had not paid any attention to increasing allocation for Special Railway Project Fund. He had failed to put in place a monitoring mechanism for ongoing railway projects. There is a lack of any concrete plan for modernisation. Much is talked about modernisation but where is the concrete plan? A concrete project is lacking in this regard.

Revision of classification of food-grains in freight would hit the poor and push up the prices of essential commodities. The Budget did not spell out what the Minister would do to improve passenger amenities. Much is talked about providing amenities to the passengers but concrete proposals and programmes of action are absent.

The PHDCCI President, Shri K.N. Memani, has said that the Railway Budget has failed to carve out a strategy for long term investments through generation of internal surplus for investment purposes. Given the fact that the Railways are the only high capacity transport mode that can meet the long term growth need of our large economy, measures to capture a substantially larger share of the growing goods traffic and Railways entry into a renewed growth phase are missing.

Now, I would like to talk about certain problems in my constituency. Golden Rock Railway Workshop is one of the oldest workshops as far as Tamil Nadu is concerned. That workshop is shrinking day by day. The number of workers is reduced day by day. Last year also, I had appealed to the Government, particularly to Shri Velu. I will come to that later on. I had appealed to the Government to please see that the Golden Rock Workshop is not only improved but much attention is paid to it. My appeal to you is, there is enough scope to create a coach factory in Golden Rock. There are a number of problems in Golden Rock, which hon. Member, Shri Mohan has also referred.

The condition of railway schools is deplorable. In Golden Rock, particularly, there is one Tamil medium

school. I have received a lot of complaints from students, as also parents and labour union leaders. I have also sent a petition to the Minister of State for Railways, my friend, Shri Velu, to look into it. In the Tamil-medium school the existing classes from 1st to Vth standard have been closed and the strength of the students has been drastically reduced from 2000 and odd to a few hundred. If this reduction is allowed at this scale, I am afraid that school will be closed. When Tamil has been accorded the recognition of a classical language – and that is the only Tamil school in the region – will it not be a slap on the faces of Tamils? I have filed a petition signed by a number of people involving a number of irregularities and mal-practices. All this due to one Headmaster. He may find fault with me if I do not use the word 'Principal'. I am not bothered if he is a Principal or not but all this is due to him. I appeal to you to initiate an inquiry and see what can be done.

In the Golden Rock Railway Colony, there are a number of stall-holders. They are there from time immemorial, even before my birth. There are ancient stall-holders such as tea stall, barber shop, laundry and so on. About hundred people are employed in these stalls.

Unfortunately, there was some tussle between the management and the stall holders as all of a sudden the licence fee was enhanced. They went to the court and ultimately they arrived at some negotiation. Subsequently, they reduced the fee but in between the rent accumulated to a high level. When I was informed of this matter, I met the Chief Works Manager of the Railways at Golden Rock. I met him as also the stall holders and sorted out the matter. Now they are prepared to pay the arrears of rent. But the only thing is that they cannot pay it in a single instalment. That is the problem. Therefore, I would appeal to the hon. Minister, Mr. Velu and also Shri Lalu Prasad Yadav, who is a man of masses, to look into the matter. He is a dynamic leader. Mr. Velu is an efficient and experienced administrator. He was the Joint Registrar of Cooperative Societies in Thanjavur District. In recognition of his services, he was

conferred IAS. He served in Tamil Nadu as an IAS officer. He is a popular leader. Therefore, I appeal to them to see that these things are done.

The Tiruchirapalli Corporation wanted to buy some Railway land for expansion of a bus stand as that bus stand was very congested and cramped. As you know, Tiruchirapalli Town is located at the centre of Tamil Nadu. There was some dispute regarding the amount to be paid for that land. The Corporation was willing to pay Rs. 6 crore whereas the Railways were demanding Rs. 8 crore. The Mayor of the Corporation, Mrs. Sarubala Thondaiman, and myself met the hon. Minister, Mr. Velu. Ultimately, they agreed to give the land at a cost of Rs. 6 crore. I would request the hon. Minister to expedite the matter and see that it is completed.

Sir, in Melapudur, a subway is to be constructed for which they are not spending even a single pie. I allocated Rs. 20 lakh from MPLAD fund and two MLAs have contributed Rs. 10 lakh each for this. Therefore, Rs. 40 lakh have been allocated for this subway. So, you please see that it is executed.

I also thank the hon. Minister for having agreed to provide the way leave facility in Mela Ambigapuram. You have already initiated action in this regard. All I request is that it should be completed as early as possible.

I would also request the Railway Minister to favourably consider the plea of Lalgudi and nearby villages for stopping Pallavan Express at Lalgudi Station. The hon. Minister is request to see that these requests are executed as early as possible.

With these words, I welcome the Budget. I congratulate and command the dynamic personalities of both the Ministers.

[Translation]

SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN (Sonepat) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the discussion is going on over Railway Budget for 2005-2006. It has invoked mixed

[Shri Kishan Singh Sangwan]

reaction from the people of the country. There is no doubt that efforts have been made to provide certain facilities to people of some classes in a particular areas. However no attention has been paid from the point of view of development, safety and cleanliness in Railway...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You may continue your speech on Monday.

15.31 hrs.

MOTION RE: SIXTH REPORT OF COMMITTEE
ON PRIVATE MEMBER'S BILL AND
RESOLUTIONS

[English]

SHRI NIKHILANANDA SAR (Burdwan) : Sir, I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the Sixth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 9th March, 2005."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Sixth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 9th March, 2005."

The motion was adopted.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now, the House would

take up Private Members' Legislative Business. The first item is – Bills for introduction.

Shri Chandrakant Khaire—Not present.

15.32 hrs.

POPULATION CONTROL BILL*

[English]

SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO (Guntur) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for population control and for matters connected therewith.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for population control and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.32½ hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Amendment of article 80, etc.)

[English]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India,"

The motion was adopted.

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dt. 13.3.2005.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.33 hrs.

PROVISION OF IDENTIFICATION MARKS
SECURITY PAPERS BILL*

[English]

SHRI S.P.Y. REDDY (Nandyal) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the provision of identification marks on the security papers and for prevention of their forgery and make provisions incidental or consequential thereto.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the provision of identification marks on the security papers and for prevention of their forgery and make provisions incidental or consequential thereto."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI S.P.Y. REDDY : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.33½ hrs.

CONSTITUTIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL*
(Insertion of New Article 25A)

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYA NATH (Gorakhpur) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the constitution of India.

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dt. 13.3.2005.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India".

[Translation]

SHRI ADITYA NATH : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.34 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Omission of Article 44, etc.)

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYA NATH (Gorakhpur) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the constitution of India.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India".

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYA NATH : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.35 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*
(Amendment of Article 1)

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYA NATH (Gorakhpur) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the constitution of India.

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dt. 13.3.2005.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India".

The motion was adopted.

YOGI ADITYA NATH : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.36 hrs.

**CENTRAL HIMALAYAN STATES DEVELOPMENT
COUNCIL BILL***

[Translation]

SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' (Almora) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the setting up of a council to be called the Central Himalayan States Development Council to formulate development plans and schemes and also to monitor their implementation for the balanced and all round development of the hilly states comprising the Himalayan region and for matters connected therewith.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the setting up of a Council to be called the Central Himalayan States Development Council to formulate development plans and schemes and also to monitor their implementation for the balanced and all-round development of the hilly States comprising the Himalayan region and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted.

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dt. 13.3.2005.

SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.36½ hrs.

POPULATION CONTROL BILL*

[Translation]

SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' (Almora) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for measures to control population in the country and for matters connected therewith.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for measures to control population in the country and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.37 hrs.

BUREAU OF ACCOUNTABILITY BILL*

[English]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the setting up of a Bureau of Accountability to suggest measures for rooting out corruption; making the administration efficient and for matter connected therewith.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the setting up of a Bureau of Accountability to

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dt. 13.3.2005.

suggest measures for rooting out corruption; making the administration efficient and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shrimati D. Purandeswari –
Not present.

15.37½ hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Substitution of new article for article 37)

[English]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India".

The motion was adopted.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : I introduce the Bill.

15.38 hrs.

FREE AND UNIFORM EDUCATION BILL*

[Translation]

SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK (Unnao) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide free and Uniform

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dt. 13.3.2005.

education to all the students from primary level to higher secondary level in the country.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide free and uniform education to all the students from primary level to higher secondary level in the country."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK : I introduce* the Bill.

15.38½ hrs.

FREE AND COMPULSORY EDUCATION BILL*

[Translation]

SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK (Unnao) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for free and compulsory education to all children up to higher secondary level.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for free and compulsory education to all children upto higher secondary level."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK : I introduce** the Bill.

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dt. 13.3.2005.

**Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

15.39 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL***(Amendment of article 324)***[English]*

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India".

The motion was adopted.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : I introduce the Bill.

15.39½ hrs.

**SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULES TRIBES
(RESERVATION IN SERVICES) BILL****[Translation]*

SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK (Unnao) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for reservation in services for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in establishments under the Central Governments and in private sector and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for reservation in services for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in establishments under the Central and State Governments and in private sector

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and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK : I introduce the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shrimati Krishna Tirath – not present.

Shri Dahyabhai Vallabhbhai Patel – not present.

15.40 hrs.

**CONSTITUTION (SCHEDULED CASTES) ORDER
(AMENDMENT) BILL*****(Amendment of the Schedule)***[English]*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : I introduce the Bill.

15.40½ hrs.

**POOR AND DESTITUTE WIDOWS
(REHABILITATION AND WELFARE) BILL****[English]*

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur) : Sir, I beg

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dt. 13.3.2005.

to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for rehabilitation and welfare measures for the poor and destitute widows and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for rehabilitation and welfare measures for the poor and destitute widows and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : I introduce** the Bill.

15.41 hrs.

ABOLITION OF BEGGING BILL*

[English]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for abolition of begging and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for abolition of begging and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : I introduce the Bill.

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dt. 13.3.2005.

**Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

15.41½ hrs.

DELIMITATION (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Amendment of Section 2)

[Translation]

SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' (Almora) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Delimitation Act, 2002.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Delimitation Act, 2002."

The motion was adopted.

]Translation]

SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.42 hrs.

TOBACCO GROWERS (BENEFIT) BILL*

[English]

SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO (Guntur) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the protection and welfare of tobacco growers.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the protection and welfare of tobacco growers."

The motion was adopted.

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dt. 13.3.2005.

SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO : I introduce the Bill.

15.42½ hrs.

ELECTRICITY (PRIORITY SUPPLY TO RURAL AREAS AND AGRICULTURE SECTOR) BILL*

[English]

SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO (Guntur) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the compulsory supply of electricity to the agricultural sector and rural areas.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the compulsory supply of electricity to the agricultural sector and rural areas.

The motion was adopted.

SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO : I introduce the Bill.

15.43 hrs.

PREVENTION OF INSULTS TO NATIONAL HONOUR (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Insertion of new section 4)

[English]

SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO (Guntur) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Prevention of Insults of National Honour Act, 1971.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dt. 13.3.2005.

amend the Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971.*

The motion was adopted.

SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO : I introduce the Bill.

15.43½ hrs.

PROTECTION OF PRIVACY AND PREVENTION OF VIDEO VOYEURISM BILL*

[English]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the protection of individual's privacy and prevention of the use of digital technology for voyeurism and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the protection of individual's privacy and prevention of the use of digital technology for voyeurism and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : I introduce the Bill.

15.44 hrs.

WORKING JOURNALISTS AND OTHER NEWSPAPER EMPLOYEES CONDITIONS OF SERVICE AND MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Insertion of new sections 13AB, 13AC and 13AD)

[English]

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI (Gulberga) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dt. 13.3.2005.

Working Journalists and Other Newspaper Employees (Conditions of Service) and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1955.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Working Journalists and Other Newspaper Employees (Conditions of Service) and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1955."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : I introduce the Bill.

15.45 hrs.

CROP INSURANCE BILL*

[English]

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI (Gulbarga) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the insurance of crops and for matters connected therewith.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the insurance of crops and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : I introduce the Bill.

15.45½ hrs.

COMPULSORY MILITARY TRAINING BILL*

[English]

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI (Gulbarga) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dt. 13.3.2005.

compulsory military training to all able-bodied citizens of the country.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide compulsory military training to all able-bodied citizens of the country."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : I introduce the Bill.

15.46 hrs.

ABOLITION OF CHILD LABOUR BILL*

[English]

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI (Gulbarga) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to abolish the child labour in the country and for matters connected therewith.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to abolish the child labour in the country and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : I introduce the Bill.

15.46½ hrs.

COMPULSORY REGISTRATION OF RELIGIOUS CONVERSIONS BILL*

[English]

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA (Surat) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for compulsory registration of religious conversions in the country.

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dt. 13.3.2005.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for compulsory registration of religious conversions in the country."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : I introduce the Bill.

15.47 hrs.

AIRLINES (PENALTY FOR DELAYS) BILL*

[English]

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA (SURAT) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for imposition of penalty on the airline companies for cancellation/delay in operations of their schedule services and for matters connected therewith.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for imposition of penalty on the airline companies for cancellation/delay in operations of their schedule services and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : I introduce the Bill.

15.48 hrs.

**GOVERNMENT OF UNION TERRITORY OF
DAMAN AND DIU BILL***

[English]

SHRI DAHYABHAI VALLABHBHAI PATEL (Daman and Diu) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dt. 13.3.2005.

provide for the creation of a Legislative Assembly for the Union Territory of Daman and Diu and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the creation of a Legislative Assembly for the Union Territory of Daman and Diu and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI DAHYABHAI VALLABHBHAI PATEL : I introduce the Bill.

15.49 hrs.

PRIVATE MEMBER'S BILL

Compulsory Voting Bill – Contd.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House will now take up item No. 48 – further consideration of the Compulsory Voting Bill.

Shri Bachi Singh Rawat.

[Translation]

SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' (Almora) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the discussion on this issue was initiated on 17 December, 2004 that voting for Lok Sabha and Legislative Assemblies should be made compulsory. I had moved a Private Member's Bill in this regard and today the discussion is being held on that bill. After 17 December 2004 hon'ble Supreme Court had served a notice on the Attorney General of India to seek his opinion on a public interest litigation regarding negative voting that has filed by People Union of Civil Liberties, PCUL. Most of the voters in the country do not take interest in voting,

they do not want to vote any one. Under such situation right to negative voting should be provided to them and there should be separate button or sign on the voting machine for negative voting. When it was informed to the Election Commission they supported it and informed the Supreme Court that they have requested the Government twice, that is, on 10 December, 2001 and 5 July, 2004 to bring such amendment in Representation of People's Act. My reaction in this regard was that a discussion should be held on this issue and thereafter, a consensus should be evolved on this issue. We support this move. This is a relevant issue because a public interest litigation is filed in the supreme Court that general voters do not want to vote anyone, as a result of which voting percentage at various places remain as low as 15 to 20 percent. Even in cities like Delhi it remain only 30 percent and Supreme Court also issues notice in that matter. It is on account of this that a clear mandate is not achieved and a healthy tradition is not established. Therefore, I would like to submit that there will be no justification of provision of negative voting unless there is a provision of compulsory voting is put in place. So both the issues are inter-related. I support the issue of negative voting, however, this move will not be feasible unless the provision of compulsory voting is made. I had said earlier that the mandatory voting system is in practice in many countries and this concept is not new. First of all this system was adopted in Belgium in 1892. Thereafter the provision of compulsory voting was adopted by Argentina in 1914 and then Australia in 1924.

15.53 hrs.

[SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN *in the Chair*]

Presently such system is in practice in nearly 32 countries. They argue that if the people are indifferent towards their voting right which is achieved after thousands of sacrifice, the Government should make a provision to ensure that voters should cast their votes and they should be encouraged for that. On the other hand those who do not cast their vote deliberately should be punished by the Government. This is the provision I have suggested in my bill. Franchise is the soul of Parliamentary democracy and

it is on the basis of voting that Governments, are formed and the decisions taken by Governments have impact not only on those who vote but also on those who do not vote. They are equally affected by it. This is not a new decision in our country. Addressing a seminar held on 16 October, 1999 at India International Centre, New Delhi, the former President Shri R. Venkatraman had said.

[English]

"In order to include his responsibility to the State, I proposed, during the discussion on the People's Representation Bill in the Provisional Parliament in 1951, that voting in the election at the State and national level should be made compulsory."

[Translation]

Further said:

[English]

"Dr. Ambedkar, who was piloting the Bill, while expressing sympathy with the idea, pleaded practical difficulties in accepting the suggestion. It might have been difficult to introduce compulsory voting in 1952 when adult franchise was introduced for the first time. Fifty years later, no one could plead practical difficulty as an excuse against a salutary reform. I would reiterate the suggestion on this occasion."

[Translation]

Besides, he suggested several electoral reforms. When in 1951 discussion was being held on the Representation of the Peoples Act in the provisional Assembly, this issue was raised. Presently ours in the biggest democracy in the world, hence the Government should enact a legislation for compulsory voting to give right direction to the democratic system and achieve desired result. Our present leader of opposition, hon'ble Shri L.K. Advani when he was Deputy Prime Minister of the country had also strongly advocated compulsory voting while addressing a public meeting on 20 November, 2003 in Devas.

[Shri Bachi Singh Rawat 'Bachda']

[English]

"The Deputy-Prime Minister, Shri L.K. Advani, on Thursday said, he favoured making voting compulsory in the country on the lines of Australia and Italy where those not exercising their right to franchise are fined."

[Translation]

Further he has stated—

[English]

"In India, people talk at length about parties, their policies, candidates, etc. but at the time of voting they do not cast their votes. This is not good for democracy."

[Translation]

If we consider this issue from global point of view then we can definitely reach a consensus in principle. Here all members of Parliament are very experienced. They must be pondering over it. Several incidents take place. Compulsory voting is not the only issue. One such Bill was introduced earlier by Shri Chandrakant Khaireji. But today when a similar Bill is being introduced, he is not present here. I was having a look at his Bill. It is a comprehensive bill which also relates to compulsory voting. He has expressed almost the same views which I have expressed in my Bill. In his Bill, he has mentioned regarding giving facilities to Election Commission. Merely making voting compulsory will not serve the purpose. It becomes difficult for the old, the weak and the women to reach the polling booths located at a distance of 10 kms especially in hilly and desert areas when the Election Commission forbids the use of vehicles. Further, the labourers are deprived of a day's earning on the election day but for the Government servants it is an off day. Therefore, the labourers in unorganized sector must be paid the daily wages from the exchequer. Ancillary provision should be made to make compulsory voting a success and the things which should

be included in this provision, I will mention that in detail later on.

How much time should be provided for voting? At present the time of voting is 7.00 am. to 5.00 or 6.00 p.m. During this time, there is long queue and due to not weather or rain many voters do not go to polling booths to cast their vote. In such a situation, why to hold polling on a single day? Polling can be held over period of two or three days in phases. Certainly arrangements should be made for this. Besides, polling booths must be located within a radius of approximately one km so that voters can easily go to polling booth to cast their vote. Today there is no shortage of Government staff in the country. There is staff of the state governments, local bodies and of various departments of Central Government. Such arrangements should be made as would ensure that people can easily approach the polling booths to cast their vote. Generally a polling booth covers one thousand to two thousand voters which results in long queues and overcrowding. Hence, small polling booths should be set up. Besides this mobile polling can also be set up.

16.00 hrs.

In Urban areas particularly in metropolitan cities, villages and in those areas where network of roads have been laid under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, polling booths can be set up at these places also. For this, there is a need to lay emphasis upon the programmes for issuing national identity cards because the photo-identity cards prepared by the election Commission have a lot of anomalies. For this a national identity card should be provided to voters wherein a column, reflecting entry regarding cast vote, should be provided. This kind of arrangement could be made.

A lot of irregularities were also noticed in case of electoral rolls. During the previous legislative assembly elections, irregularity was noticed in case of approximately 50,000 voters in my constituency and I had also complained in regard thereto and the inquiry is going on in this regard. Moreover 600-700 voters were found

indulging in bogus voting at one of the booths. By the time voting for the Lok Sabha elections took place the number of voters declined and no justifiable reason for this was given. They extended this pretext that the photographs of those persons were not taken and that is why their names were removed from electoral rolls. This decision was also opposed.

Special electoral rolls for gram panchayat elections are prepared. Separate electoral rolls are prepared for Zila panchayat and Nagar panchayat on one hand and for Rajya Sabha and Vidhan Sabha on the other. They again get changed when the Lok Sabha elections are process and the electoral rolls keep on changing. The main point to stress is that the average voting turn out in panchayat elections is approximately 90% and only reason is that there are separate polling booths for each gram panchayat but for the other elections like that of Lok Sabha only one polling booth is to be shared by 4-5 villages. The voters have to travel longer and have to wait in long queues due to which less number of voters turn out and sometimes anomaly in electoral rolls is also noticed. I would also like to request other hon'ble members to co-operate in this regard and help introduce the bill. I would like to know from the hon'ble minister whether the Government propose to introduce compulsory voting as a part of electoral reforms drive that the Government would undertake.

Some efforts were made during the previous NDA Government which may be called as electoral reforms and political systems reform. Some of the reforms include amendment in anti - defection Law, limiting the size of Council of ministers in states, austerity measures to be adopted by the small states and also limiting the size of the council of ministers to the 10 percent of the numerical strength of Lok Sabha, Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council, right of proxy voting to the personnels of Military rendering duty at borders. It is a continuous process and when the Government continuously repeats that it would strive for better governance then it should also take care to streamline the voting governance. We have to find some solution to this fundamental question. I would

like to say it again that they should provide full support on this issue of compulsory voting. Earlier a debate was held on 17th December and today this issue is once again being discussed on 11th March and in the meanwhile the Supreme Court has also raised the issue of providing the right of negative voting. If we have to accept this concept then we have to definitely move towards compulsory voting. With these words, I invite all hon'ble members to participate in this debate and request to give full support to this Bill.

[English]

SHRI K.S. RAO (Eluru) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am happy and thank Mr. Bachi singh Rawat for bringing this Bill on compulsory voting for various conditions that are prevailing in our country.

In a country like India, where we value freedom more, you cannot force a citizen to vote compulsorily whether he likes it or not. We can create an atmosphere where the voter must feel like coming to the polling booth and voting. Unfortunately, we have not created an atmosphere in this country where the voter feels like voting. I am not trying to find fault with any party. To express my opinion freely, it is the fault of every party.

If a voter were to come and vote, he is not voting totally out of his free will but because he has no choice. He has a clear-cut opinion, out of his experience in the earlier elections, that none of the parties has lived up to the belief and faith he kept on them that they would do service or sacrifice or at least do their duty. The citizens generally expect the parties to bring a change in their lifestyle or at least a change in the lifestyle of future generations but that does not come true. So, having lost faith in almost all the parties which are expected to serve them and work hard for them, they are reluctant to come out and vote.

The people who vote are only the poor people. They consider it a privilege. They feel they are using their right. They consider the polling day as a festival day. They do not want to miss the opportunity of voting because they

[Shri K.S. Rao]

consider it a right, the only occasion where they can claim their right. The rest of the people do not enjoy the freedom which they should enjoy in a democracy. All the educated people who claim that they are very knowledgeable, sensible and very conscious of their rights and duties and who can analyse what is good and what is bad are of the opinion that it is a waste to go out and vote. They feel that there is no point in going to the polling booth because they are not sure whether they can come back safely or not. If this were to be the atmosphere prevailing in the country and if every party were to be looking at only votes and power but nothing else, what is the sense in having compulsory voting?

I do agree and I do support the idea that every citizen must come out and cast his or her vote but under what circumstances and in what conditions should that happen? If we do not create an atmosphere congenial enough to motivate the voter, if we legislate that it must be compulsory because we have got the power and authority and say that they would be penalised or sent to jail for not voting, would we be doing justice in a democracy? I support Mr. Rawat in one way but before enacting the law or before convincing hon. Members of the House to pass the law, let us first work towards creating a congenial atmosphere. We do not have a monarchy or a dictatorship. We are living in democracy. So, how can we force anybody to vote compulsorily? If we were to follow that procedure, we would have to compromise on democracy also and we are not prepared for that.

We are prepared to sacrifice anything in this country but not the freedom. If our hon. Minister, Shri K. Chandra Shekhar Rao, were to fight for a separate Telegana in Andhra Pradesh, possible he is of the opinion that there is a regional imbalance. He is of the opinion that some injustice is done to the people for decades in a particular area. He took that slogan. He approached the people and people responded to him, but he cannot force anybody. It is not a magic that he has done. It is on certain cause that the voter has turned up. It is not because of compulsory

voting. So, we must see the reasons as to why the voter is unhappy or happy. If we can identify all those reasons why the voter is not coming or why the voter is not voting, without any bias and above party lines, then it is good for the nation.

Today the UPA Government is in power and tomorrow some other party may be there. But all of us, when we are in power are acting in one manner and when we are out of power, we are acting otherwise. knowing full well that we are destined to be out of power some day or other, still we want to retain power when we are in the Chair. We do not mind doing anything wretched, anything immoral, anything unethical and anything undemocratic so long as we can retain as much power as possible. These trends are not congenial for this Bill, that is, Compulsory Voting Bill. I am not pinpointing any particular party. This is my experience of the last four elections which were held and 20 years where I lived in politics. I visited every village and every house in my constituency and analysed the minds of the people. There are occasions when the poor men were prevented from voting. If I am the candidate and I think that this particular section of people are not going to vote for me, I will find a way out to ensure that they do not come to the polling booth. When I prevent them, then how can I force them to pay penalty?

Now, whenever there is an opportunity in a village, a particular party or a particular candidate if he were to have the strength, both physical and mental, then he will write the names in the electoral rolls in such a way that they will be non-existent, there will be people who have already died and there will be people who have migrated. But he will fill up the entire list and the Opposition Party or the Party which is not in power will make a hue and cry by saying that 'my real voters are deleted from the voters list and all bogus voters are there'. So, this is going on everywhere.

So, this Bill might help in preventing those bogus voters to come into the polling booth. That way, this Bill is good. Suppose, there are bogus voters in large numbers

and this Bill were to become legislation, they will be scared to get into that. That way it is helpful. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : How will it justify the element of compulsory voting system?

(Interruptions)

SHRI K.S. RAO : From the Bill that the hon. Member has introduced it appears if a voter were not to come for voting, he is subjected to a jail term. So, a person whose name is being incorporated, if he were to be non-existent, then I cannot say. If he were to be a person migrated from some other place and he is somewhere else, he will take the initiative to see that his name is not there in a particular village where he is not living so that the real list will come out. I do not bother today if my name is there at four places because there is no punishment for me.

But tomorrow if this Bill were to come, definitely I will ensure that my name is enrolled only in one place and not in any second place.

I will also go scrupulously to that polling booth however much distance it may be to vote there or I will intimate them. If a voter were not to vote for a genuine reason, say ill-health or he has got a prior appointment which he cannot avoid or he takes permission in advance from the respective authority that he will not be able to vote - all these things can be exempted from out of the Bill which can be incorporated by way of an amendment. That is why I cannot say 'no' to his Bill. I certainly support his Bill in certain ways. But, at the same time, you must create an atmosphere for that. That is what I would just say.

On the lack of interest in voting, I have seen analytically, even about me also, that the choice of the voter today is not out of interest. The choice is more out of the process of elimination. Out of the four candidates that were contesting, he will see who is worse or who is to be encouraged less and then on the process of elimination he is going to vote that person reluctantly.

When do we change this situation? My friend has said about the negative vote. I approve it, I support it. Suppose, there are four people who are contesting and the voter thinks that all the four are not deserving to be Members of Legislature. Then, he must be able to say 'negative' to all the four people and the result must be there accordingly. But if there were no choice and the quality and calibre of the people and parties that are contesting in the election were not to his taste and if he thinks that all these people will not do any good to him but will do more harm to him, then should he not have any choice but to say no to them? What is the fun in making a vote compulsory without all these provisions? You must also have these provisions.

All of us, all the Parties can certainly sit together and all the Members of Parliament of various Parties and experts and learned people with experience can sit together, analyse, put forth all their minds, thoughts, and ultimately come to a conclusion, and then create common conditions where it must be made compulsory with all the conditions and all that which will be all right. Before that, the atmosphere has to be changed. The situation must be changed.

Sir, it is very unfortunate that the word 'sacrifice' is almost forgotten in the political life today. When we think of the people who had worked for Independence, the talk would be something like this. In a village, if a leader say by name Venkaiah talks to his other friend Subbaiah, he would say : "Mr. Subbaiah, I have made sacrifices in the freedom struggle and I have lost all my property, I sold away all the 20 acres of the land that I have. I did this sacrifice with great pride". Then the other person Subbaiah would reply to Mr. Venkaiah like this : "Mr. Venkaiah, you think you are a big man that you have done a lot of sacrifice. I have not only sold my 30 acres of property but I have lost my wife and children when I was in jail during the freedom struggle." Those were the types of conversations which used to be there in those days.

What are the types of conversation today? They are like - 'how much money you have made in how short spell of time' or 'how much power you have enjoyed and in how

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much time.' There is a competition in earning benefit for selfish interests but not for the sacrifices. You forget about the sacrifice.

Having been elected, remembering the faith that the electorate has kept on us, we have to feel that it is our duty to serve them.

Even when it comes to service, not many are coming forward to serve the people without any self-interest. If this were to be so, do you think, Mr. Chairman, that we can make compulsory for all the people to vote, forgetting all that we are doing here? That is why, I say that before we enact this Bill, all of us must work together to change the situation in this country, to make an atmosphere where a citizen must feel that if I do not vote today, I am committing a crime by not electing a right man for my constituency to serve the people. He must feel it. It must come out voluntarily. It must be in his mind, which is not there. So, I once again humbly request all my colleagues not only in this House but also in the Legislatures of various States that it is not that they have to sell their wives' *mangalsutras* and to sacrifice for the nation; it is enough if public money is put to proper use and for the cause it is meant; it is enough if they were to do their duty consciously that they owe to their electorate, to serve them for the five year period without expecting anything from them. If this were to be so, it is not even necessary to think of this Bill. They will come automatically to vote unless there are valid reasons. Has the country come to the stage where they can think in this manner?

We are observing that because of illiteracy, because of lack of awareness, because of sentiments and because of rumours, a lot of poor people were not coming to vote earlier. But today, awareness has gone up - it may not have gone up totally - among the poorer sections. So, they are coming more in number to vote in comparison with the rich and the middle-class people. They are coming and voting, but unfortunately because the data about the candidates and the parties are not available in full, they do not know

precisely who is the candidate, and which party is really going to serve the people. For that, I honestly request the Government also to take the initiative to keep the entire data of the candidates, and the parties who are supporting, known to everybody and to give extensive publicity to it mentioning all the pluses and minuses. If I have committed a crime, let it be published that I have committed a crime. If it is not proved, it is not proved. Or, if I have cheated some institution, it must be mentioned that on such and such occasion, this particular candidate has cheated this particular institution. Or, if I have disproportionate wealth, it should be published that so and so candidate has got disproportionate wealth. Let it be known. People will then decide whom to vote for. We are not doing all these things.

Sir, I have seen that in Kerala - the State you can say that you proudly belong to - in as early as in 1952, 71 per cent voters were coming to the polling booths to vote. It was too high a percentage. In the same period, the figure was 40.5 per cent in West Bengal. But now, the figure is the highest in West Bengal with 76.7 per cent of the voters coming to vote. ...*(Interruptions)* That is what is written. ...*(Interruptions)* My mind is open. ...*(Interruptions)* I would just say that awareness among the people - I do not want to say whether it is good or bad - has goes up in certain States, maybe because of increase in literacy rate or some other reasons. If the literacy rates were to go up in same degree in other States also, then we can think of these things and have to make an effort in bringing them to that stage.

There is one more happy event. In the initial years, I understand, the percentage of female voters was 38.8 in 1957.

The figure, in 1989, has gone up to 57.3 per cent. It is also a good indication, though we expect more and more voters to come forward to vote.

We are observing that large numbers of girl students are coming into schools and colleges with the recent development of encouragement being given for women's

education. Their performance is also exemplary in comparison with the boys of the same age. We can expect, over a period of time, that the women voters will increase substantially, and will exceed the number of men voters. This is also a happy development.

Another issue that I would like to mention is with regard to the location of the polling booths. During my visit to the villages I used to hear a constant demand from the poorer sections in the villages for a separate polling booth there. I used to ask the reason for such a demand, and they used to say that the present location of the polling booths was at a place where all the rich, and middle-class people live. The villagers stated that those rich people did not allow them to vote freely, and according to their own wish. The villagers stated that they were scared to go for casting their vote there. I am aware that some parts of a particular village did not go to vote in an election because of the voters being scared to go there.

In 1989, I was a candidate contesting in the elections and in my presence the poorer sections of one village were not allowed to vote at all. The villagers said that they did not want to vote because they were scared. They wanted one person to be posted there to shield them. So, I sent a strong man from another village to be present at the polling booth to ensure that the villagers belonging to the poorer sections are allowed to vote. I saw that the rich man of the village was giving directions from a window to all the people of the poorer sections that they must show whom they are voting before casting their vote. This sort of a thing was going on there. The person sent by me tried to oppose this practice, but he was chased out of the place in my presence. He was running away to save himself from them. A police van was stationed near that place, but they did not protect him. This sort of a pathetic situation is prevailing in certain parts of the country for a poor voter to use his choice. How can we enforce compulsory voting if this is the condition prevailing in the country?

We must try to create an atmosphere where nobody will have any fear of voting. Today, there is fear, and if polling booths are taken out, then no action is taken

against them. No immediate action is taken even if people are prevented, coerced, threatened, or killed. Perhaps, the case will go to court, and it will continue like this. Even in cases where things are almost proved, and everybody knows that something went wrong, still it will not be decided. The case goes to the court, and the proceedings continue for years together. How can we infuse faith among the citizens that justice will be done to them in such a situation? It becomes a joke, and a farce. All of us will discuss for hours together as to what is to be done and what is not to be done, but without any real impact at the ground level.

Sir, there must be a change in the attitude of all of us irrespective of our getting re-elected next time. No Member of the legislature should think that he must necessarily get elected in the next elections. If he were to think that he must get elected in the next elections by hook or by crook, by wrong means or right means, by ethical means or by unethical means, by moral means or by immoral means, then there is a chance of his taking the wrong path to achieve that objective. If everyone of us were to think that we do not bother to get re-elected next time, and we will serve the people for five years without any self-interest, then everyone of us will be united. This attitude would lead to a conclusion in establishing the norms, and establishing ethics for securing democracy, which was achieved with the help of a lot of sacrifices made by our forefathers.

Sir, with regard to the booths, everywhere there is a requisition from the poorer sections that they must have a booth in their area, so that they will be free to vote. The Government has to take this aspect into account, and act accordingly. The Government has to increase the number of polling booths. It is written that the expenditure for electioneering has come to Rs.800 crore in the 1999 general elections.

By increasing the number of booths by another ten per cent, wherever there is a complaint, the Government is not going to lose anything in a big way. It will save democracy; you are creating faith among the people, more

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particularly among the poor and the underprivileged. Sometimes, the Government does not come forward because the party in power thinks whether it is going to be beneficial to them or not. If benefit were to be the criteria or the case, then our discussions would not lead to anything.

There are suggestions for proportional representation. This topic is being discussed in this country for quite a long time. I think, there is a reason to think of this aspect. The reason for it is that in a multi-party system that is existing in our country, if there are four parties, for example, and with 60 per cent or 70 per cent of the people exercising their franchise, a person who is getting 17 per cent or 18 per cent of the votes might also get elected by the electorate. A person who is representing 18 per cent of the citizens or the voters cannot be a real representative of the majority; the rest 60 per cent or 82 per cent would be deprived of expressing their voice in the legislatures. They may express their voice outside, but by and large, the prominence or weightage is given only to the expression of views in the legislatures. Therefore, the expression of views, through their representatives, of 18 per cent, 20 per cent or 25 per cent of the people is being reflected and not that of the majority.

If proportional representation were to be given, then they would also be careful in selecting the right candidates. Today, the parties are not selecting the right candidates. The leader of a party has got his own human weaknesses. He does not see whether a person is loyal or disloyal, and whether the person concerned has abused him or found fault with him on some genuine grounds. He will choose a person who dances to his tunes or who toes his line, and who is submissive to him. If it were to be the way of selection of candidates by the respective parties, then also we are not doing justice. By means of proportional representation, even if the leader of a party chooses to make a wrong choice of the candidate, maybe, due to his whims and fancies or due to his personal likes and dislikes, people are there to judge him. In that case, the

total number of voters will come down to a particular party; it will lose that privilege or get less number of votes. It may not exactly happen like this, but it is something that can be discussed in depth as to what the benefits, advantages or disadvantages of this system are. We can certainly give a thought to this system of proportional representation in this country so that people's will is reflected in a proper manner in all the legislatures, be it in the State or at the Centre. In that context, we can think of the provisions contained in this Bill. They need not be in vogue forever, but they can be there at least for some time so that we can make the voters habituated to this kind of a thing. We can make them feel that their votes are required to reflect their views and also to ensure that undesirable and unwanted people do not enter into the legislatures, and only those who can do sacrifices, who can do their duties perfectly, and fight for their causes or bring a change in their lifestyles - if not in one decade, at least, in a few decades' time; a change for their betterment which may not benefit this generation, but at least, it will benefit the next generation - enter into the legislatures.

With these points, while concluding, I would request the pardon of my colleagues; they should not misunderstand my expressions because it does not refer to any particular party or it does not say anything about any particular individual. In general, I have quoted these things and these are my feelings. These are my feelings. These are also my experiences with the voters in the villages.

I congratulate the hon. Member for bringing forward this Bill. I am thankful to you for giving me opportunity to express the general feelings of the voters in the villages in many parts of the country. My colleagues will discuss the merits and demerits of the Bill and arrive at conclusions as to whether this should be legislated or we should create an atmosphere in which people will voluntarily come forward in big numbers to exercise their vote unless there is a valid reason for not doing so.

With these words, I express my sincere thanks to the hon. Member and also to you for giving me this opportunity. I thank all my colleagues also.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I cannot support this Bill because this goes against the spirit of democracy.

Voting cannot be made compulsory. I fully agree with hon. Member Shri K.S. Rao on that. What is the problem today in our country? Why in certain States the percentage of voting is less than 50 per cent and in some other States it is 30 per cent, 35 per cent or 40 per cent? Why are the voters disenchanted in a number of States? Why are the voters disillusioned? Why are a majority of voters not interested in exercising their franchise? We will have to seriously consider this.

We cannot consider this in isolation. Why is the percentage of voting more than 70 in some States? Why is it less than 40 per cent in some States? Why has an atmosphere not been created in the society to make the voter feel that by exercising his franchise he can elect somebody who can deliver the goods? Why has this atmosphere not been created in some States even after many elections?

We keep receiving complaints that in some States people belonging to some sections like *Dalits*, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are not allowed to exercise their franchise. There are some voters who are not allowed to cast their votes. In such a situation, what is necessary for us to do? There should be a change in our electoral law. Without changing our electoral law merely making voting compulsory will not serve the purpose. We have not made education compulsory in the country. We have been demanding that education, at least primary education, must be made compulsory in the country.

We are asking to make voting compulsory. Is it possible? Is it practicable? What is the solution today? We have been hiring money power, muscle power and *baahu bali*. Today *baahu balis* are being elected. What is the criteria being adopted by the political parties when they nominate for contesting elections? Known criminals, history-sheeters and *baahu balis* are being nominated by political parties. People know them; voters know them. How

will the voters find interest to exercise their franchise if they are to vote for a *baahu bali*? How will the voters get the interest to exercise their franchise? So, there is a need to change the electoral law. We have anti-defecting law. There are lacunae. In the past, we have seen how *ayarams* and *gayarams* changed parties. Today, he will be in one party, tomorrow, he will be in another party. There is no ideology.

Election manifestos are for the purpose of elections only. Political parties forget election manifestos they bring out for elections. They ask vote and support of the people on the basis of manifesto they bring out but after elections, they forget about the manifestos. ...*(Interruptions)* Attempts are being made to implement some points of the agenda. May be, there is a pressure from the Left. We will continue to put pressure on the Government on the basis of which we are extending our support. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please address the Chair?

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : How would the people get interest? If a political party forget their programme or manifestos after being elected and if people find some changes, changes in the attitude, how would the people find interest?

Why is the percentage so high in the State of West Bengal? In the Panchayat elections, percentage is more than 90 or 95 per cent. In elections to Assembly and Lok Sabha, percentage is more than 70 or 75. Why is it so? It is so because that atmosphere has been created. During the last several years, there had been a number of elections - elections to Assembly, Lok Sabha, Panchayats, Municipalities, Managing Committee of the Schools and Governing bodies of the colleges and elections to the democratic institutions.

As that atmosphere has been created, we find more and more people participating in the elections in West Bengal. So, it is the proper atmosphere which is required and not that the voting be made compulsory. Voting cannot be made compulsory as it is against the spirit of democracy. Making voting compulsory will go against the spirit of

[Shri Basu Deb Acharia]

democracy and the democratic structure of our country. Therefore, I cannot support this Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank Shri Bachi Singh Rawatji as by presenting a private Bill he has tried to draw the attention towards this fact as to what kind of a relationship a democracy should have with its voter who is the backbone of democracy. His intention is right but it is stated in a provision that he has made in the Bill that:

[English]

"Any person who fails to cast his vote shall be liable to a fine of Rs.100 or one day's imprisonment or both in case of deliberate avoidance, forfeiture of his ration card and be rendered ineligible for contesting any election for a period of six years."

[Translation]

It further reads :

[English]

Forfeiture of four days' salary or delay in promotion or a period of one year".

[Translation]

It is not feasible to implement the penalty provisions as neither there is sufficient space in the jails of the country nor do we have such security force or police force which can detain such a large number of people and keep them in jails.

Secondly, he has given examples of Belgium, Argentina and Australia where these provisions are in effect. It is said about our country that we create an Australia every year. Belgium's population is even less than that of Australia. The entire Belgium's population is equal

to that of one of our smaller states like Uttaranchal, which he represents, Argentina is even smaller than Belgium. It is easy to put in place this kind of system by making strict rules in a country with population of 80-85 lakh to 1 crore. Even the nomadic population of India is more than this. They do not accept this system in principle.

Ola ji is sitting here. There is a community in his state which believes that they should not have permanent homes as their predecessors were in the army of Rana Pratap and he ordered them to spend their lives in jungle and earn livelihood by wandering from place to place. Their population is equal to the population of Belgium and Argentina. Their name is not in the voters list of any place. If Rawatji's Bill is passed and enacted then that entire community would have to be caught and kept in jail for one week as they would not have cast their votes. Their place would have to be reserved in jails.

Rawatji has placed one more plea. A former President of the country had presented a Bill in provisional Parliament and Dr. Ambedkar had also talked about enacting a law in the country for practical reasons. That was denied. Senior Members know that when elections were conducted in 1952, the rule was to put the slips in the box. Every party had a separate box and a different election symbol. At that time the slip was put into the box and there was no provision for stamping. At that time the public used to assemble to listen to Shri Jai Prakash Narayan but when the boxes would be opened after elections all the votes used to be that of Congress Party as Congress workers were well aware. They had participated in National Movement and had control on the government machinery. The workers of Congress used to put all the slips bearing the election symbol of Congress and this way Congress used to win all the seats. As Lalaji used to say that people might cast vote to any party but ultimately his party would win. In fact this kind of incident had happened in 1952 when votes were cast in this manner.

Sir, our system is quite advanced now. We have put a check on bogus voting gradually in our country. The use

of electronic voting machine has made a impact on the results in Bihar also. I live in neighbouring area of Bihar and I know that men wielding lathis assemble in my nearby areas. Money is distributed among mafia and antisocial elements. If a strong party contested elections in our nearby area then we used to be relieved as all the anti social elements then used to go to Bihar for bogus voting. I have witnessed elections in a sensitive area like Katoria Chanan, the constituency of George Fernandes and I have seen the election of Madhu Limaye to George Fernandes when he used to be with us. The people of Congress used to say that we would win by 50 thousand votes and they used to win by the same margin. Criminals used to take rounds in police uniform under the leadership of collector to see how the booths could be captured. The women there did not have the right to vote. But in the last elections I noticed that goons of our district were there at the border watching that CRPF is deployed and they would be shot if they go there for bogus voting.

I do not say that this time free and fair elections were also conducted in Bihar. I can say on the basis of my own experience that broadly, this time the people of Bihar have experienced the pleasure of casting vote in comparison to other elections...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, is he speaking about Bihar...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : You have every right to speak. You have to reply as you are the Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : I would intervene and speak as a Member.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : He always speaks about Bihar. I am saying all this because it is not confined to that state only . It has made its impact on other States also. Shri Narsimha Rao convened a meeting of very few people when he won the by election from Nandiyal by a huge margin in 1991. He said in that meeting that there is a word "Sattu" in Telugu and it is used in Bihar also. Somebody would have migrated from Bihar to Andhra

Pradesh at some point of time and he would have brought this word "Sattu" which is made of gram with him and now it is used in Telugu too. I said that in old times word "Sattu" migrated from Bihar to Andhra Pradesh and today booth capturing has reached Andhra Pradesh from Bihar and that is why percentage of votes is so high. Please excuse me but I always read in newspapers that a candidate has won by a margin of more than one lakhs, two lakhs 3 lakhs or more and has made a record, no one in the whole world has won by such a huge margin as that particular candidate in Lok Sabha elections then a personally feel that bogus votes count for 5 percent in that margin. A friend from CPM was saying that the percentage of votes would continue to fall if people are given opportunity of fair voting in our country.

The main reason behind this is that the common people of the country have stopped believing that it is their future which is going to be decided by voting system and it is on account of that the percentage of voting is falling. This feeling has mainly contributed to this decline in percentage of voting. I would like to draw Rawatjis attention towards this fact that democracy does not mean that a candidate should win elections by maximum number of votes, it is just its reflection while in a democratic set up every ideology should have a right to flourish and develop. This is the basis of democracy and we know it by the name of human rights. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have to attend to some other business. Since no one from the Panel of Chairmen is available, if the House agrees, I would request Shri Hannan Mollah to occupy the Chair.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : Yes, Sir.

16.56 hrs.

[SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH in the Chair]

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : I was submitting that democracy is not merely winning election by votes. Even

[Shri Mohan Singh]

if there is only one man of any ideology he has the right to flourish and survive in democracy. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : You please continue. There is nothing relevant in his speech.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : Rawat Ji knows this very well that there are some elements in our country who admit that they do not have faith in Parliamentary democracy and party democracy. They do not accept the spirit of party democracy and so they say that they will not go to cast their vote. That is why they proclaim that they will stop those who will go to cast their vote. If such a system prevails then we see that the number of persons professing and nursing such notions is considerable in the country and, as you say, they have entered into 14 states and are propagating their ideology among the down trodden people to boycott the voting system at the time of election, and then, will the Government forcibly...*(Interruptions)*

I would like to further submit that voting should be made mandatory for every person, but how can we enforce punitive measures connected thereto in the country? After all we arrange for security forces. At the time of election, we deploy the state Government officials on election duty and despite being aware they are all deprived of their voting rights. There are some practical problems involved in it. As regards the other difficulties referred to by Rawat Ji, I would like to submit that at the time of voting for Gram Sabha, there is 90 percent voting. I am telling this on the basis of my experience that when elections for Gram Sabha, Town area or Municipalities are held at one place then the entire village comes there by vehicles for casting votes and when the election for Gram Sabha is held people from town area go there and cast votes. The result is that when separate election for Gram Sabha, or town area or municipalities is held, its percentage increases. However, when the general elections are held at the same time all over the country, everyone has to go to their respective booths and cast his vote only once so it is one of the main reasons for low percentage of voting in parliamentary and assembly election.

17.00 hrs.

So far as the question of giving voting right and preparing voters list is concerned, we should give a second thought to it and should take serious measures in this regard. The people from villages come to towns and cities in search of their livelihood.

17.01 hrs.

[SHRI VARKALA RADHAKKRISHNAN *in the Chair*]

They do not get voting right in cities as their names are not included in the voters list. So there is a need to change the system of preparing voters lists in our country. Some scientific methodology should be adopted so that the citizens of the country may get proper representation. The boundary of our country is open and I can say on the basis of my experience that thousands of people from Nepal and Bangladesh come daily to our country for doing jobs and then return to their countries. Similarly, there is a large population of nomadic tribes in the country. This nomadic population is also hurdle in preparing the voters lists that is why I feel that if voting is made mandatory and the provisions of punitive action is made in case of violation thereof, then many practical problems will crop up. So I agree with the view that real democracy will be reflected only when people's representatives are elected on the basis of popular mandate and represent the confidence of maximum number of people. However, I feel that there are many shortcomings in the Bill. A Committee should be constituted by the Government of India to consider as to what type of election system should be adopted so that it may represent the genuine opinion of the people. With this in mind I express my disagreement with this Bill.

[English]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South) : Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity. I do not think that we should discuss this issue on political lines. The intention of the Bill is very good but I do not agree with

the Bill in toto. The fundamental rights of the people are involved here. There is freedom of expression. Clause (1) of article 19 provides fundamental rights such as right to work, right to vote, and right to expression. Our Constitution has given the fundamental rights to all of us. I support the intention of the Bill though I do not agree with the third and fourth paragraphs of the Bill. I agree with the first paragraph of the Bill. I think the Government must bring a comprehensive Bill to discuss the matter with all the political parties. This is the right time for the Government to bring a comprehensive Bill on this particular subject to see how the democracy could be strengthened. The need to bring this type of Bill is very clear. Day-by-day, we are observing the demolition of democracy because of money and muscle power. One day, we will see that the persons who have money power along would come to Parliament and the Legislatures. The common people from the grass roots like us will not be able to come here.

Therefore, the need of the hour is that the Government should have a re-think on the matter. Should it always happen that only a handful of people will have their say? That is not enough. The mover of this Bill has at least given a thought to this aspect. The Government must think about this matter and convene an all-party meeting to seek their opinion and then come forward with a comprehensive Bill.

Sir, if you see the voting pattern today, is it not a fact that only a few political parties who have become very rich are controlling the entire country? I am not mentioning the name of any political party here. There are some political parties who are very poor financially. In every walk of life there are good and bad people. Why do we have this Parliament? If we have to fight elections we have to spend lots of money. Instead of spending lots of money every time on elections, we can spend them for the development of the country.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Do you support the idea of compulsory attendance of Members in the Legislative Bodies?

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Of course, we support this idea. I come from a distant place. I have to take care of my party affairs. From morning to night if I am sitting here and is not allowed to ask any question, then what is the use of that? There should be some rights of the Members. Please give us work, we are willing to work. But if you do not allow us to speak and if you see it from political point of view, then what can we do?

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am attending Parliament everyday from morning to evening.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Sir, I must tell you that sometimes here discussions take place on matters like daily allowance of Members and such other things. On principle, when I do not work, I do not sign the register. I think, you will appreciate this fact. It depends on individuals. You are saying a different thing and I am on a different point. The Government must bring in a comprehensive Bill on this matter with a concrete plan of action for its implementation.

Sir, if *mafia* power and muscle power is allowed unabated, then it would not be possible to maintain the democratic fabric of this country. The Vohra Commission, some ten year ago, in their report mentioned about the nexus between politicians, the *mafia* power and muscle power and how they are running this country. Black money is being transformed into white money. The people with black money. The rich people think that politics is for them and not meant for the common people. We people something are thinking as to who would run this country. Is it the politicians? Or, is it the so called typically rich people who have everything with them? They do not think about the common man.

Sir, money does not come from the heaven. It is the rich people who have enough money and uses them to fulfil their own interests. But people are not saleable and purchasable commodities. I congratulate the mover of this Bill because he has at least given us the opportunity to discuss this matter in the House.

[Kumari Mamata Banerjee]

Sir, I heard what the leader of the CPI (M) Party in the House said about the Bill. He is perhaps not present in the House. He said something like that he was against the spirit of the Bill.

He has said that he is against the spirit of the Bill and he mentioned something about the panchayats. Before saying so, I would request the Government to think about the matter. Firstly, State funding should be considered. What we need is the electoral reforms if we wish to combat the situation. Why are people losing faith in the politicians? It is because they know that their real image is not reflected. The real image is reflected only of some individual persons. That is why, the new generation of voters are losing faith in democracy. It is not the democratic system which is wrong but the politicians. I think we have to be transparent and accountable to the people. We feel that electoral reforms are needed.

The reports of Shri Dinesh Goswami and Shri Indrajit Gupta were submitted. But the Government is not taking action about the electoral reforms. If we go for State funding, I think transparency can be maintained. What is the difficulty in that? At least, let us make a beginning as regards electoral reforms.

I will add more to it, namely, political reforms. Politicians have to take care of themselves. Sometimes there is a verdict from the Supreme Court and sometimes there is a verdict from the High Court or the Election Commission regarding good candidates. But who cares about it? If you see the list and the character of people, then we may realise that what we are observing today is very unfortunate and sad. I do not know whether next time common people will be elected to the Legislature or the Parliament. Only people who dream of going to the sky and not the grassroots will be coming here. So, we need State funding, political reforms and electoral reforms though we have a proposal for judicial reforms and administrative forms. This part has to be covered.

Election Commission must take proper care about the functioning of the democratic system and to strengthen it.

In our country, we have seen that rigging started among the voters from day one. My good friend, Mr. Acharia, is not present now. He mentioned that the percentage of polling in West Bengal is so high and the polling rate is so high because of the atmosphere. What is that atmosphere, Sir? If I am wrong, I would even give you the authority to expel me from the House. I do not think you require me to say more. If I am wrong, you can do it. Mr. Das Muni is here. You can ask him also. I can give you hundreds of examples about the polling percentage and where strength of the biggest opposition is zero. Out of 1000 votes polled, have you got all the 1000 votes? Can you show me a single example all over the world? Can you show a single instance? I am saying this in this House.

In the Midnapore constituency of Parliament, there is an Assembly segment called Khejuri. Sir, the voting percentage there is 120 per cent! It is a matter of shame to our country. We complained to the Election Commission and others. But we have not got justice. He said that because of the atmosphere, polling rate is high. He mentioned about the panchayat elections. That is why, I have brought this book here. This book is not published by me. It is published by West Bengal Election Commission. He mentioned that the polling turnout in the panchayat election is 95 per cent. Sir, due to paucity of time, I am not going to mention all the things. But, with your permission, I would mention only two or three points.

If you see the panchayat election results for the Panchayat Samiti of Hooghly, you will find that 23,61,025 voters are there in total.

The number of voters who represent the uncontested seats is 9,50,563. About 239 seats remained uncontested. Out of 56,006 panchayat seats, they did not allow the Opposition to contest in 23,000 seats. It includes Congress, BJP, Trinamool Congress and others. I am quoting from their Report. I told you about one district, Hooghly. I can give you another example, about Burdwan. The total number of voters is 18,01,161. The number of voters who represent

the uncontested 125 seats is 4,65,747. I would like to give another example. I will not take more time. In Bankura district the total number of voters is 29,87,590. The number of voters who represent the uncontested 206 seats is 7,78, 053. I should not have mentioned all these things. I had to mention all these things because he was talking about 95 per cent voting percentage.

Sir, I want an inquiry to be conducted into this. Please set up a Commission of Inquiry. There are so many precedents. It should inquire as to how the voting percentage is 90 to 100 per cent in West Bengal when in other States the voting percentage is 40 to 60 per cent. It has crossed all the limits. We want an inquiry either by a Commission or by the CBI. You can do it through the agency which suits you. I have given my suggestion. Please see that democracy survives there. There is no democracy there. You can talk about Bihar.

[Translation]

It is very much easy to raise voice against Lalaji in Bihar but in Bengal,

[English]

we have State-sponsored terrorism, State-sponsored voters lists, and State-sponsored killings. There, everything is State-sponsored. We are not getting any justice. We are not asking you any extra advantage. We are not asking you for money. We are only asking you to please ensure that genuine voters are allowed to vote. You have to ensure that.

My next point is about Electronic Voting Machines. We heard so many things about that. Before any election in the State, the Election Commission has to take care of that. Why only in Bihar? Why not in other States? Give that charge to the Election Commission to prevent them from voting through the political machinery, if you want to strengthen democracy there.

Sir, I appreciate the Bangladesh Government. They have got some good things. In Bangladesh, whoever is

in power will have to resign six months before the elections. The President or the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court will take charge during that period. Why don't we accept the same method? In our State, 69 lakh voters' names have been deleted from the voters list because they were our supporters. It is unfortunate. Nearly 23,000 panchayat members were not able to contest. People who had gone to vote, their hands were chopped, legs were chopped, tongues were cut and their eyes were smashed. They include minorities. Now, you are talking of secularism.

What kind of a secularism is it? If you want to see communalism, you come to West Bengal. I would invite all of you. Anybody can go there. I am not going to come with you because you may think that I am going to influence you. So, you should go on your own, from your own side. Please go there and ask the people as to what is going on there. Is it democracy which is there? Or is it an emergency-like situation which is there where it is more than ESMA or Emergency? What is going on there? Is it democracy or is it emergency condition that is prevailing there? What is there? Is it democracy autocracy? That is why, I feel that there is a serious situation prevailing. We are going in for a serious disaster.

Sometimes, people show lack of interest. So, you have to restore the confidence among the people. This restoration of the confidence of the people can work through electoral reforms, State funding of elections and through political reforms, administrative reforms etc. Of course, you are making an appeal for that. Our new generation is not coming forward to vote. This is not good for the country. There is no future for the country if it continues. Who will take care of the future of this country? Because of the political situation, because of the political parties, the double standard role played by the political parties, the hypocrisy of the parties, all the people are not coming forward to vote.

All the parties are talking about manifesto at the time of elections. After the elections, there is no transparency. They say something and do something else. Why do you not go in for an inquiry? When the political parties started

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their parties, what was the amount in their bank accounts? What was the Non-Performing Asset? What is their non-Performing Asset now? What is the parties' asset and money now? Why do you not take care of these things? You should start from my party because charity begins at home. I would request you to start from our own party. This is our open challenge. I am sorry to say all these things because we have seen the happenings.

Now, the Delimitation Commission has started its work. Is it a fault to control population? I appreciate the South Indian people who have controlled the population. There is some problem in the Northern and the Eastern regions also. But, Sir, the Delimitation Commission has started its work and the delimitation process is going on. I would tell you that if some States control population, then they are going to be victimised. Nowadays, the infiltration is coming from the borders. They are going to be the winners. But the culturally, geographically, historically and educationally advanced people are victimised. In South India, even the literacy rate is very high. They control the population.

In my State, I am telling you that we have 21 seats in Calcutta. The proposal is to curtail ten seats there because we control the population like the South Indian people. Is it a curse? Is it a fault? Or, is it a creditable thing? I would request you to look into this. The delimitation process is going on. Before that is finalised, you have to take care of certain things. If you freeze the existing seats for the Lok Sabha and Assembly, then what will happen? Because of the infiltration in the border areas, our people will suffer. I would request you to strictly maintain the existing seats. Whatever population is there in any district, you divide the seats according to that. But because some State has done good work, if you victimise that State, it will not help matters. We have seen things. If some States have done bad work, they will get the reward, it cannot be like that. I think the Government must take up the matter with the Election Commission. It is not only my personnel request but also our request to the Government to take care of these things.

I told earlier also that I am not saying anything which will create a political disaster. We have to take care of the Election Commission. We have to strengthen it. What we have seen is that at the time of elections, nowadays, the impartiality on the part of the officials is very poor. There is no loyalty on the part of the State officials. It is only promotion which plays a role. Sometimes, the officials are also victimised if they do not serve the interests of the ruling party and all that. So, I think, the Election Commission must set up its own infrastructure. Instead of depending on the State officials totally, I think the Election Commission must set up its own infrastructure and act impartially. Through its own infrastructure, it can do justice to the people. This is our feeling.

As far as Electronic Voting Machine is concerned, the Government must investigate about its functioning. In my State, there is a constituency called Salt Lake and I have seen that the EVM was tampered there because the result was not going in favour of the Ruling Party. A rumour is going on that if the EVM is tampered with, then it can be loaded. So, I think, the Government must order an investigation about it. A television channel has already shown about the tampering of the EVM. We hear so many things about how to load the EVM and people say that if you tamper the EVM, then whatever button you press, the voting will be done in one particular way. If it is true, then we can forget democracy and only emergency will be there, not democracy.

Sir, the intention of our hon. friend who brought this Bill is very good, though I do not think that there should be any compulsion for anything. The people of the country have their own compelling reasons for not voting. If they see that good people are coming forward to contest the election, then more and more people will come forward to vote. So, we should not blame the people. Sometimes, in the name of democracy, only bogus voting takes place and ghost votes get polled and some people say that they have got 120 per cent more votes than their opponents. In our election system, 120 is not a bad word and only 240 is a bad word. Do you not think so? It happens in

Khejuri, therefore, a thorough investigation is required into the functioning of Electronic Voting Machines in the interest of democracy.

With these words, Mr. Chairman, I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity. I have so many documents with me. If a full discussion takes place in this House on a comprehensive plan of action, then I will show you all the documents. I have shown the book only because my friends have raised some issues here. We have got so many books with us where we have written in detail as to how we have become 'zero' and they have become heroes only through rigging done by the CPI (M). I hope this will not happen in future.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri B. Mahtab.

(Interruptions)

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to make a submission. I would like to say that the floor of Parliament has been misused to malign a particular State. I want to put on record that 100 per cent falsehood has been said against West Bengal by a person who is frustrated and who has been rejected by the people of West Bengal.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have to make a submission now because he has mentioned about my speech. *...(Interruptions)* sir, you ask him about wakf properties and how many properties have gone. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Hannan Mollah, you are at full liberty to say anything that you want to say when your turn comes to speak. You can say that at that time.

(Interruptions)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Sir, he has referred to me. I said earlier also that you can expel me from this House if you think that what I say is wrong. Do you want any bigger challenge than that? I have got the guts to say all these things and that is why I have put forward all those facts here. They do not have the guts to say factual things.

In spite of 100 per cent rigging, we have got 30 per cent of the votes. Do not forget Mr. Hannan Mollah, next time we will give you minus *rosgulla* and nothing else. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing will be on record except the speech of Shri B. Mahtab.

SHRI B. MAHTAB (Cuttack) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, it has been an encouraging discussion since Shri Bachi Singh Rawat has moved this Bill before this House and the purpose of discussing this matter is based on two aspects.

One is to exercise one's voting right. Second is, should we make it compulsory or mandatory for voting? These are the two aspects on which we should discuss.

A little bit of historicity is also built into it and very rightly the mover of this Bill, Shri Rawat has mentioned about Belgium. In 1892 this compulsory voting concept was introduced in Belgium, but subsequently it was in the late 60s of last century, Belgium abandoned this idea. Today in the whole world, in most of the democratic countries we do not get the true picture as to which are the countries that are enforcing compulsory voting. It is because, as has been said, a number of Acts are made by different countries not necessarily to be enforced. In our country also, we have a number of Acts, which are not enforced. But those are pious wish of the nation or pious wish of the elected body and those are not enforced. In some countries, these Acts also provide certain loopholes, some pathways or some gateways to slip through it or as we say an escape route where it may be enforced it will be done and where it may not be enforced it gives this much of liberty to the establishment to ignore it.

I will give you one example. Luxembourg is a very small country carved out after the demise of the Soviet Union. There, they have a system of compulsory voting. But a person who is more than 70 years of age, for him it is not mandatory to come and vote. Similarly, in some countries where exercising franchise from ages 16 to 18 and from 61 and above is not mandatory, but from age 18 to 60 it has become mandatory.

[Shri B. Mahtab]

In different democratic countries, different types of compulsory voting is prevalent and in most of the countries where this law is there, it is not enforced in true spirit or in true sense of the term. In that respect, a number of other things have also been mentioned in the Bill by the mover, Shri Rawat. One is, to make it mandatory, you have to have certain clauses of punishment and you also should have certain clauses of incentives. These are the two aspects, which he has mentioned.

I would like to draw the attention of this House and as has been very rightly pointed out by two senior Members of this House that who will be the enforcing agency. In our country, it is the Election Commission, no doubt. But the Election Commission has to depend on the Government machinery and the Government machinery here means it is the police force and the magistracy.

We know that in the last 58 years of independent India's administrative history how the magistracy and the police have functioned and on whose guidance and instruction this branch of administration operates. Second is, as has been rightly pointed out should we need negative vote? We do not have ballot papers any more, but we have the Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs). Very rightly, negative vote has been pointed out during the last 6-8 months.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nobody will turn up.

SHRI B. MAHTAB : The Apex Court has come out with an idea to have another clause, another column, another button in the EVM to have 'none of the above' point. It is a negative vote.

A lot of discussion has been made in our country and also abroad. This is also not a very new concept. It is also enforced in some small States like Switzerland. I am not sure about Singapore. But it has its repercussion also. It throws open a lot of other points of view which do not come into the scope of the discussion today when we are taking up this Bill. But despite that, negative voting idea has a

wider support base in our country. It is because when the Party leadership is selecting a certain candidate for the Party, at times it is not appreciated by the general public even though they support that Party. When they do not find a candidate to their liking, they do not have any other avenue. They are not going to support another Party's candidate. But they want to enforce their franchise. There is no scope to do that within the present system, of scheme of things which we have adopted for the last more than 50 years. There is no scope to express his opinion. So, that is the basic reason why the negative voting has a wider support in our country, but it has its legal ramifications.

In that respect, I think in future if this House will take it up, we can also discuss that aspect. But when we are discussing this specific point on compulsory voting, I am sure, the hon. senior Members, who are present here today, are aware that this is not a new thing which we are discussing in this House. We had discussed it in this House. I think, Sir, you are aware about that because of your seniority, and so also the hon. Minister for Rural Development. In the Eighth Lok Sabha this topic was also discussed.

When we come to compulsory aspect or mandatory aspect of a citizen who has to exercise his opinion, who has to express his decision, I think, it becomes a very debatable point. At times, we have a tendency to mix two things into one. There are two words which are invariably used—one is 'independence' and another is 'freedom'. These two words in the English language have two different meanings, but at times we use both of them. 'independence' and 'freedom', together as synonyms.

As has been enshrined in the Constitution, freedom has a very laudable meaning. How a person views it, how a person takes a decision and how he exercises his opinion, and to what extent freedom expands has also, in a way, been expressed by the founding fathers of our Constitution. I would come to that aspect later on, while concluding my speech.

I want to mention here that when you compel a person to express himself, you restrict him to a given point of view. We do not have a negative voting system yet but a negative voting system also has other connotations as I had said earlier. In some cases, it has also been mentioned that if fifty per cent of the voters vote, 'none of the above', a re-poll has to take place. So, should we accept that? Should it have an impact on the leaders of political parties to change the candidates? If the leaders do not change their candidates, what inducement package would the party or candidate come up with so that the voter percentage would increase and the voting 'none of the above' would decrease and go below fifty per cent? In such a case, number of factors would come into play.

When you are forcing someone to vote by saying that if he did not do it he has to pay Rs.100 or serve a jail term for one year, you are curtailing his freedom. I think, even the mover of this Bill would agree with me that the greatest advantage that our Constitution has given to every citizen of this country is freedom. I am free to express myself, to make my own living but my freedom is restricted in a sense. I can express myself. I can throw out my hand upto another man's nose but it should not hit others. I am given only that much of freedom by this Constitution. At the same time, the Constitution has also expressed in very many words the duties of a citizen. Here, the mover of the Bill has mentioned about certain inducements. I am sorry, 'inducement' is not the right word. The right word is 'incentive'. But what is seen as 'incentive' by some people could be seen 'inducement' by some others. The responsibility for providing the incentive and inducement to encourage people to go to the polling booths lies with the political parties. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Member, please excuse me. There are more hon. Members who want to speak on this important Bill. So, if the House agrees, the time for discussion on this Bill could be extended by one hour.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I want to clarify the position. The

extension of time is not meant to be used up today. The House would adjourn at 6 p.m. but the time extended for discussion on this Bill would be utilised later.

SHRI B. MAHTAB : Here I want to draw the attention of the House about boycott of voting. That is also an expression to our dissatisfaction to the system that is prevalent in that area. ...*(Interruptions)* Boycott is also a freedom of expression. We should not encourage it being representative of the people but we cannot restrict it. This has found expression in very many terms in our country. It has happened in different constituencies, at different panchayat levels, at different district levels and it has also happened at different State levels.

Here I would like to draw the attention of the House that expressing our dissatisfaction or expression of dissatisfaction by a large section of the society, I think, it first happened in the State of Punjab at some time in eighties. It has also happened in the State of Assam, in the State of Jammu and Kashmir and in certain pockets of North-Eastern States. ...*(Interruptions)* That is why, when the mover of this Bill, I think, in 2004 had moved it, he had kept this aspect in views. This is my presumption. But this has happened. Once in Punjab, a so-called popular Government came into existence where the polling was not above 25 per cent; a so-called popular Government came into existence in Jammu and Kashmir where the voting was not more than 28 per cent; and a so-called popular Government came in Assam where the total voting percentage was not more than 30 per cent. ...*(Interruptions)* Should we make it 40 per cent? It never happened. These are all on record. To correct the situation, I do not think compulsory voting is the panacea. But in certain countries they have this system and this system is that they do not practice compulsory voting throughout the country, but in certain given pockets compulsory voting is there. It is a constitutional propriety. They do not enforce it throughout the country. They have identified certain areas where compulsory voting should be done.

I do not plead for compulsory voting in Jammu and Kashmir or in Assam or in Punjab. I think the hon. Minister

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of Small Scale Industries and Minister of Agro and Rural Industries will agree with me that we have large tracts in our country which are Scheduled Areas. It is enshrined in the Constitution and those areas need this type of support. It should not encourage a negative way of voting. It should not be a curse on them so that the State can extract money or impound them and put them in jail.

But it should be an encouragement that by exercising their right of citizenship they get this much of support from the State. That is how we can encourage the people of scheduled areas to come out from their houses and exercise their right - the right to vote.

Here, it reminds me about one martyr of 1942 Quit India Movement. I think he is the lone Scheduled Tribe leader in the country - Shaheed Lakshman Naik - who had never exercised his voting right during those British days. He did not have that voting right. But the day he was imprisoned, thousand of people had courted arrest during that time and when he was put behind bars and after the judgement was pronounced that he would be hanged to death, at that time he cried aloud saying 'I will be born again in this country which will be free and where I will exercise my vote.' Such was the belief in vote.

The right to vote in democracy has been fought throughout modern history. In the last century alone, the soldiers of numerous wars and many freedom fighters of our country have fought and died as did Lakshman Naik who had never voted, but he had a dream that at some point of time this country will gain freedom and people will come out to vote unhesitantly. Last century has seen womenfolk coming out in great numbers in England, which is regarded as the mother of parliamentary democracy; but those womenfold were not allowed to vote in Britain till mid of last century. In the United States, the struggle for independence was for the freedom and to exercise vote because they treated it as a right.

In our country, till 1952, adult franchise was not

implemented. This country grew into a democratic one as the enlightenment came through the freedom struggle. Accordingly, this country got the right of adult franchise irrespective of gender and during late Eighties, in Rajivji's time, exercising the franchise came down from 21 to 18 years. Since then, I think, the hon. Chair will agree with me and so also the House, since then tremendous change has come in the national politics. Since 1989 after the franchise limit has come down to the age of 18 years, not a single Government has come to power at the Centre which is not a coalition Government. No one-Party Government is coming to power after that.

This change in voting age has a tremendous impact on the social aspect also. Every person who believes in democracy and democratic right as I do, so also many of us, we will always strive to have a conducive atmosphere where every citizen should exercise their right to vote, should exercise their right to expression and exercise their right of opinion. But, at the same time, I would say, in a more than one billion populated country like ours, where more than 55 per cent of the population are supposed to exercise their voting right, we should also remember that this is an old nation which is more than 5,000 years old or more and yet it is a young country.

What I mean by young country is that the number of voters in the age group of 18 to 35 is much more than those in the age group of 35 and above. This age group will be increasing in another 15 to 20 years. In that respect, all steps should be taken to make citizens aware that they should exercise their opinion through vote. And at the same time, adequate steps should also be taken to see that the voters' list is correct.

When we mention the percentage of polling, we take into cognizance the voters' list, the names that are printed in the voters' list. It has not only happened in the constituency of Shri Rawat, but it has happened invariably in every constituency. All of us have gone through that phase and all of us have also made complaints, but nothing much has happened. Names of thousands and

thousands of people, names of eminent people and dignitaries have been deleted. Why has this happened? That is the fault to which I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister. I would like to say that there is tremendous dependence on the bureaucracy to make our electoral system a success. There is no other way out and nobody is thinking of any alternative way. This Bill has given us the scope to discuss. I think, More Members will enlighten us on this very aspect. If I would be given time the next day when we will be discussing it, I can also discuss on this very aspect, about how much dependent we have become on bureaucracy, how voters' list is prepared, how polling booths are selected. There is too much dependence on the Presiding Officer or the District Magistrate. He can make a person win by his action and he can also make a person lose by his action, and there is no way out. We do not get the opportunity to discuss about it.

When we talk of electoral reforms, it is a very wide canvas, but on this very aspect, just because political parties are contesting elections, they should not be treated culprits. Anybody can be impounded for any allegation just because he does not pull on well with the power, with the system that is prevalent in that State or ahtat district. In that respect, I would ask how Election Commission is going to ensure a foolproof voters' list. I would also say that do not expect a person who is contesting somewhere in Tamil Nadu or Kerala or his party to come to the Supreme Court to lodge a complaint.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Mahtab, if you are not concluding today, you can continue next time. Otherwise, you have one or two minutes. If possible, you conclude.

SHRI B. MAHTAB : Sir, my speech will not be complete today.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Are you concluding today?

SHRI B. MAHTAB : No, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Mahtab, you can continue till 6 o'clock.

SHRI B. MAHTAB : Thank you, Sir. Today, the onus lies with the Election Commission to ensure a correct voters list. I know that there is a system that electoral rolls are prepared and displayed before the Sub-collector's office, and the political parties are informed to make additions, alterations, and if at all they have any suggestions to make they can make, etc.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Mahtab, you can continue your speech next time.

18.00 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the
Clock on Monday, March 14, 2005/
Phalguna 23, 1926 (Saka).*

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Published under Rules 379 and 382 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha
(Eleventh Edition) and Printed by The Indian Press, G.T. Karnal Road, Delhi-110033.
