

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Second Session
(Fourteenth Lok Sabha)



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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Thursday, July 22, 2004/Asadha 31, 1926 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

[Translation]

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Telephones of Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav and Shri Ram Gopal Yadav etc are being taped. *...(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats. We have lost one of our former colleagues.

11.0½ hrs.

OBITUARY REFERENCE

Hon. Members, I have to inform the House of the sad demise of one of our former colleagues, Shri Ajay Mushran.

Shri Ajay Mushran was a Member of the Eighth Lok Sabha from 1984 to 1989, representing the Jabalpur Parliamentary constituency of Madhya Pradesh.

Earlier, Shri Mushran was a Member of the Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly from 1980 to 1984 and from 1993 to 2003. An able administrator, Shri Mushran served as Minister of State of Irrigation, Energy, Sports and Youth Welfare during 1981-82 and thereafter, as Cabinet Minister of Forests, Sports and Youth Welfare from 1982 to 1984. He again served as Minister of Finance in the State Government in 1998.

An active Parliamentarian, Shri Mushran was a member of the Estimates Committee during 1985-86.

Shri Ajay Mushran passed away on 11 July, 2004 at New Delhi at the age of 71, after a brief illness.

We deeply mourn the loss of this friend and I am sure the House would join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved family.

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

11.02 hrs.

The Members then stood in silence for a short while.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: What is this? If all of you start talking together, then how can I hear you? I cannot hear anything.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please talk one by one. I will give priority to the Leader of the Opposition. Of course, I have not got any notice for this. But in deference to him, I am allowing it. I am making this preface because all of you are fully aware of the rules.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI (Gandhinagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, an episode totally unprecedented in the annals of parliamentary history has taken place in the last two days. A court issued an unailable warrant against a Cabinet Minister of the Union Government and in order to implement that warrant, police officers came from Ranchi day before yesterday to Delhi and they have been here at least till yesterday. They may still be here, I do not know. But the Cabinet Minister of the Central Government is absconding. *...(Interruptions)* With the result, these officers had to go to *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: What is this? Shri Ramdas, please sit down. The hon. Ministers are here. If they want to respond, they can respond. It is entirely for them.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Sir, the police officers had to go to his residence at North Avenue and paste a copy of the warrant at his residence. I cannot imagine something of this kind happening in any democracy worth the name and that too in India which is proud of its democratic set up. It has happened. The followers of that Minister have told that the warrant has been pasted at his residence.

My demand is that the hon. Prime Minister must come to the House and take the House into confidence as to how the Government is responding to this order of the court.

The Minister had business in Parliament. His Question was listed at serial number 1 in the Question List of the other House for yesterday and yet he conveyed to the Chairman, the Presiding Officer, that he would not be coming and his Deputy would be replying to that Question.

This is something unprecedented. This is totally indefensible. I would say that it is disgraceful for a Government that a Minister of this level should continue in the Government. He should be dropped immediately and the Government must explain to the House as to what is the position. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You have made your observation.

...(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): The Prime Minister should come to the House. *...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE (Ratnagiri): Prime Minister should make a statement on the floor of the House.
...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I cannot compel him.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have given opportunity to him. At least give the Speaker a hearing.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This is not fair. Without any notice, I have allowed Shri Advani to make a statement and Members are not prepared to listen to the Speaker.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing, except the observations made by the Chair, will go on record.

(Interruptions)...*

11.07 hrs.

At this stage Shri Chandra Mani Tripathi and some other Hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: It is not right.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Do not do that. Do not cross the limit. You are crossing the limit.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please go to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have allowed your Leader to speak. You have not got the courtesy even to hear the Speaker. In future, I will not give you an opportunity to speak. Go to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will not adjourn the House. Carry on.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Let me proceed with the Question Hour. Question No. 242, Shri Arjun Sethi.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Arjun Sethi, are you not putting your Question?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Question No. 243. Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Question No. 244. Shri Virendra Kumar.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Question No. 245. Shri Shivaji Adhalrao Patil.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shrimati Nivedita Mane.

...(Interruptions)

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Termination of Contract of VSNL and State owned GAIL

*245. ⁺SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

SHRI SHIVAJI ADHALRAO PATIL:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether VSNL has terminated its contract with GAIL for hiring optical fibre broadband links along its pipelines between Delhi and Mumbai;

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

(c) whether this decision of VSNL has marked a set back for the gas utility's telecom dream;

(d) the loss suffered by GAIL as a result thereof;

(e) whether GAIL has requested the Government to take steps to sort out the issue; and

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

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI

* Not Recorded.

SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (f) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) VSNL had an agreement with GAIL for leasing long distance bandwidth. As per the terms of the agreement, VSNL could opt out giving one month's prior notice. VSNL has since constructed its own long distance network between Mumbai and Delhi and was leasing bandwidth from GAIL as a standby. Subsequently, VSNL purchased optical fibre network from M/s Bharti Limited along this route and thus created its own standby arrangement. VSNL, therefore, opted out of the agreement with GAIL due to commercial reasons, in conformity with contract clauses.

(c) and (d) The decision of VSNL was a temporary setback to GAIL as the business withdrawn by VSNL is about Rs.17 crore per annum. GAIL has, thereafter, received new orders of more than Rs.8 crore per annum from other operators. GAIL is expecting additional new orders from other customers.

(e) and (f) No, Sir. The matter is of a commercial nature between GAIL and VSNL and is in conformity with contract clauses. GAIL has not sought Government intervention.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to ask the hon. Minister as to how much losses have been increased by GAIL due to the scrapping of the Agreement and what steps are being taken to check the losses likely to be suffered in future. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has asked. ...*(Interruptions)* Due notice was given. ...*(Interruptions)* It has already made up Rs. 8 crore by getting additional orders. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, whether such in built provisions would be there in the agreement that GAIL may not suffer losses due to the breach of the agreement. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: I assure the hon. Member that GAIL will use the investment that it has made. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ABDULLAKUTTY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, thank you. ...*(Interruptions)*

Is the Government aware that the fishermen in Kerala are facing acute shortage of kerosene for their professional

needs? ...*(Interruptions)* I understand that the Chief Minister of Kerala had informed about the difficulty in getting kerosene. ...*(Interruptions)* It may be noted that there is substantial reduction of 8,189 metric tonnes of kerosene from the year 2003-04 during the NDA Government. ...*(Interruptions)* It is an injustice done to the State of Kerala. ...*(Interruptions)* What steps does the Central Government propose to take to remedy this grievance? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Sir, the entire pricing policy with regard to petroleum products including those which are subsidised is under review. ...*(Interruptions)* In the present system we subsidise SKO. ...*(Interruptions)* There has been a substantial increase in the LPG consumption. ...*(Interruptions)* There is a system which had been adopted by the previous Government in terms of which, taking into account the increased availability of LPG, the amount of PDS kerosene was reduced. ...*(Interruptions)* But I do recognise that there are considerable demands for kerosene which remain unfulfilled. ...*(Interruptions)* I would request the hon. Member to recognise that every litre of kerosene that we additionally give does involve a charge on the Government. ...*(Interruptions)* It is the policy under the system that prevails. ...*(Interruptions)* These subsidies remain at a very high level. ...*(Interruptions)* What we do is to look at the concerns of Kerala fishermen which are acknowledged as genuine concerns. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY: May I know from the hon. Minister whether the oil companies are insisting on increasing the price of kerosene and LPG? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I assure this House that there is no proposal under consideration to revive the oil pool. ...*(Interruptions)* As the hon. Member said that there is a huge subsidy burden currently being borne by the Oil Companies, on account of PDS kerosene and domestic LPG. ...*(Interruptions)* As part of our review of the pricing policy, we need to address this question of subsidy and the burden that is imposed upon the oil Companies.

SHRI SACHIN PILOT: Hon. Speaker, Sir, I would like to say that the Government of India is spending a lot of money on subsidising kerosene in this country. ...*(Interruptions)* It must have come to your notice also that the public distribution system in India is to be overhauled because the targeted subsidy is not reaching the common man and the poor village people. ...*(Interruptions)* Kerosene is an important commodity for an average Indian. ...*(Interruptions)* The people who are coming under the PDS are not getting justice. ...*(Interruptions)* The PDS items should reach the targeted audience. My question to the hon. Minister is this. ...*(Interruptions)* Mr. Minister, will you consider involving the Gram Panchayat itself, if not to administer the PDS, to at least monitor it and distribute kerosene in the villages so that there is accountability, the subsidised kerosene, which is a very rare commodity, reaches the deserving people and

it does not reach the people who hoard it for the purpose of adulteration, for mixing it with petrol? ...*(Interruptions)* At least, the Panchayats should be empowered to monitor it. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: I am deeply grateful to the hon. Member for making a suggestion to involve the Petroleum Ministry on the one hand and the Panchayat Raj institutions on the other hand, ...*(Interruptions)* Our effort is to see that it reaches the targeted people. ...*(Interruptions)* I think it is essential that the elected local bodies and the various Government institutions like the Fair Price Shops should be integrated into the system. ...*(Interruptions)* All these avenues are certainly under consideration by the Government. ...*(Interruptions)* As I have already said, the entire pricing policy with regard to petroleum products including those which are subsidised is under review. ...*(Interruptions)* I assure the hon. Member that we are addressing these issues. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRIMATI JYOTIRMOYEE SIKDAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, many of the villages have not been provided electricity connection despite the passage of 57 years of independence in our country. ...*(Interruptions)* Hence the rural women need Kerosene and LPG but the constant decrease in subsidy on Kerosene and LPG is adding to their woes. ...*(Interruptions)* I would like to urge upon the hon. Minister to increase the subsidy on LPG and kerosene. ...*(Interruptions)* I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government propose to increase the subsidy? ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government is very much conscious of the fact that it is necessary to reach the PDS kerosene to those consumers at an affordable rate. ...*(Interruptions)* The Government is equally conscious of the need to reach the domestic LPG to consumers at a rate that they can afford. ...*(Interruptions)* However, the Government is not in control of the international oil prices. When the prices rise exponentially in the international market in the manner in which they have risen in the last two years, then it is inevitable that the subsidy burden will also rise exponentially. ...*(Interruptions)* So, the policy that we have evolved is to equitably share the increased burden on account of subsidies among the Government, the oil companies and the consumers. ...*(Interruptions)* It is on this basis that we were able to announce on the 16th June a modest increase in the subsidised price of domestic LPG. It is a mere Rs. 20 per cylinder increase. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Not, the parliament, Government is run.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: We are, at the same time, taking utmost care to ensure that kerosene prices remain stable at the prices at which they have prevailed over the last few years. ...*(Interruptions)* So, while I am entirely in sympathy with the hon. Member's desire to protect the house-wives, I think it is necessary - as responsible citizens - to see that if the prices go up, somebody has to bear the burden. ...*(Interruptions)* It is better that we equitably share the burden among the stakeholders rather than overburdening any one of the stakeholders. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Well, I compliment Shrimati Jyotirmoyee Sikdar for putting her maiden supplementary question.

[Translation]

DR. TUSHAR A. CHAUDHARY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Centre disburse the LPG and Kerosene to the states. ...*(Interruptions)* Instead of reaching to the needy the LPG end up reaching in Hotels. ...*(Interruptions)* Similarly the kerosene should reach to the ration card holders. ...*(Interruptions)* However it end up reaching to the vendors. Whether the Government are aware of it? ...*(Interruptions)* If so, what constructive steps are proposed to be taken by the Government to regulate this distribution system? ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Sir, I am entirely in agreement with the hon. Member that the system of distribution of LPG and kerosene which we have inherited from the previous Government contains many deficiencies. ...*(Interruptions)* We are addressing these deficiencies. I think some of the deficiencies mentioned by the hon. Member are important systemic deficiencies that would require systemic correction. ...*(Interruptions)* Addressing these issues is very much part of the current review that is going on and we hope to come out with a most effective system of distribution which will prevent or, at least, minimise the diversion of subsidised petroleum products to purposes for which the subsidy is not needed. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI TUFANI SAROJ: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister. ...*(Interruptions)* ...whether the kerosene is supplied to U.P. according to the requirement or not? If not, what are the reasons therefor? ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Sir, ever since the dismantling or the announcement of the dismantling of the APM, the entire process of establishing the distribution system has been handed over to the oil companies and

there were other difficulties that arose in terms of establishing new distributorships, wholesale dealerships and retail outlets of petrol and diesel. ...*(Interruptions)* In consequence of this, all States of India, and not only Uttar Pradesh, have suffered over the course of the last few years. ...*(Interruptions)*

We are now attempting to rectify the situation by substantially increasing the number of retail outlets as well as distributorships and wholesale dealerships and, in this process, we recognise that Uttar Pradesh does require far more attention than it is receiving now. ...*(Interruptions)* These kind of regional imbalances will also be addressed in the course of our review of pricing policy. ...*(Interruptions)* But I would like to bring to the attention of the hon. Member that a great deal of cooperation from the State Government is required for effective distribution. ...*(Interruptions)* After all, with regard to PDS kerosene, most of it reaches directly the agencies nominated by the State Government and from there, to see that it reaches out into the villages and into the towns and cities is the responsibility of the State Government. ...*(Interruptions)* So, provided the State Government is as alert as the hon. Member would like the Central Government to be, I think, in cooperation with the State Government, we can effectively address these problems. ...*(Interruptions)* I entirely agree with the hon. Member that Uttar Pradesh deserves more attention than it is receiving now.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister. ...*(Interruptions)* Whether it is a fact that the quota of kerosene allotment to Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, is less vis a vis national average? ...*(Interruptions)* Such backward States in the country whose kerosene allotment quota is less than the national average. ...*(Interruptions)* I would like to know what steps are being taken to bring the allotment thereof at par with the national average? ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Sir, as in the case of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar too is a State where there is a great need to improve the entire distribution system for both domestic LPG as well as kerosene. If you look at the figures of the 58th round. ...*(Interruptions)* of the National Sample Survey. ...*(Interruptions)*

Therefore, we have to improve the distribution system. ...*(Interruptions)* But at the same time, I do agree with the hon. Member that we are asking the State Government also to extend close cooperation towards us in improving the system because at the end of the day the Central Government will only provide kerosene up to a particular point to the State. ...*(Interruptions)* Therefore, it will go to the villagers of the State. ...*(Interruptions)*

Therefore, I hope that the suggestion made earlier by

the hon. Member, Shri Sachin Pilot, will be taken into consideration. The Government of Bihar should also come out with a proposal to meet the deficiency of kerosene. ...*(Interruptions)* What we can do is to reach to the Panchayats as we have proposed from the Petroleum Ministry to improve the distribution system network. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA: Sir, the Government has allowed private companies to import kerosene in the country during 1993 and it continued till last year. ...*(Interruptions)* The Government has banned private companies to import and sell kerosene in the country. With this development, I want to know whether there is any adverse impact on the availability of kerosene in the country. ...*(Interruptions)*

Secondly, kerosene which is allocated to BPL families through public distribution system, hardly reaches the poor people. Apparently, most of this product is channelised for adulteration purposes due to large price difference between kerosene and other fuels like motor spirit and diesel. ...*(Interruptions)* I want to know what steps the Government has taken to make the public distribution system effective. ...*(Interruptions)*

Lastly, when the Central Government provides subsidy on kerosene, it is their responsibility to see that the benefit of that subsidy goes to the targeted people. I would like to know what steps the Government is taking in this regard. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Sir, in consequence of the fracas that is going on in the well of the House, I was not able to hear anything from the hon. Member. But as I was able to get from the hon. Member, she was asking about the deficiencies in the distribution network in Uttar Pradesh. ...*(Interruptions)* I would entirely agree with the hon. Member that there are deficiencies in the distribution network that we have inherited in the State of Uttar Pradesh. ...*(Interruptions)* We are engaged in the price review and it will require close cooperation with the State Government. ...*(Interruptions)*

I would urge the hon. Member that as her party is the ruling party in Uttar Pradesh, she should take up with her party so that we have cooperation with the State Government in this regard. ...*(Interruptions)* We will jointly address this issue so that we can make the distribution system, in all its dimensions, better in the future rather than what was there in the past.

[Translation]

SHRI BHUVANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the price of kerosene has increased a lot during the last 5-6 years. ...*(Interruptions)* It was increased to ten rupees a litre from three rupees a litre by NDA Government. 72 percent villages of Jharkhand still don't have electricity connection. ...*(Interruptions)* The people still depend on

kerosene. ...*(Interruptions)* The supply of kerosene in Jharkhand is also inadequate. ...*(Interruptions)* Kerosene is used by the poor more. ...*(Interruptions)* Sir, through you, I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister whether he would increase the kerosene quota to Jharkhand and would also reduce the prices of kerosene increase during NDA regime. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is no likelihood of reducing the prices because its prices have increased a lot in international market. ...*(Interruptions)* In reply to the hon'ble Member's question I have stated that the escalation in the international price of petrol and its by-products be shared by all in such a manner that not a particular section is much affected and burdened by it. Main sections are involved in it. ...*(Interruptions)* One is the Government, second is oil marketing companies and third is the consumer. ...*(Interruptions)* We have tried our best to disburse this burden among the said three so that not a particular section is affected much. ...*(Interruptions)* However, we have not increased the prices of kerosene in view of the fact that it is used mostly by poor people. As far domestic LPG is concerned, if you look at the increase in international prices, it demanded an increase of 135 rupees per cylinder but the Government did not increase the prices beyond Rs. 20 so that the burden be shared by both the Government and oil companies. ...*(Interruptions)* We also want the cooperation of the House in this regard. ...*(Interruptions)* We want this burden to be shared in a judicious rational and suitable manner by Government in the form of subsidy on one hand and also the oil companies on the other hand and thus make the contribution for the country's sake.

As far as Jharkhand is concerned, we cannot reduce the prices though I accept that it is necessary to make available kerosene and LPG there. ...*(Interruptions)* That State Governments will have to play a role in it. If we get the co-operation of the Jharkhand Government in the review of the pricing policy being done by us, the situation can improve. ...*(Interruptions)*

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the far flung areas like Madwa, Bharwan, Decchin and Padar consumption of kerosene oil is more as there is no power. ...*(Interruptions)* People travel on foot for days together due to the high fares. ...*(Interruptions)* One litre of oil costs more than rupees 10 or 12. ...*(Interruptions)* Hence, I would like to know whether the Government propose to further subsidize the kerosene in these areas so that the fares could be saved? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I could not fully comprehend the question of the hon. Member due to too much pendamonium in the well of House. On the basis of whatever I could pick up I would like to tell the hon. Member that it cannot be subsidized further because the prices of kerosene and LPG in Jammu and Kashmir.

...*(Interruptions)* The security forces are of the view that the way in which Jammu. ...*(Interruptions)* However it is a big problem and there is a need to find a solution of this problem. ...*(Interruptions)* We are trying our best to resolve the temporary difficulties that have been created presently. Besides I would like to assure the hon. Member that we would try our best to control the price escalation and some has to carry this burden along but we want this burden to be shared among in an equitable manner. ...*(Interruptions)* We are also trying to improve the present system. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMDAS BANDU ATHAWALE: Kerosene is mixed in petrol and diesel to a great extent. ...*(Interruptions)* I would like to suggest the hon. Minister to put a curb on this practice. ...*(Interruptions)* I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what steps are proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure that the people get unadulterated petrol and diesel? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I fully agree with the suggestion given by hon. Member that there is a need to check the adulteration of petrol and diesel done by the mixing kerosene in it. ...*(Interruptions)* Hon. Members are aware that the adulteration has decreased a bit after we have brought some changes in the marketing policy of kerosene. Hence we have formulated a separate strategy for kerosene that is used for domestic cooking. ...*(Interruptions)* We have formulated a scheme in this regard. However it is unfortunate that those practising adulteration always take advantage whenever such a step is taken by us. ...*(Interruptions)* and they make undue misuse of the prevailing technique. ...*(Interruptions)* However, it is essential to ensure that kerosene reach directly to consumers without being diverted enroute and it is keeping this in view we are formulating a scheme to check the adulteration. ...*(Interruptions)* As has been rightly suggested by hon. Member Sachin Pilotji that the co-operation of gram panchayats be sought to achieve this objective and. ...*(Interruptions)* There is a need to consider this suggestion. Our Ministry had constituted an anti-adulteration cell. ...*(Interruptions)* However its work was not satisfactory and we have to scrap it. A new cell is being contemplated to be set up in the Ministry in place of that. ...*(Interruptions)* I am of the opinion that once it is set up, stringent action would be taken against those indulging in adulteration. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: A large area of Bihar is submerged under flood waters at present. ...*(Interruptions)* I would like to know as to what steps are being taken by the Government to supply kerosene to the flood affected people as a part of your relief measures? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: For the first time I have noticed Shri Raghunath Jha speaking louder than him.

Sir, there are some obstacles in supplying kerosene to flood affected people. Still we are trying our best to supply kerosene to them. The Members are free to give their suggestions as to how the Ministry can remove those constraints in way of providing kerosene to them and we would certainly implement those suggestions. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. SHAFIUR RAHMAN BARQ: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what action is proposed to be taken by the Government against those kerosene dealers in rural areas who sell their kerosene quota in cities instead of disbursing it among the poor in rural areas due to which they fail to lit the lamps in their houses? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Why are you standing, take your seats.

...*(Interruptions)*

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Utilisation of Reserved Fund of SGRY

*242. SHRI ARJUN SETHI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is permissible under SGRY, more particularly under 22.5 percent reserved fund of the Sampurna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) to create durable socio-economic assets like village concrete roads, market complexes and water bodies, etc.;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) how the individuals will be benefited under 22.5 percent reserve fund intended to benefit the poor SC/ST under the SGRY Guidelines?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (c) According to the SGRY Guidelines, 22.5% of resources released to the District Panchayat and Intermediate Panchayats shall be used for individual works for SCs/STs below poverty line. Works like village concrete roads, market complexes and water bodies are not to be undertaken with these earmarked funds. The illustrative list of economic assets/works which can be taken up for the benefit of identified SCs/STs is as under:

(i) Development of allotted land;

(ii) Social forestry works like fuelwood and fodder plantations on the private lands belonging to SCs/STs;

(iii) Agri-horticulture, floriculture, horticulture plantation on the private lands belonging to SCs/STs;

(iv) Work sheds or infrastructure for any self-employment programme;

(v) Open irrigation wells/bore-wells for irrigation;

(vi) Pond excavation primarily for pisciculture; etc.

[Translation]

Demand and Supply of Kerosene & LPG

*243. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a gap between the demand and supply of Kerosene Oil and LPG in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) state-wise details of supply and demand of Kerosene Oil and LPG in the country during the last three years; and

(d) the quantum of Kerosene and LPG imported during the said period to meet the demand alongwith the rate at which these items were imported?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) While supplies are generally adequate to meet demand and there is no supply constraint, occasional disturbances in the supply chain or distribution network might sometime cause temporary shortages, which are immediately sought to be corrected.

(c) PDS Kerosene at subsidized rates is allocated to States/UTs, who, in turn, make their own arrangements to reach this product to entitled consumers. In addition, oil companies supply non-PDS Kerosene as per demand. In case of LPG, oil companies supply the product as per demand. The State-wise details of sales of Kerosene and LPG during the last three years are given in the enclosed statement.

(d) The details of quantum of Kerosene and LPG imported during the last three years, along with the average import price (CIF), are given below:

Particulars	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04 (Prov.)
LPG Imports (TMT*)	659	1073	1708
Price** Rs./Tonne	12327	18127	15054
Kerosene Imports (TMT*)	391	698	804
Price** Rs./Tonne	12283	***	***

* Thousand Metric Tonne.

* Based on imports by PSUs.

*** No Kerosene was imported during this period by PSUs.

Statement*State-wise PSUs' Sales of Kerosene & LPG*

(Figs. in T.MT)

Region/State	2001-02		2002-03		2003-04 (Prov.)	
	LPG	SKO	LPG	SKO	LPG	SKO
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Region: North						
Jammu and Kashmir	76	153	84	152	91	151
Punjab	374	308	428	274	489	251
Rajasthan	305	435	346	419	385	406
Uttar Pradesh	763	1306	873	1271	978	1235
Haryana	265	168	304	158	355	149
Himachal Pradesh	61	49	64	48	74	49
Uttaranchal	95	110	107	96	118	94
Chandigarh	30	14	30	14	31	11
Delhi	474	200	508	190	550	181
North Total	2442	2741	2744	2622	3071	2528
Region: North East						
Assam	126	280	131	262	145	264
Manipur	14	16	22	32	18	21
Meghalaya	9	21	10	26	11	22
Nagaland	8	14	11	13	11	13
Tripura	14	31	16	30	18	30
Arunachal Pradesh	8	12	9	11	9	11
Mizoram	14	7	16	6	17	7

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
North East Total	192	381	214	381	229	368
Region : East						
Bihar	170	677	183	610	223	636
Orissa	84	318	95	312	114	313
West Bengal	384	803	418	781	455	766
Jharkhand	53	198	81	252	80	214
Sikkim	4	9	6	15	7	14
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1	5	0	6	4	6
East Total	697	2009	783	1976	883	1949
Region: West						
Goa	34	24	37	22	39	21
Gujarat	445	803	502	771	527	757
Madhya Pradesh	282	530	316	496	354	483
Maharashtra	1095	1444	1212	1389	1343	1321
Chhattisgarh	61	128	69	147	79	145
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	2	3	6	3	8	3
Daman and Diu	3	3	4	2	4	3
West Total	1922	2934	2145	2831	2355	2732
Region: South						
Andhra Pradesh	587	592	639	552	727	525
Kerala	313	271	359	237	412	227
Tamil Nadu	720	638	770	584	838	572
Karnataka	413	526	461	503	547	482
Lakshadweep	0	0	0	1	0	1
Pondicherry	20	14	22	13	25	13
South Total	2054	2041	2252	1890	2549	1819
Total PSUs' Sale	7310	10114	8143	9707	9091	9403
Total Private Companies Sale*	418	318	208	698	216	804
Grand Total	7728	10431	8351	10404	9307	10207

* State-wise break up of private companies' sale is not kept

[English]

Restructure of PSEs

*244. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises has a proposal to restructure some of its public sector enterprises.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c) Yes Sir, an exercise has been initiated to identify the possibilities of and to prepare a roadmap for the revival as also restructuring of some of the PSEs under the administrative control of this Ministry in the light of the National Common Minimum Programme (NCMP). While profit making PSEs would generally not be privatized, loss making PSEs are to be considered for revival and those chronically sick for closure or sell off after settling all legitimate dues of the workers. Government propose to set up a Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises which is envisaged to consider the proposals in respect of restructuring and revival of PSEs and advise the Government before final approval.

[Translation]

Threat from Pakistan and China on Sea Border

*246. SHRI BHUPENDRASINH SOLANKI:

SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that threat perceptions from Pakistan and China on the sea front of the Indian border have increased;

(b) if so, whether any concrete steps have been taken by India to overcome such threats; and

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

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) Pakistan and China, like other countries, keep modernizing their Armed Forces, including their Navies. Government constantly monitors the security environment and takes appropriate measures to ensure defence preparedness.

[English]

Linking of Gas Manufacturing and Distribution Units with National Gas Grid

*247. SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government plans to link all the gas manufacturing and distribution units with one national gas grid;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the cost involved and the time by when the same will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) While Government have no plan at present for setting up a national gas grid, Government are engaged in formulating a Policy for Development of Gas Pipelines Network with a view to promoting investment in gas pipelines and providing inter-connectivity between regions, consumers and producers, as also legislation to establish an appropriate regulatory authority.

Development of Aero Space Command

*248. SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Standing Committee on Defence in its 7th report (13th Lok Sabha) has recommended development of aero space command in the Indian Air Force to protect the country's assets in space;

(b) if so, the details of the action taken in regard to the above; and

(c) the time by which the command will be set-up?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) There is no decision of the Government of India to set up Aerospace Command.

Difficulties of Villages due to Increase in Prices of Kerosene Oil

*249. SHRI TUKARAM GANGADHAR GADAKH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that in most of the villages in our country poor people use kerosene and due to constant increase of kerosene prices these people face great difficulties;

(b) whether the poor villagers are not able to purchase required quantity of Kerosene;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to take steps to keep the price of kerosene stable for the poor villagers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) Oil Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) have not raised their selling price of PDS kerosene since 1st March 2002. The selling price of PDS kerosene was not raised even on 16th June 2004, when prices of other petroleum products were raised. PDS kerosene at subsidized rates is allocated to States/UTs, who, in turn, make their own arrangements to reach this product to entitled consumers in villages and urban areas.

(c) and (d) With a view to stabilizing the price of PDS kerosene, Government have been providing a flat rate of subsidy for PDS kerosene and Oil PSUs have shared the burden of subsidizing this product by not passing on to PDS consumers the increase in international prices since 1st March 2002.

Sick Industrial Units

250* SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:

SHRI SURESH CHANDEL:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether industrial sickness in public sector undertakings is increasing every year;

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

(c) the names and number of Central public sector units found sick and running into losses as on date in the country alongwith the units referred to BIFR during the last three years and till date;

(d) whether some public sector undertakings have not been declared sick despite incurring losses for the last three years;

(e) if so, the details thereof including the reasons and losses incurred by such units till date;

(f) whether the Government propose to take a policy decision in reviving these sick units for welfare of employees; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF

HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (g) As per Public Enterprises Survey which is laid in the Parliament every year, 67 sick industrial Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) were registered with Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) for formulating revival/rehabilitation scheme as on 31.3.2000. The number of BIFR referred sick CPSEs increased to 68 as on 31.3.2003, and 70 as on 30.4.2004.

Reasons for sickness in CPSEs are enterprise specific and include old/obsolete plant and machinery, outdated technology, low capacity utilization, resource crunch, high interest burden, inadequate credit from the financial institutions, severe competition, poor marketing strategy, surplus manpower, etc.

As per Public Enterprises Survey 2002-03, 86 CPSEs had recorded negative networth as on 31.3.2003, till which period the information is available. Out of these 86 enterprises 78 had incurred losses during 2002-03 and 8 earned profit.

During the last three years (2000-01 to 2003-04) the following 9 sick industrial CPSEs were referred to BIFR:

- (1) Bharat Wagon and Engineering Co. Limited (2001) (D/o Heavy Industry)
- (2) Bharat Coking Coal Limited (2001) (Ministry of Coal)
- (3) Central Coalfields Limited (2002) (Ministry of Coal)
- (4) Biecco Lawrie Limited (1992 and 2002) (Ministry of Petroleum)
- (5) Hindustan Cables Limited (2002) (D/o Heavy Industry)
- (6) Andrew Yule and Co. Limited (2003) (D/o Heavy Industry)
- (7) Maharashtra Elektros melt Limited (2002/2003) (Ministry of Steel)
- (8) Hindustan Insecticides Limited (2004) (Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals)
- (9) NTC (TN and P) Limited (2004) (Ministry of Textiles)

Incurring loss is not the only criterion for deciding the sickness of an enterprise. As defined in Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 (SICA), sick industrial company means a company being registered for not less than five years and whose accumulated losses have either equated or exceeded its networth. Out of 80 CPSEs

which had been incurring losses continuously for the last three years (2000-01 to 2002-03), only 45 were registered with BIFR as per provisions of SICA and remaining 35 enterprises were not covered under the provisions of SICA. The enterprise-wise details of losses of these 35 loss making CPSEs are given in the enclosed statement.

The Government is committed to a strong and effective public sector. The policy is to modernize and restructure sick public sector companies and revive potentially viable sick companies. Chronically loss making companies are to

be sold off or closed after all workers have got their legitimate dues and compensation.

Enterprise specific steps are taken to revive/rehabilitate sick and loss making CPSEs by the concerned administrative Ministries/Departments and the management of the enterprises from time to time. These steps include financial and business restructuring, upgradation of technology, infusion of fresh funds, rationalisation of manpower, purchase preference, improved marketing strategies, cost control measures etc.

Statement

Continuously Loss making non-BIFR CPSEs during last 3 years.

		(Rs. Crores)		
		Net Losses (-)		
S. No.	Name of the Company	2002-03	2001-02	2000-01
1	2	3	4	5
Ministry of Civil Aviation				
1	Airline Allied Services Ltd.	-81.29	-56.97	-71.18
2	Hotel Corpn. of India Ltd.	-35.66	-35.66	-25.08
3	Indian Airlines Ltd.	-196.56	-246.75	-159.17
Ministry of Environment and Forests				
4	Andaman and Nicobar Isl. Forest & Plant Dev.	-6.39	-5.04	-2.59
Department of Heavy Industry				
5	Bharat Leather Corpn. Ltd.	-3.09	-7.54	-2.42
6	HMT Chinara Watches Ltd.	-6.31	-10.16	-7.95
7	HMT Machine Tools Ltd.	-102.17	-70.65	-96.17
8	HMT Watches Ltd.	-112.92	-106.29	-59.18
9	National Industrial Dev. Corpn. Ltd.	-14.29	-10.87	-6.83
10	Sambhar Salts Ltd.	-2.66	-3.02	-3.27
Department of Scientific and Industrial Research				
11	Central Electronics Ltd.	-2.8	-4.75	-3.02
Department of Information Technology				
12	ET & T Ltd.	-17.09	-18.55	-16.93
13	Semi-Conductor Complex Ltd.	-18.09	-10.94	8.97
Ministry of Mines				
14	Hindustan Copper Ltd.	-147.7	-184.04	-105.8

1	2	3	4	5
15	Mineral Exploration Corpn. Ltd.	-17.58	-0.57	-6.06
	Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals			
16	Hindustan Organic Chemicals Ltd.	-43.12	-62.68	-39.06
	Department of Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation Development			
17	Hindustan Prefab Ltd.	-11.01	-12.99	-10.8
	Ministry of Steel			
18	Hindustan Steel Works Costn. Ltd.	-136.35	-142.08	-172.55
19	Mecon Ltd.	-70.83	-146.06	-51.36
20	Steel Authority of India Ltd.	-304.31	-1706.89	-728.66
	Ministry of Shipping			
21	Hooghly Dock and Port Engineers Ltd.	-25.08	-20.47	-30.98
	Ministry of Tourism			
22	India Tourism Dev. Corpn Ltd.	-5.31	-86.57	-35.47
23	Madhya Pradesh Ashok Hotel Corpn. Ltd.	-0.12	-0.51	-0.57
24	Pondicherry Ashok Hotel Corpn. Ltd.	-0.22	-0.22	-0.25
25	Ranchi Ashok Bihar Hotel Corpn. Ltd.	-0.05	-0.21	-0.03
26	Utkal Ashok Corpn. Ltd.	-1.11	-0.98	-0.98
	Ministry of Railways			
27	Konkan Railways Corporation Ltd.	-322.98	-369.81	-381.62
	Department of Defence Production			
28	Mazagon Dock Ltd.	-24.13	-18.62	-18.36
	Ministry of Water Resources			
29	National Projects Construction Corpn. Ltd.	-55.74	-67.93	-60.08
	Ministry of Small Scale Inds. and Ari			
30	National Small Industries Corpn. Ltd.	-12.95	-84.12	-52.47
	Ministry of Textiles			
31	National Textile Corpn. (Holding Co.) Ltd.	-66.27	-69.74	-57.61
32	Brushware Ltd.	-0.05	-0.05	-0.05
	Department of Development of North Eastern Region			
33	North Eastern Handicrafts & Handloom Dev. Corpn Ltd.	-1.82	-1.79	-1.7

1	2	3	4	5
Department of Agriculture and Cooperation				
34	State Farms Corporation of India Ltd.	-8.14	-5.61	-26.71
Department of Commerce				
35	Tea Trading Corpn. of India Ltd.	-3.8	-3.8	-3.8
Total		-1857.99	-3572.93	-2247.73

[Translation]

Marketing of International Sports by DD

*251. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Doordarshan has suffered a loss of Rs. 140.88 crores on account of marketing of international sports events through Sports Marketing agencies during the year 2002-2003;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the comparative data of the said losses during the year 2003-2004; and

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

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) to (d) Prasar Bharati has informed that Doordarshan, a Public Service Broadcaster, does not operate a Profit and Loss Account. As per Prasar Bharati Act, 1990, Doordarshan is to provide adequate coverage to sports and games so as to encourage healthy competition and spirit of sportsmanship.

Prasar Bharati has informed that during the years 2002-2003 and 2003-2004 the revenue earned and expenditure incurred on major international events by Doordarshan is as follow:

Year	Revenue	Expenditure
2002-2003	155.40	62.77
2003-2004	130.69	67.18

[English]

Fleet Strength of Indian Navy

*252. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU:

DR. M. JAGANNATH:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the fleet strength of Indian Navy is shrinking;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Indian Navy is being forced to work with very old vessels;

(d) if so, the number of vessels which are more than 20 years old;

(e) the details of Government plan to replace the old fleet; and

(f) the measures taken/proposed to enhance Naval fleet?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) The fleet strength of the Indian Navy increases or decreases as per the planned programme of the Navy for induction of new ships or decommissioning of old ships.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) to (f) It will not be in national interest to disclose these details.

[Translation]

Enforcement of Panchayati Raj Act

*253. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

SHRI NITISH KUMAR:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether Panchayati Raj Act has not been enforced in several States of the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the names of the States, where Panchayati Raj Act has not been enforced; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government to ensure uniformity and proper implementation of Panchayati Raj Act in all the States?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) As per Article 243B of the Constitution there shall be constituted in every State, Panchayats at various levels in accordance with the provisions of Part IX of the Constitution (73rd Amendment) Act, 1992. However, as per Article 243M of the Constitution nothing in Part IX shall apply to the Fifth Schedule Areas referred to in clause (1) and the Tribal Areas referred to in clause (2) of Article 244. Further nothing in Part IX shall apply to (a) the States of Nagaland, Meghalaya and Mizoram and (b) the Hill Areas in the State of Manipur for which District Councils exist under any law for the time being in force. Further nothing in Part IX of the Constitution (a) relating to Panchayats at the district level shall apply to the hill areas of the District of Darjeeling in the State of West Bengal for which Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council exists under any law for the time being in force; (b) shall be construed to affect the functions and powers of the Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council constituted under such Law.

In so far as the areas of Fifth Schedule are concerned, Parliament has enacted the Provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996. This Act extends Panchayats to the tribal areas of nine States, namely, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and Rajasthan. All these States have enacted their State legislation in pursuance of the Provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996.

Barring the States of J&K and NCT of Delhi, all the States/UTs covered under the Constitution (73rd Amendment) Act, 1992 have enacted State legislation in pursuance of the provisions of the Act. The provisions of the Act do not apply to the State of Jammu & Kashmir. The NCT of Delhi had suspended its Panchayati Raj Act several years back and is now actively considering reviving the Panchayats in Delhi in terms of the Constitution (73rd Amendment) Act, 1992. All the States/UTs except Jharkhand and Pondicherry have held Panchayat elections after Constitution (73rd Amendment) Act, 1992.

A Conference of Chief Ministers and State Ministers in-charge of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj on "Poverty Alleviation and Rural Prosperity through Panchayati Raj" was organised at New Delhi on 29-30 June, 2004, jointly by the Ministry of Rural Development and the Ministry of Panchayati Raj. The Conference was inaugurated by the Prime Minister. At the Conference, the Ministry of Panchayati Raj discussed in Agenda Paper the outstanding issues relating to the effective implementation of Part IX and Article 243ZD of the Constitution. These issues are scheduled to be discussed in a series of Seven Round Tables of the Ministers of Panchayati Raj as described below:

Round Table I:

Sat-Sun, 24-25 July: Kolkata: "Panchayati Raj: Effective Devolution", comprising Functions, Functionaries and Finances, as well empowerment of Gram Sabhas.

Round Table II:

Sat-Sun, 28-29 August: Bangalore - "Panchayati Raj: Planning and Implementation and Rural Business Hubs", including the question of parallel bodies.

Round Table III:

Wed-Thurs, 22-23 September: Raipur - "Reservations in Panchayati Raj", comprising Scheduled Tribes (including implementation of PESA), Scheduled Castes and Women.

Round Table IV:

Sat-Sun, 2-3 October: Chandigarh - "Panchayati Raj in Union Territories and Panchayati Raj jurisprudence".

Round Table V:

Wed-Thurs, 27-28 October: Uttaranchal (venue to be decided) - "Annual Reports on the State of the Panchayats" (including preparation of a Devolution Index).

Round Table VI:

Sat.-Sun., 27-28 November: Guwahati - "Panchayati Raj Elections and Audit".

Round Table VII:

Sat-Sun, 11-12 December: Pune - "Capacity Building and Training for Panchayati Raj institutions".

[English]

Private Agencies for Rail Reservation

*254. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has authorised certain private agencies for rail reservations;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the norms prescribed to open such agencies;

(c) the arrangements made to inform passengers about the agencies authorised by the Railways;

(d) whether the Government is aware that there are some unauthorised private agencies operating for rail reservations;

(e) if so, the facts thereof and the action taken against such agencies; and

(f) the corrective measures taken/to be taken by the Railways to curb such activities?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD):

(a) and (b) A total of about 882 Rail Travellers' Service Agents (RTSAs) and Rail Tourist Agents (RTAs) have been appointed in India by the Railways. Norms for appointment of these agents are governed by the provisions of "Authorisation of Rail Travellers' Service Agents Rules, 1985" and "Rail Tourist Agents Rule, 1980" along with their amendments and the instructions issued by Ministry of Railways from time to time.

(c) The information regarding Railway's authorised agents is mostly covered in the Zonal Railway Time Tables.

(d) to (f) Some cases of unauthorised persons indulging in illegal trade of tickets do come to notice. To curb such activities, following steps have been taken:

- (i) Checks are conducted from time to time by Railway officials in association with Police to apprehend unauthorised persons indulging in illegal trade of tickets and appropriate action is taken against them under the relevant provisions of law.
- (ii) During peak rush periods, monitoring at important stations is stepped up.
- (iii) Irregular activities proliferate more when there are system constraints. In order to curb such activities, the system should be as smooth as feasible. With a view to achieving this objective, the Reservation network has been expanded. Modern computerised system of Internet booking has been introduced and other State of the art facilities like reservation through mobile phones & e-ticketing are being introduced for the passengers.

Shortage of Funds in Prasar Bharati

*255. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY:

SHRI UDAY SINGH:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Prasar Bharati has been facing shortage of funds for its expansion and other activities as reported in the 'Hindustan Times' dated June 25, 2004;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the DD's revenue earning formula has been badly hit and no funds are available for expansion of Doordarshan; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and what immediate plans would be formulated to ensure generation of funds?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) Prasar Bharati is not facing shortage of funds due to its expansion and other activities. For expansion and other activities, an outlay of Rs.895.10 crore has been sanctioned for Prasar Bharati's Annual Plan 2004-05, out of which, Rs.475.00 crores is required to be contributed by Prasar Bharati from its commercial revenue. However, Prasar Bharati has been facing financial burden due to additional liabilities on account of payment of various taxes and levies imposed on it.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. DD's revenue formula has not been badly hit. The gross revenue earned by Doordarshan during 2001-02 is Rs.615.20 crore, 2002-03 is Rs.553.81 crore & 2003-04 is Rs.530.23 crore. In the first quarter of the current financial year 2004-05, DD has earned a revenue of Rs.92.88 crores as against a revenue of Rs.47.92 crores for the corresponding period last year. As per Memorandum of Understanding signed between this Ministry and Prasar Bharati, it shall be Prasar Bharati's endeavour to augment its revenue earnings year after year, strengthen its mechanism for resource mobilization and take effective steps for optimally utilising the available resources to progressively reduce dependence on Grants-in-aid from the Central Govt.

Upliftment of BPL

*256. SHRI B. MAHTAB:

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the BPL Census has been completed in the country;

(b) if so, the number of people living below poverty line in the country as on date giving their comparison during each of the last two plan periods;

(c) if not, the names of the States which are still in the process of identifying the BPL families;

(d) the details of the steps taken by the Government for their upliftment above poverty line;

(e) whether there is a discrepancy relating to the number of BPL families listed by Centre and the States, especially in the case of Orissa;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(g) the time by which a proper and acceptable list be prepared for Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (g) During each Five Year Plan, the Ministry of Rural Development supports a Below Poverty Line (BPL) Census conducted by the State Governments with a view to identifying households living below the poverty line in the rural areas who could be assisted under various anti-poverty Programmes of the Ministry. Accordingly the States/UTs were advised to complete the BPL Census, 2002 by June 2003 in order to identify the BPL households for assistance during the Tenth Plan. However, due to the ruling of the Hon'ble Supreme Court on 5th May, 2003, in People's Union for Civil Liberties (PUCL) Writ Petition No.196 of 2001, the State Governments were advised not to finalize the BPL list until the next hearing of the case. On the advice of the Additional Solicitor General the State Governments were again asked to complete the spadework of BPL Census (2002) and preparation of BPL lists immediately, however, they should not be given effect to until appropriate orders are obtained from the Supreme Court in respect of pending application for modification of the order dated 5th May, 2003.

The BPL Census 1992 identified 50989917 families (52.49% of total rural families) living Below the Poverty Line whereas the number of such families identified under the BPL Census 1997 was 55570998 (41.05% of total rural families) in the country.

In order to improve the living conditions of the rural poor and to uplift them above the poverty line the Government are implementing a number of rural development programmes, which includes wage-employment, self-employment, rural housing, rural roads, area development programmes, rural drinking water supply and sanitation etc. Besides providing employment to the rural poor, rural infrastructure is also created through these programmes.

While the Planning Commission makes the estimates of the number and proportion of the rural poor, BPL Census is conducted to identify the rural poor households.

Film Industry

*257. SHRI RAJ BABBAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has recognized the film industry as an Industry;

(b) if so, whether this industry is facing problems for not getting financial assistance from the banks and other institutions;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken/ proposed to be taken by the Government for getting substantial relief to the said industry?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) In order to facilitate a greater flow of institutional finance to the film industry, a notification dated 16.10.2000 was issued by the Ministry of Finance, whereunder 'Entertainment Industry, including films' has been specified as an approved activity for extending loans under the Industrial Development Act 1964 (IDBI Act). The Reserve Bank of India has also evolved guidelines to enable commercial banks to fund film production. Loans are extended by IDBI and commercial banks in accordance with the scheme/ guidelines for financing film production. These steps have eased the flow of institutional and bank finance into film production.

Apart from these initiatives, the Government have also allowed 100% Foreign Direct Investment into the sector. Further, in order to bring about a receptive investment regime in the entertainment sector, within India, a Committee has been set up to suggest a strategy to facilitate the flow of venture capital into the sector. National Film Development Corporation, a public sector undertaking under the administrative control of this Ministry, also inter-alia, finances, produces and co-produces good quality films.

Food for Work Programme Under SGRY

*258. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the total quantum of foodgrains allocated to each State for Food for Work Programme under SGRY in the years of 2003-2004 and 2004-2005;

(b) whether any additional quota has been released to the States according to their special request to meet the serious drought situation;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether there is any guideline issued by the Union Government to the States for the effective implementation of "Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana";

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the details of the role of the Panchayati Raj System to implement the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) Under the Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY), a minimum of 5 kg foodgrains is given as part of wages to the labourers. State-

wise allocation of foodgrains under the SGRY during the years of 2003-2004 and 2004-2005 is given respectively in the statements-I & II.

(b) Yes, Sir. As per provision of the SGRY Guidelines, 5% of allocation of resources under the scheme is reserved for calamity affected areas. Similarly, under the Special Component of the SGRY, foodgrains are provided to the States as and when required for relief works in the calamity affected areas.

(c) Details of additional resources under 5% reserve under the SGRY during the year 2003-04 and of foodgrains under the Special Component released to calamity affected States during the years 2003-2004 and 2004-05 are enclosed respectively as statements III & IV.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The salient features of the SGRY are given in statement-V.

(f) The SGRY is being implemented by the Panchayati Raj Institutions at District, Block and Gram Panchayat levels. The works under the SGRY are taken up according to the Annual Action Plan (AAP) prepared independently every year by each Panchayat. The responsibility for preparation of the Annual Action Plan is that of the District Panchayat at the District level, of the Intermediate Panchayat at the block level and of the Village Panchayat at the village level.

Statement-I

Allocation and Authorization of Foodgrains under the SGRY during 2003-2004

S.No.	State/U.Ts	Foodgrains (in MTs)	
		Allocation	Authorization
1	2	3	4
1	Andhra Pradesh	237497	258617
2	Arunachal Pradesh	13853	5196
3	Assam	359679	371484
4	Bihar	454594	377859
5	Chhattisgarh	116184	208639
6	Goa	1982	129
7	Gujarat	96725	156512
8	Haryana	53689	60752
9	Himachal Pradesh	22608	26859

1	2	3	4
10	Jammu and Kashmir	26965	28480
11	Jharkhand	310741	283853
12	Karnataka	176418	346261
13	Kerala	79164	94235
14	Madhya Pradesh	273357	385152
15	Maharashtra	350437	363638
16	Manipur	24129	18883
17	Meghalaya	27040	26338
18	Mizoram	6257	9189
19	Nagaland	18548	17253
20	Orissa	267209	277998
21	Punjab	43341	50266
22	Rajasthan	134038	224972
23	Sikkim	6931	8534
24	Tamil Nadu	207288	244627
25	Tripura	43573	50210
26	Uttaranchal	53302	57984
27	Uttar Pradesh	791453	776170
28	West Bengal	296957	262879
29	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1753	1315
30	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1370	555
31	Daman and Diu	378	0
32	Lakshadweep	602	421
33	Pondicherry	1938	1591
All India		4500000	4996901

Statement-II

Allocation & Authorization of foodgrains under SGRY during 2004-2005

S. No.	State/UTs	Foodgrains Allocation	Foodgrains Authorized
1	2	3	4
1	Andhra Pradesh	261244	195933
2	Arunachal Pradesh	13870	0

1	2	3	4
3	Assam	360024	270019
4	Bihar	517348	383629
5	Chhattisgarh	145805	109354
6	Goa	3746	1789
7	Gujarat	114380	85786
8	Haryana	60257	45194
9	Himachal Pradesh	25377	16788
10	Jammu and Kashmir	29821	19875
11	Jharkhand	350854	263141
12	Karnataka	195092	146323
13	Kerala	87538	65656
14	Madhya Pradesh	314873	236155
15	Maharashtra	385654	278307
16	Manipur	24164	4452
17	Meghalaya	27070	6446
18	Mizoram	6264	4699
19	Nagaland	18568	7232
20	Orissa	295504	221630
21	Punjab	67022	50267
22	Rajasthan	148141	111108
23	Sikkim	6935	5201
24	Tamil Nadu	228442	171332
25	Tripura	43632	32724
26	Uttaranchal	58313	43735
27	Uttar Pradesh	873089	654820
28	West Bengal	328394	218816
29	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	2457	0
30	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1618	0
31	Daman and Diu	784	0
32	Lakshadweep	1229	0
33	Pondicherry	2491	0
Total		5000000	3650411

Statement-III

Additional Resources released under SGRY to calamity affected States during 2003-04

Sl. No.	State	Funds (Rs. in lakhs)	Foodgrains (in MTs)
1	Andhra Pradesh	408.50	3376
2	Assam	1400.00	11564
3	Gujarat	0.00	3339
4	Karnataka	2500.00	21950
5	Kerala	1400.00	12964
6	Maharashtra	1100.00	11752
7	Punjab	0.00	476
8	Tamil Nadu	2800.00	23128
Total		9608.50	88549

Statement-IV

Foodgrains to the calamity affected States under Special Component of SGRY

S.No.	State	2003-04	2004-05
1	2	3	4
1	Arunachal Pradesh	24800	0
2	Andhra Pradesh	1820000	182000
3	Assam	50000	0
4	Chhattisgarh	238000	0
5	Gujarat	158000	0
6	Karnataka	679750	239620
7	Kerala	61000	0
8	Madhya Pradesh	477760	0
9	Maharashtra	515800.00	300000
10	Orissa	522000	0
11	Rajasthan	1357630	14000
12	Tamil Nadu	679000	0
Total		6583740	735620

Statement-V**Salient Features of the SGRY**

The Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) is Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) is being implemented with the envisaged total outlay of Rs. 10,000 crores.

Under the Scheme, 50 lakh tonnes of foodgrains (at economic cost) is being provided every year, free of cost, to the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations.

Rs. 5,000 crores has been kept to meet the cash component of wages and material cost.

The cost of the cash component of the Programme is shared by the Centre and State in the ratio of 75:25.

The payment of foodgrains is made by the Ministry of Rural Development to the Food Corporation of India (FCI) directly.

Every worker seeking employment under the SGRY is provided minimum 5 kgs. of foodgrains (in kind) per manday as part of wages.

- The balance of wages is paid in cash so that they are assured of the notified minimum wages.
- The State Governments and UT Administrations are free to calculate the cost of foodgrains (paid as part of wages) at either BPL rates or APL rates or anywhere between these two rates.
- The scheme is being implemented by Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), who can take up works as per the felt need of the area.
- 5% of funds and foodgrains are earmarked for relief work in the area of acute distress arising out of natural calamities.
- Under the Special Component of the SGRY, foodgrains are released to the States/UTs, free of cost, on the basis of the requirements to deal with calamities such as drought, earth-quake, cyclone, flood etc. Allocation is made by a High-Level Committee headed by the Home Minister.

Development of Viable Cluster of Villages

*259. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government urged the World Bank to become partner in enabling NGOs and Corporate Sector to undertake development of viable cluster of villages in a big way;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the response of the World Bank in this regard;

(d) whether the Government has also allocated funds to NGOs for rural development for the year 2004-2005;

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

(f) the achievements in the field of rural development as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (c) Some meetings with the World Banks officials have been held to discuss the principle of cluster development.

(d) and (e) The Ministry of Rural Development has allocated Rs. 80.00 crore to Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology (CAPART), a registered society under the aegis of the Ministry, for the year 2004-2005 under the Head "Assistance to CAPART" which are to be utilized for funding the projects of eligible Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) in the country. No State-wise allocations are made and NGOs are sanctioned funds on project-to-project basis.

(f) The projects are at various stages of implementation and it is difficult to quantify achievements of these projects at this stage.

Women in Advertisements

*260. SHRIMATI P. SATHEEDEVI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the various advertisements appearing in Electronic/Print Media wherein women are portrayed in demeaning manner;

(b) whether there are any norms/rules pertaining to the standard of such advertisements;

(c) if so the details thereof;

(d) whether there is any agency to monitor the strict adherence of these norms/rules by the advertisers; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) to (e): All India Radio and Doordarshan follow their Code for Commercial Advertising which inter alia prohibits advertisements which project a derogatory image of women.

Advertisements on television channels, when transmitted/ retransmitted, through the cable network, are required to adhere to the provisions of the Advertising Code, prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and rules framed thereunder which inter alia prohibits carriage of advertisements in cable service which offend morality, decency, project derogatory image of women and have indecent or vulgar themes.

Action for violation of provisions of Code can be taken by any authorised officer, i.e. SDM, DM, Commissioner of Police or any other officer notified in the Official Gazette by the Central Government or State Government. The Central Government has constituted an Inter-ministerial Committee under Section 20 of the Act to look into the violations of the Code. Cognizance of any violation of Code is taken suo-moto or on receipt of specific complaints by the Committee. On the recommendations of the Committee, TV channels are directed not to telecast advertisements found violative of the Advertising Code. In the past, TV channels have been directed not to telecast certain advertisements which were found to be violative of the Advertising Code.

As regards Print Media, Press in India is free from Government control. In pursuance of its policy to uphold the freedom of the Press, the Government does not interfere in its functioning. The Press Council of India (PCI) is a statutory autonomous body set up under the Press Council Act, 1978 (37 of 1978) with the twin objects of preserving the freedom of the press and of maintaining and improving the standards of newspapers and news agencies in India and to inculcate principles of self-regulation among the newspapers and periodicals.

Indian Channels in Pakistan

*261. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether in an effort to improve people to people contact between India and Pakistan, Islamabad has been urged to allow viewing of Indian channels in Pakistan;

(b) if so, whether this will give a major boost to the people of both the countries;

(c) whether India has felt that this step from Pakistan Government would act as a Confidence Building Measure and certainly help in bettering relations between the two countries; and

(d) if so, the extent to which both India and Pakistan have agreed to allow the Indian channels to be operated in Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) to (d) The Government believes that freer

exchange of media persons and media products would contribute to the creation of better climate in India-Pakistan relations. This would be among the issues for discussion on the agenda item "Promotion of Friendly Exchanges in various Fields" of the Composite dialogue with Pakistan. Besides, Doordarshan through its News and other programmes including coverage of sporting events, telecasts programmes which act as confidence building measures and are helpful in bettering relations between the two countries. However, the ban imposed by Pakistan on Indian television channels in December, 2001, is continuing.

[Translation]

Rake Points

2071. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal from the State Government of Madhya Pradesh for the increase in the number of rake points and change the categories for proper transportation of fertilizers;

(b) if so, whether the Government is likely to allocate the rake points as per the demand of each state; and

(c) if so, the time by which a decision is likely to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir. A request has been received from the Government of Madhya Pradesh for increase in the number of rake points. However, no request has been received for change of categories for transportation of fertilizers.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. Decision to develop and notify a particular station as rake point is taken as per traffic potential and operational feasibility.

[English]

Underground Rock Cavern and Concrete for Storing Crude Oil

2072. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had proposed to build and maintain underground rock cavern and concrete tanks for storing 5 million tonnes of crude oil as a measure to strengthen energy security of the country;

(b) the cost and locations of these tanks; and

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

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYAT RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR) : (a) to (c) Government propose to build strategic storage of crude oil for storing 5 million metric tonne. The proposed locations are Visakhapatnam, Mangalore and another location near Mangalore. The estimated capital cost of the project is around Rs. 1650 crore. In addition, the cost of crude would be around Rs 5000 crore. The project is at an initial stage and the proposed storage is likely to come up in the next four years.

[Translation]

Loan Assistance Scheme

2073. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the financial loan assistance schemes in operation under the Ministry alongwith the date of its inception;

(b) the funds allocated and released under the schemes during each of the last three years and the current year, scheme-wise, State/Union Territory-wise;

(c) the funds actually spent/ utilized by these States/ Union Territory during the said period, scheme-wise and States/Union Territory-wise;

(d) the details of complaints regarding mis-utilisation of funds by the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations received during the said period and the action taken against those State/Union Territory;

(e) whether the grant for these schemes has been received from the Ministry of Finance during the said period;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JEGADEESAN): (a) The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is not implementing any loan assistance scheme. However, there are five Apex Finance & Development Corporations under the aegis of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment for supporting economic empowerment of persons belonging to Scheduled Castes, Safai Karmcharis, Backward Classes, Minorities and disabled persons. These Corporations extend loans to their associated State Channelizing Agencies for further lending to individuals and NGOs implementing micro-credit programmes.

(b) Funds are not allocated scheme-wise. Details of State/UT wise disbursement of funds during the last three years and the current year by the Corporations are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) No funds are released to the State Governments/UT Administrations by the Apex Corporations.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) to (g) The Ministry of Finance does not release funds directly to the Apex Corporations. The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment contributes equity to these Corporations from its budgetary allocation. Details of releases are as under:

Corporations

Equity Share Released
(Rs. in crore)

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
National Scheduled Castes & Finance Corporation	25.00	15.10	10.10	0.00
National Safai Karamcharis & Finance Development	25.00	20.00	10.00	0.00
National Backward Classes Finance & Development Corporation	00.00	12.00	3.37	0.00
National Minorities Development & Finance Corporation	15.26	24.00	17.16	0.00
National Handicapped Finance & Development Corporation	0.00	10.00	0.00	0.00

Statement
National Scheduled Castes Finance & Development Corporation

S. No.	State	Funds disbursed under Micro Credit Scheme					Funds disbursed under Mahila Samridhi Yojana			Funds disbursed under Term Loan Scheme				(Rs. in lakh)
		2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2002-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12			
1	Andaman and Nikobar Islands	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
2	Andhra Pradesh	600.00	1111.00	0.00	0.00	1321.00	0.00	1717.05	2798.32	2166.39	297.00			
3	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
4	Assam	191.62	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	725.91	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
5	Bihar	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	680.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
6	Chandigarh	3.75	0.00	4.73	0.00	2.00	0.00	90.07	28.47	32.62	0.00	0.00		
7	Chhattisgarh	0.00	34.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	261.00	597.00	252.78	0.00	0.00		
8	Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
9	Delhi	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	387.96	229.63	613.10	0.00	0.00		
10	Goa	0.00	0.50	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	20.56	15.26	8.18	0.00	0.00		
11	Gujarat	355.00	225.00	404.10	0.00	150.00	0.00	297.42	455.85	691.23	0.00	0.00		
12	Haryana	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	165.04	261.38	93.05	0.00	0.00		
13	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	150.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	333.27	304.57	203.38	16.59			
14	Jammu and Kashmir	20.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	310.42	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
15	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	297.20	303.35	283.95	0.00	0.00		
16	Karnataka	500.00	300.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1582.19	933.35	414.75	600.00	0.00		
17	Kerala	20.00	100.00	123.88	0.00	0.00	0.00	26.05	180.27	265.68	0.00	0.00		
18	Lakshdweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
19	Madhya Pradesh	50.00	150.00	150.00	0.00	150.00	0.00	1267.36	1468.95	402.29	0.00	0.00		
20	Maharashtra	50.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1153.91	1333.55	1333.08	519.00			

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
21	Manipur	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	98.05	0.00	0.00
22	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
23	Mizoram	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
24	Nagaland	0.00	6.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
25	Orissa	0.00	75.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	129.55	65.71	73.98	0.00
26	Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	157.81	0.00	24.02	0.00
27	Punjab	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.16	99.77	32.45	0.00
28	Rajasthan	22.70	6.80	18.45	1.35	8.64	1.80	248.43	305.60	195.95	11.52
29	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	91.97	1.80	133.70	0.00
30	Tamil Nadu	18.90	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	466.79	276.14	0.00	0.00
31	Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	354.16	301.15	74.80	0.00
32	Uttar Pradesh	494.55	540.00	815.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2021.90	2007.34	0.00	0.00
33	Uttaranchal	17.45	26.00	0.00	19.50	0.00	0.00	230.50	467.56	0.00	0.00
34	West Bengal	75.00	150.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1933.90	599.80	763.41	0.00
Total		2418.97	2874.30	1616.66	20.85	1631.64	1.80	14960.68	13132.87	8058.79	1444.11

National Safai Karamcharis Finance & Development Corporation (NSKFDC)

S. No.	States/UTs	Funds disbursed under Micro Credit Scheme					Funds disbursed under Term Loan Scheme					(Rs. in lacs)	
		2001-02					2004-05						
		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10				
1	2												
1	Andhra Pradesh	0.0	1471.6	497.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	139.0	538.3	0.0	0.0		
2	Assam	192.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	268.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
3	Bihar	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
4	Chandigarh	1.0	2.0	0.0	0.0	20.3	12.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
5	Chhattisgarh	100.0	0.0	130.0	0.0	180.6	62.5	87.6	112.5				

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
6	Delhi	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	350.0
7	Gujarat	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	452.6	0.0	196.1	0.0
8	Himachal Pradesh	0.0	0.0	50.0	0.0	37.1	113.5	40.9	5.0
9	Haryana	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	117.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
10	Jharkhand	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	246.6	0.0	0.0	0.0
11	Karnataka	75.0	112.0	0.0	0.0	175.9	149.8	50.0	0.0
12	Kerala	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	21.0	0.0	0.0
13	Madhya Pradesh	0.0	0.0	102.5	0.0	222.0	168.8	180.0	0.0
14	Maharashtra	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	126.3	35.1	434.6	127.0
15	Manipur	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
16	Meghalaya	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
17	Mizoram	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
18	Orissa	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	28.4	0.0
19	Pondicherry	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	31.0	28.3	0.0	0.0
20	Punjab	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	99.9	0.0	6.0
21	Rajasthan	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	133.2	335.3	247.0	8.0
22	Tamil Nadu	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	55.9	200.0	0.0
23	Tripura	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	159.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
24	Uttar Pradesh	142.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	34.4	1154.2	553.8	210.0
25	Uttaranchal	0.0	0.0	31.0	0.0	76.7	43.6	0.0	0.0
26	West Bengal	14.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	185.8	0.0	31.1	0.0
Total		525.0	1585.6	810.5	0.0	2479.6	2419.3	2587.8	818.5

National Backward Classes Finance & Development Corporation

S. No.	States	(Rs. in lakh)									
		Funds disbursed under Micro Credit Scheme					Funds disbursed under Term Loan Scheme				
		2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	Andhra Pradesh	880.00	600.00	650.00	0.00	1165.00	1150.00	500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	Assam	50.00	0.00	43.10	0.00	109.53	327.44	52.50	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	Bihar	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	175.00	7.50	60.00	0.00	0.00
4	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	12.00	0.00	15.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5	Chhattisgarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	101.50	25.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6	Delhi	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	50.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	112.37	122.57	46.67	9.92	0.00	0.00
8	Gujarat	40.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1000.00	2210.42	350.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9	Haryana	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	333.51	199.75	182.85	54.87	0.00	0.00
11	Jammu and Kashmir	5.00	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	15.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
12	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	270.30	0.00	0.00	0.00
13	Karnataka	0.00	0.00	63.15	23.85	1276.25	1200.98	1627.62	331.40	0.00	0.00
14	Kerala	103.90	46.70	275.00	0.00	1928.71	3066.71	2792.50	267.17	0.00	0.00
15	Madhya Pradesh	0.00	13.75	13.75	0.00	515.22	261.75	478.75	0.00	0.00	0.00
16	Maharashtra	24.50	241.00	37.50	208.00	774.14	928.65	2646.50	767.00	0.00	0.00
17	Manipur	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
18	Orissa	156.00	5.00	0.00	0.00	490.00	0.00	50.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
19	Pondicherry	0.00	4.00	0.00	0.00	71.97	46.00	50.00	25.00	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
12	Kerala	39.40	9.00	4.50	0.00	1225.00	1225.00	1325.00	0.00
13	Karnataka	2.70	39.67	100.00	0.00	300.00	400.00	600.00	0.00
14	Maharashtra	36.00	63.54	27.90	0.00	600.00	200.00	500.00	0.00
15	Manipur	1.34	2.81	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
16	Madhya Pradesh	0.00	0.00	50.00	0.00	20.00	50.00	30.00	0.00
17	Mizoram	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	750.00	582.00	50.00	0.00
18	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	300.00	168.75	310.00	0.00
19	Orissa	0.34	4.50	13.05	0.00	150.00	50.00	20.00	0.00
20	Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	21.75	8.50	0.00
21	Punjab	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	250.00	50.00	50.00	0.00
22	Rajasthan	10.51	0.43	4.50	9.00	25.00	30.00	50.00	0.00
23	Tamil Nadu	38.44	29.75	15.33	4.50	0.00	0.00	200.00	50.00
24	Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	50.00	0.00	0.00
25	Uttar Pradesh	39.05	25.16	23.95	0.00	750.00	1282.00	1178.26	0.00
26	Uttaranchal	0.50	4.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	25.00	0.00	0.00
27	West Bengal	68.60	55.29	60.08	3.37	1650.00	1550.00	1700.00	0.00
Total		477.68	294.95	433.41	28.69	9206.00	7103.71	8224.47	100.00

National Handicapped Finance & Development Corporation

(Rs. in lakh)

S. No.	States	Funds disbursed under Micro Credit Scheme					Funds disbursed under Term Loan Scheme				
		2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05		2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
1	Andhra Pradesh	7.50	24.60	44.61	5.00	0.00	26.57	81.27	0.00		
2	Assam	2.00	0.00	2.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
3	Bihar	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	11.87	3.15	3.26	0.31
5	Chhattisgarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	15.26	51.74	0.00
6	Delhi	4.78	1.80	2.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	40.40	0.00
7	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.39	2.13	9.09	0.95
8	Gujarat	4.00	0.00	4.80	0.00	107.35	88.93	2.11	0.00
9	Haryana	5.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	110.40	235.29	184.41	47.89
10	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	14.72	49.49	74.36	18.06
11	Jammu and Kashmir	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.58	0.00	0.00
12	Karnataka	0.00	2.25	15.53	0.00	0.00	103.91	107.86	0.00
13	Kerala	0.00	4.00	0.00	4.16	152.27	198.08	125.61	13.83
14	Lakshwadeep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	4.55	1.32	0.00
15	Madhya Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	82.09	160.33	236.66	0.00
16	Maharashtra	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	115.27	845.38	236.20
17	Manipur	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.49	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
18	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.00	113.62	0.00	120.00
19	Orissa	0.60	0.00	12.80	2.25	371.60	213.88	171.60	0.00
20	Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	52.21	149.28	207.69	0.00
21	Punjab	0.00	3.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
22	Rajasthan	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	278.21	163.75	338.56	0.00
23	Tamil Nadu	3.50	16.69	2.00	1.00	0.00	20.15	22.09	14.08
24	Tripura	0.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	12.31	0.00	0.00
25	Uttar Pradesh	0.50	1.24	1.00	0.00	6.38	0.00	0.00	0.00
26	Uttaranchal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.96	0.00
27	West Bengal	11.00	5.00	4.50	0.00	46.05	100.19	82.68	0.00
	Total	39.38	60.58	89.64	19.90	1244.54	1780.72	2590.05	451.32

Commissioning of Mobile Canteen Vans

2074. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA': Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of mobile canteen vans to be commissioned for Kumaun and Garhwal Divisions of Uttaranchal; and

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

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) There are no fixed numbers of mobile canteen vans to be commissioned for Kumaun and Garhwal Divisions of Uttaranchal. The mobile canteen vans are commissioned by units/formations in their areas. This is a continuous process and it depends upon the requirement, commercial viability and available resources.

Creation of Cell for Implementation of Rail Transport Project

2075. SHRI SUBHASH SURESHCHANDRA DESHMUKH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to create a transport cell for implementation of Rail Transport Project in National Capital Territory;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount of funds the Government propose to spend on implementation of the said project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, a Transport Cell for the National Capital Region (NCR) which is under the Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation, has been created to implement the Integrated Rail Bus Transit (IRBT) system. It is learnt from the Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation, that in the first phase of the project, it is proposed to implement the following corridors:

- | | | |
|-------|--------------------------|------------|
| (i) | Shahdara-Ghaziabad | 14.93 kms. |
| (ii) | Sahibabad-Shivaji Bridge | 17.36 kms. |
| (iii) | Trinagar-Gurgaon | 30.53 kms. |

According to the Techno-economic feasibility study the estimated cost of project is Rs. 229/- crore (April 2002 prices) including interest during construction (IDC) and acquisition of private land.

Rail Link with Bangladesh

2076. SHRI RAJNARAYAN BUDHOLIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to establish rail link with Bangladesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the progress made in this direction;

(d) whether both the countries have entered into any agreement in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (e) There are already Rail links between India & Bangladesh. Following five Rail routes are existing between India & Bangladesh:

1. Gede (India) - Darsana (Bangladesh) - Broad Gauge.
2. Singhabad (India) - Rohanpur (Bangladesh) - Broad Gauge.
3. Petrapole (India) - Benapole (Bangladesh) - Broad Gauge.
4. Radhikapur (India) - Birol (Bangladesh) - Metre Gauge.
5. Mahisasan (India) - Shahbazpur (Bangladesh) - Metre Gauge.

Subsidy on Cooking Gas to Private Companies

2077. SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has a proposal to provide subsidy on cooking gas to the private companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time from which this subsidy will be started?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) The proposal of allowing private sector companies in the marketing of subsidized LPG is under the consideration of the Government.

Profits Earned by Public Sector Oil Companies

2078. SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the profits earned by the Public Sector Oil Companies during each of the last three years; and

(b) the efforts being made to make the oil companies more profitable?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) The details of profit after tax earned by Oil Sector PSUs during each of the last three years is given in the statement attached.

(b) Measures taken by oil companies to be more profitable include, inter-alia, the following:

- (i) Reducing costs and improving operational efficiency.
- (ii) Manpower optimization and redeployment.
- (iii) Setting up of facilities for quality upgradation, modernization and capacity expansion.
- (iv) Accelerate exploration efforts to increase hydrocarbon reserves and development of discovered fields.
- (v) Improvement in production through Improved Oil Recovery/Enhanced Oil Recovery schemes.
- (vi) Effective tax planning.

Statement

Profit After Tax

(Rs. in crores)

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
	1	2	3
Oil & Natural Gas Corporation	6197.90	10529.32	8664.43
Oil India Limited	525.22	916.73	949.70
GAIL (India) Ltd.	1186.00	1639.11	1869.00
Indian Oil Corporation	2884.66	6114.89	7004.82
Hindustan Petroleum Corp. Ltd.	787.98	1537.36	1903.94
Bharat Petroleum Corp. Ltd.	849.83	1250.03	1694.57
Balmer Lawrie	8.01	16.49	18.58
IBP Co. Ltd.	197.79	87.75	214.66
Biecco Lawrie	-10.90	-9.20	-2.96
Engineers India Ltd.	24.71	64.16	80.18

	1	2	3
Kochi Refineries Ltd.	68.77	456.02	555.09
Chennai Petroleum Corp. Ltd.	63.71	302.89	400.05
Bongaigaon Refinery & Petrochemicals Ltd.	-199.00	178.45	303.74
Numaligarh Refinery Ltd.	122.98	174.63	214.95
Mangalore Refinery & Petrochemical Ltd.	-492.27	-411.80	459.42

[English]

Gauge Conversion in Maharashtra

2079. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal under consideration to convert Achalpur-Murtizapur-Yawatmal narrow gauge rail line into broad-gauge line in Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, the time by which the above proposal is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) A survey for gauge conversion of Achalpur-Murtajapur-Yawatmal, Pulgaon-Arvi (225 km) is in progress. Further consideration of the proposal would be possible once the survey report becomes available.

Irregularities at Doordarshan Centre, Kolkata

2080. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA:

SHRI SUNIL KHAN:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 415 dated December 4, 2003 regarding Approval of Programmes and state:

(a) whether the Government has received report of the High Powered Committee constituted under Chairmanship of Shri M.L. Mehta to enquire into the alleged irregularities at Doordarshan Kendra, Kolkata;

(b) if so, whether the Government is examining/ examined the report; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL

REDDY): (a) Prasar Bharati has received the report of High Powered Committee constituted under the Chairmanship of Shri M.L. Mehta.

(b) Prasar Bharati, a statutory autonomous body, has full autonomy in programme matters and Government has no role to play in this regard. Prasar Bharati has informed that they have examined the report.

(c) The details of action taken are being collected from Prasar Bharati and will be laid on the Table of the House.

HPT/LPT/VLPTs

2081. SHRI SHRINIWAS DADASAHEB PATIL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of HPTs and LPTs/VLPTs to be erected in the country during Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) the achievement made so far;

(c) whether the Government is planning for automation in transmission facility for VLPTs/LPTs; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) 183 new transmitters (57 HPTs, 126 LPTs/VLPTs) are envisaged to be set up during the 10th Plan. Out of these, 108 transmitters have already been set up.

(c) and (d) VLPTs in Doordarshan network are already functioning in auto mode. Provision for automation of 200 LPTs have been included in Tenth Plan. Out of these schemes for automation of 93 LPTs have already been sanctioned and are at various stages of implementation.

Proposal for Khurdha Road-Bolangir Railway Line in Orissa

2082. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in the land acquisition for the proposed Khurdha Road-Bolangir Railway line in Orissa;

(b) the amount of compensation paid to the individual who have lost their land; and

(c) the time by which the land acquisition process are likely to be completed and work taken on the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Land acquisition is in progress and papers for 70 villages out of 393 villages have

been submitted to the State Government. Possession of land in 32 villages has so far been handed over by the State Government.

(b) About Rs.6.60 crore has, so far been paid against private land acquisition through the Land Acquisition Officers of the State Government.

(c) The land acquisition has been completed in the first 36 kms. of the project and is in progress beyond that point. The actual time of land acquisition would depend on the State Government and also availability of financial resources. Earthwork and bridgework have been taken up between 0.00 km and 36.00 km.

Doubling of Ahmednagar-Manmad Railway Line

2083. SHRI TUKARAM GANGADHAR GADAKH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether double line project of Ahmednagar-Manmad (Maharashtra) sector is pending;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and action taken by the Government thereon;

(c) whether any budget allocation made for this project;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the work of this project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (e) The survey for doubling of Daund-Manmad via Ahmednagar was completed in 2001-02. As per the survey, the cost of doubling of this 238 km long line was assessed as Rs.522 crore with a rate of return of (-)2.94%. In view of heavy throwforward of ongoing projects and acute constraint of resources, it has not been found feasible to consider the proposal.

Crude Oil Stabilisation Fund to Insulate Customers

2084. SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a Crude Oil Stabilisation Fund to insulate customers against frequent increase in fuel prices;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the compensation paid by the Government to oil marketing companies during the last two years to make losses from selling products below cost?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) The policy for pricing of major petroleum products is under review.

(c) PDS kerosene and domestic LPG are subsidized products. The total amount of Government subsidy released to the oil marketing companies during 2002-03 and 2003-04, on account of these products, was Rs. 4576.47 crore and Rs. 6351.18 crore respectively.

Increase in Petrol Refining Capacity

2085. SHRI MILIND DEORA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether petroleum refining capacity has increased during 2003-04 as compared to 2002-03;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether petro-goods are set to spurt during 2004-05 as compared to the last three years;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the gap between the consumption and production of petro-products is also widening;

(f) if so, the details for the last three years; and

(g) the amount being earned by way of export during the last three financial years?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Petroleum refining capacity has increased by 8.3 million metric tonnes per annum (MMTPA) during the year 2003-04 of which 2.3 MMTPA expansion pertains to oil PSUs and the balance to a private refinery.

(c) and (d) As per provisional figures, the consumption of petroleum products during April-June, 2004 has shown a growth of over 10% over the corresponding period of the previous year.

(e) to (g) The details of domestic production, consumption and value of exports of petroleum products during the last three years are given below:

(figures in thousand metric tonnes (TMT))

Year	Production	Consumption	Value of Exports (Rs. in crore)
2001-02	104343	100432	8285
2002-03	108674	104126	10868
2003-04	117640	108018	16781

Time Slot on DD Bharati

2086. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Prasar Bharati had called application recently regarding allotment of time slots in DD Bharati including other channels;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has noticed a large number of irregularities in the matter of allotment of time slot; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken to rectify the situation alongwith punitive steps against the guiltyies?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) No, Sir. Applications for commissioning programmes in DD Bharati were last invited in 2002.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Advertisements on Pay Channels

2087. SHRI AJIT JOGI:

SHRI MANOJ KUMAR:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Pay Channels charge money both from Advertising companies and their viewers as well;

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government against these channels;

(c) whether the Government propose to put a ban on the advertisements being aired on the 'Pay Channels';

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken to redefine the advertisement revenue laws?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) Both Pay and Free to Air channels charge money from advertising companies. Pay channels also charge money from subscribers through Multi Service Operators/Cable Operators.

(b) to (f) The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), which has been notified as the regulator for broadcasting and cable services, has been specifically asked to specify standard norms for, and periodicity of, revision of rates of pay channels, including interim measures. Besides, TRAI has been requested to make recommendations regarding the parameters for regulating maximum time for advertisements in pay channels as well as other channels. TRAI's recommendations are awaited.

Opening of Sainik Schools in Bihar

2088. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal to opening of Sainik Schools in Gopal Gunj and Nalanda in Bihar is pending with the Government;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) The Sainik Schools at Nalanda and Gopalganj in Bihar were sanctioned last year and started functioning since 12th October, 2003.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of above.

[English]

Passenger Booking Date

2089. SHRI SURENDRA PRAKASH GOYAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of I-AC, II-AC and III-AC Passenger Booking Date (PBD) from 1st January 2003 till 30th June, 2004 in various trains originating from Delhi/New Delhi/Hazrat Nizamuddin to various destinations in the country, sector-wise;

(b) whether according to PBD date, the passenger load in air-conditioned compartments has declined due to cheaper fares introduced by airlines; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) The details of passenger booked from 1st January 2003 till 30th June, 2004 in various trains originating from Delhi/New Delhi/Hazrat Nizamuddin in 1 AC, 2AC and 3AC to various destinations in the country are as under:

Period	Number of Passengers Booked		
	I-AC	II-AC	III-AC
January 2003 to June 2004	1,28,536	6,52,516	19,41,535

(b) No Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Non-Availability of TTEs in Reserved Coaches

2090. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is essential for T.T.Es. to remain present in the reserved coaches;

(b) if so, whether the Government is aware that T.T.Es are not available in all the compartments or set up compartments for allotment of available berth to the passengers;

(c) if so, in spite of availability of berth, the reasons for imposing fine by flying Squad on passengers on the pretext of not informing TTE; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Travelling Ticket Examiners are required to man more than one reserved coach as per laid down yardstick and have to move to other coaches for checking and other On Board duties. This may give a feeling to the passengers that Travelling Ticket Examiners are not available though they are present on trains. The manning of trains and coaches is monitored at supervisors and officers' levels.

(c) and (d) During checks by ticket checking staff, persons detected travelling without reservation in reserved coaches and without prior permission of the manning staff are dealt with as per the provisions of law. However, the tickets of persons travelling with prior permission are regularized after realizing dues.

Newspapers from Sikkim

2091. SHRI NAKUL DAS RAI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the newspapers from Sikkim are registered with the Registrar of Newspaper of India (RNI) at present;

(b) the details of the newspapers which are getting advertisements from DAVP;

(c) whether the requests of some of the newspapers from Sikkim are pending with RNI for registration;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which these newspapers are likely to be registered?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) A total of 34 newspapers from Sikkim are registered with the Registrar of Newspapers for India (RNI) as on 30.06.2004. The details are given in the enclosed statement-I.

(b) The following four newspapers are empanelled with Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity (DAVP) for getting advertisements from DAVP:

(i) Hemali Purba Sandesh

(ii) Aj Ko Sikkim

(iii) Hamro Prajasakti

(iv) Jan Manch

(c) and (d) Cases for registration of 9 (nine) newspapers from Sikkim are pending for want of relevant documents, as per details in statement-II. Discrepancy letters to respective publishers have already been sent advising them to send the required documents and fulfil the formalities under the Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867.

(e) RNI would issue registration certificate within 30 days from the date of receipt of the complete documents as required under Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867.

Statement-I

Total number of registered newspapers from Sikkim till 30.6.2004

Language	Tri/Bi-Weeklies	Weeklies	Fortnightlies	Monthlies	Quarterlies	Others	Total
English	0	5	1	1	1	1	9
Hindi	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Nepali	2	18	0	0	0	2	22
Bilingual*	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
Total	2	26	1	1	1	3	34

* includes a) Nepali Gorkha

b) English Nepali

Statement-II

Details of pending cases from Sikkim

As on 30.6.2004

S. No.	Title	Language/ Periodicity	Place of Publication	Discrepancy letter issued on
1.	The Sikkimese	English/Weekly	Gangtok	09.04.2001
2.	Himalayan Weekend Review	English/Weekly	-do-	18.04.2001
3.	Aaj Ko Samachar	Nepali/Daily	-do-	20.08.2001
4.	Snowline	English/Monthly	-do-	13.03.2003
5.	Sikkim Parivesh	Nepali/Weekly	-do-	08.06.2004
6.	Sikkim Rajdhani	Nepali/Weekly	-do-	08.06.2004
7.	Aajako Yova Shakti	Nepali/Weekly	-do-	08.06.2004
8.	Jan Sambad	Nepali/Weekly	-do-	08.06.2004
9.	Sajha Samachar	Nepali/Weekly	-do-	08.06.2004

Projects in NFRLY

2092. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the total outlay, annual allocation and target set for completion of Begibee Bridge Project, Gauge conversion of Rangia Murkongselek as well as Dangori-Saikhowa section of NFRLY;

(b) details plan to improve infrastructure and

passenger amenities of Railway stations as well as list of stations being developed as model station under NFRLY;

(c) whether the Railway bridge over Simen River in Dhemaji District under NFRLY deserve immediate repair; and

(d) if so, the time by which it is targeted to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a)

Name of the project	Latest anticipated cost (Rs. in crore)	Outlay 2004-05 (Rs. in crore)	Target
Bogibeel Rail-cum-Road Bridge with linked lines (46 kms)	1767.36	60.00	2008-09
Rangiya-Murkongselek Gauge Conversion (510.33 kms)	915.70	3.00	Not fixed.

There is no rail line beyond Dangori.

[Translation]

Double Rail Line Between Lakshar and Dehradun

2093. SHRI RAJENDER KUMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received a proposal for doubling of the rail lines between Lakshar and Dehradun in Uttaranchal;

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

(c) the time by which decision in this regard is likely to be taken or the work is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A request has recently been received from the Government of Uttaranchal for doubling of Haridwar-Dehradun section. Doubling of single line sections is taken up when their carrying capacity is saturated. The traffic on Lakshar-Haridwar-Dehradun section has not yet reached the level to justify its doubling. The doubling of this section will be considered once the traffic warrants the same subject to availability of resources.

[English]

Tamluk-Digha Railway Project

2094. SHRI RUPCHAND MURMU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work on Tamluk-Digha Railway project is on the way of completion; and

(b) if so, the time by which the said project is likely to be completed?

(b) It has been Railways endeavour to provide basic amenities at every station on the Railway, including Northeast Frontier Railway, depending upon its importance and earnings. Numerous passenger amenities like foot over bridges, raising and extension of platforms, provision of sheds, renovation & modernization of station buildings, seating arrangement, drinking water facilities etc. have been provided at large no. of stations.

The stations selected as Model Station on Northeast Frontier Railway for providing upgraded passenger amenities are:-

Alipurduar Jn., Aluabari Road, Coochbehar, Dalkolha, Dharmanagar, Dibrugarh, Dimapur, Ghum, Guwahati, Harishchandarpur, Jalpaiguri, Jorhat Town, Kamakhya, Katihar, Kishanganj, Kokrajhar, Lumding, Maal Bazar, New Alipurduar, New Bongaigaon, New Coochbehar, New Jalpaiguri, New Mal Jn., New Tinsukia, Raiganj, Rangiya Jn., Silchar, Siliguri Town, Srirampur.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Railway Bridge over Simen river in Dhemaji District does not require any immediate repair. However, Road decking facility over Railway Bridge No. 376 between Silapathar and Telam stations was provided on the request of the Government of Assam in the year 1984. Certain annual maintenance repair to road decking needs to be carried out on "Deposit Basis" subject to deposit of necessary funds for this work by Border Roads Organization which is still awaited from them. This is necessary only for smooth movement of road traffic and has nothing to do with rail traffic.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) The work is in an advanced stage of progress.

(b) The section from Tamluk to Kanthi (56.6 Kms) has been completed and opened to traffic. The section from Kanthi to Digha (32 Kms.) is targeted for completion during 2004-2005.

Construction of ROB in Punjab

2095. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA:

DR. RATTAN SINGH AJNALA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the status of each Railway

overbridge under construction/under survey in various parts of Punjab as on date;

(b) whether the construction work of each bridge is going on as per schedule;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which all the above works are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) A statement containing details of cost sharing works sanctioned in the State of Punjab is attached.

(b) to (d) Railway constructs bridge proper i.e. Bridge over the track and approaches by State Government. Railway has taken up its portion of work as per approved plan and it will complete its portion of work alongwith approaches by State Govt.

Statement

(Rs. in thousands)

S. No.	Name of Work	Railway	Year of sanction	Railway Share	State Share	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	ROB near Suranasi in lieu of LC No. A 59 at Km 442/5-6 on Sanhewal-ASR	NR	2003-04	1290	1375	Field survey completed. Profit sketch sent to SE/PWD. JUC for signature. State-Govt. has advised to drop the work as it is not technically feasible.
2.	Replacement of LC No. C-50, 52 on PTK-JAT & C-79 & C-80 on ASR-PTK sec. into RUB	NR	2001-02	309	0	C-79- Work dropped, C-80- Box pushing completed. Wing wall & return wall under completion. C-50 Thrust bed under completed. Casting of two box completed. C-52 - Box pushing completed.
3.	Patiala - ROB in lieu of LC No. 22-A on Rajpura- Bathinda sec.	NR	2001-02	408	605	Revised estimate sanctioned in April 04. Contract awarded and test piles cast. Work on approached in progress.
4.	ROB near Khanna in lieu of LC No. 145B at km 314/15-17 on UMB-LDH section	NR	2003-04	415	633	Site survey completed. Profile sketch sent to State Govt for signature. Estimate of approaches though received from State PWD but likely to be revised. DE kept in abeyance.
5.	Khanna-ROB in lieu of LC No. 156-B on UMB-LDH sec. Connecting Khanna-Samrala road	NR	2001-02	420	745	Substructure completed. Super structure of non-track portion in progress. Work on approaches completed.
6.	Jalandhar City-ROB Railway station in lieu of LC No. A-61 at Km 436/14-15 on Sanhewal-Amritsar section	NR	2003-04	438	472	Profile sketch signed by State Govt. and under divisional approval. Detail estimate sanctioned in March 04.
7.	Moga ROB station in lieu of LC No. C 51/A at Km 66/3-4 on LDH-FZR Section	NR	2003-04	438	460	Profile sketch under approval. DE under finance vetting.
8.	ROB near Beas station in lieu of LC No. A-44/T-3 at Km 472/3-4 on Jalandhar - ASR section	NR	2003-04	450	629	Profile sketch approved. Detailed estimate sanctioned in March 04.
9.	Tanda Yard-ROB (2 lane) in replacement of LC No. C-64 at Km. 42.09 on FZR-PTK section.	NR	2002-03	462	696	Profile sketch under approval. Detailed Estimate under process.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10.	ROB on Khanna Railway Station in lieu of LC No. 155 B at Km 314/15-17 on UMB-LDH section	NR	2003-04	463	1165	Profile sketch (modified) signed by State Govt. and division, under approval with CBE since 21.5.2004. Detailed Estimate sanctioned in March 04.
11.	Subhanpur - ROB in lieu of LC No. B-52 at Km 456/4-5 on Sanhwal-Amritsar section	NR	2003-04	476	838	Profile sketch approved in Mar. 04. Detailed Estimate sanctioned in Mar. 04.
12.	Dasuya-ROB railway station in lieu of LC No. C 85 at Km 57/8-9 on Jalandhar-PTK section	NR	2003-04	478	828	Profile sketch under approval. Detailed Estimate sanctioned in Mar. 04.
13.	Jalandhar - ROB in lieu of Domoria Pul on JUC - ASR section	NR	1997-98	490	1323	Detailed Estimate sanctioned. Revised profile sketch under approval of State Govt. Sanction for transfer of land received from Railway Board. State Govt. yet to start work on approaches.
14.	Chawapal - ROB railway station in lieu of LC No. C-161 at Km 343/15-17 on UMB-LDH section	NR	2003-04	504	722	Profile sketch approved. Detailed Estimate sanctioned in Mar. 04.
15.	Jagraon - ROB railway station in lieu of LC No. A-34 at Km 39/5-6 on LDH-FZR section	NR	2003-04	507	712	Profile sketch approved. Detailed Estimate sanctioned in Mar. 04.
16.	Bhogpur - ROB in lieu of LC No. C 40 at Km 28/2-3 on Jalandhar-Pathankot section	NR	2003-04	513	470	Profile sketch approved. Detailed Estimate sanctioned in April 04.
17.	Mansa ROB in lieu of LC No. B-208 at Km 245.92 on DLI-BTI section	NR	2003-04	522	607	Profile sketch approved. Detailed Estimate sanctioned in Jan. 04.
18.	Amritsar - ROB near ASR railway station in lieu of LC No. B-12 at Km 1/17-18 on ASR-KEMK section	NR	2003-04	539	742	Profile sketch approved. Detailed Estimate sanctioned in Mar. 04.
19.	Phagwara - ROB in lieu of LC No. 77-A on LDH-JUC Sec. Connecting Phagwara Nakodar road	NR	2001-02	547	1011	3 RCC spans completed in non track portion. Work of approaches in progress.
20.	Sangrur - ROB station in lieu of LC No. A-64/2 at Km 75/6-7 on LDH-Jakhal section	NR	2003-04	577	695	Profile sketch under approval. Detail Estimate sanctioned in April 04.
21.	Suchipind - ROB station in lieu of LC No. C-11 at Km 5/15-16 on Jalandhar-PTK section.	NR	2003-04	578	793	Profile sketch approved. Detail Estimate sanctioned in Mar. 04.
22.	ROB near DAV college halt station in lieu of LC No. A-2 at km 3/7-8 at Jalandhar city-FZR section	NR	2003-04	599	1708	Profile sketch under approval. Detail Estimate sanctioned in Mar. 04.
23.	Layalpur Khalsa - ROB college halt station on Jalandhar city-Nakodar Jn. section in lieu of LC No. S3 at Km 2/7-8	NR	2003-04	636	687	Profile sketch approve. Detail Estimate under consideration with Railway Board since 16.04.04.
24.	Sujanpur - ROB railway station in lieu of LC No. C-4/2 at Km 4/5-6 on PTK-Jammu tawi section	NR	2003-04	641	930	Profile sketch approved. Detailed Estimate sanctioned in Mar. 04.
25.	ROB near Batala railway station in lieu of LC No. A26 at Km 39/3-4 on ASR-KEMK section	NR	2003-04	704	1016	Profile sketch approved. Detail Estimate sanctioned in Mar. 04.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
26.	Taran Taran ROB in lieu of LC No. B-27 at Km 22/12-13 on ASR-KEMK section.	NR	2003-04	809	1068	Profile sketch signed by State PWD and under approval. Estimate of approaches received from State PWD. Detailed Estimate under process.
27.	Dhuri-Bhatinda ROB in lieu of LC No. 52 & 63-A	NR	2003-04	928	1898	Profile sketch sent to State Govt. for signatures and detailed estimate under preparation.

[Translation]

Amount of assistance under National Integrated Development Scheme

2096. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the amount of assistance provided by the Union Government under the National Integrated Development Scheme has been spent by the State Governments within the prescribed period;

(b) if so, the details thereof during last three years and till date particularly in respect of Maharashtra;

(c) if not, the reasons for not spending the above amount; and

(d) the details of the efforts being made by the Government to ensure the benefits of this scheme in rural areas?

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 (d) Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India is not implementing any scheme named National Integrated Development Scheme. However, a scheme named the Swarnajayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana (SGSY) is being implemented since 1999 as a holistic programme for self-employment of the rural poor.

[English]

Operation of Rangiya Rail Division in Assam

2097. SHRI NARAYAN CHANDRA BORKATAKY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rangiya Rail Division in Assam is not fully operational;

(b) if so, the reasons for the delay in operationalizing the said Division; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to make the said division fully operational including posting of staff there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir. Rangiya Rail Division had become fully operational with effect from 1.4.2003.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Adequate staff has been employed at present.

Foreign Channels

2098. SHRI ANIRUDH PRASAD ALIAS SADHU YADAV:

SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

SHRI S.D. MANDLIK:

SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has given permission to uplink new foreign channels to operate from the country during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by when such channels are likely to be commenced;

(d) the extent to which these channels are useful to the people of the country;

(e) whether the Government has any system to determine the popularity of such channels functioning in the country;

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

(g) if not, the steps taken to determine the popularity/usefulness of various channels functioning in the country?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) No. During the current financial year, permission has been given to seven companies only to uplink their channels from India, which have 100% Indian equity.

(b) to (g) Do not arise.

Restoration and Upkeeping of Heritage Monuments

2099. SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

SHRI ANIRUDH PRASAD

ALIAS SADHU YADAV:

SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government received any aid or package from Japan Government for restoration and up-keeping the national and international heritage monuments;

(b) if so, the details of the monuments covered under the said aid/package, locationwise;

(c) whether the Government propose to develop heritage sites in the country;

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

(e) whether private/public sector participation for restoration and upkeep of national and international monuments/heritage sites have been successful; and

(f) if so, the plans of the Government to replicate such arrangements?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The conservation and development of centrally protected monuments i.e. Caves at Ajanta, Ellora, Pitalkhora and Daulatabad Fort in Maharashtra have been carried out under Japan Bank of International Co-operation Project.

Buddhist Monuments at Sanchi, Satdhara in Madhya Pradesh also received aid from Government of Japan through UNESCO.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The state-wise names of monuments to be conserved under Perspective Plan during the 10th Five Year Plan period are given in the enclosed statement.

(e) The public-private participation for restoration and conservation of centrally protected monuments under National Culture Fund has been successfully carried out in respect of Humayun's Tomb, Delhi; Shaniwarwada, Pune; and Taj Mahal, Agra.

(f) The Government is always welcoming the participation of private or public sector under the National Culture Fund scheme to associate with conservation works and to develop tourist facilities in the centrally protected monuments/sites under the overall supervision of the Archaeological Survey of India.

Statement

Andhra Pradesh

Bugaramlaingeswara Temple, Tadipatri; Veerbhadra and Bansavana Swami Temple, Lepakshi; Temple, Hemavoti; Hill Fort, Madaksir; Shri Chintala Venkata Rama Temple, Tadipatri; Fort, Chandragiri; Charminar, Hyderabad; Golkonda Fort, Hyderabad; Group of Temple Puspagiri; Fort, Siddout; Buddhist Remains, Salihundan; Buddhist Rock cut Stupa Caves, Sankaran; Shri Kumar Ramu Bhimeswara Temple, Samalkot; Buddhists Remains, Adiru; Navabrahama Group of Temple, Alampur; Fort, Adoni; Abdul-Wahab Tomb, Kumool; Reconstructed monuments, Anupu; Group of Temple, Udaigiri; Ancient Mound, Ramatirham; Buddhist monument, Guntapalli; Fort, Warangal; Thousand Pillared Temple, Warangal; Swambhuva Temple, Warangal;

Assam

Temple, Dandi; Sividol, Vishnudol and Devidol, Sivsagar; Siva Temple, Negheriting; Ruins, Khaspur; Monuments/sites, Kasomaripahar; Idgah, Panbari; Vishnudol, Devidol, Jaisagar; Excavated site Temple Complex, Surya Pahar; Charaideo Maidan, Charaideo; Karenghar Palace, Jaisagar; Sividol, Gaurisagar; Temple etc., Biswanathghat; Temples, Kamakhsha;

Arunachal Pradesh

Fort wall, Bismarknagar; Ancient Remains, Bhalakpong;

Bihar

Arogya Bihar and Eights Piliared Hall, Kumrahar; Buddhist Site, Nalanda; Stupa, Kesaria; Monestries, Antichek; Fort, Rohtas; Monestries etc., Kolua; Tank, Maner; Maniyar Math and Ajatshatru Stupa, Rajgir; Makhdam Shah Maneri's Tomb, Manner; Sher Shah's Tomb, Sasaram; Ralic Stupa, Vaisali; Stupa, Nandangarh; Stupa, Antichak; Stupa, Kolua;

Chhattisgarh

Mahadev Temple, Narayanpur; Pataleswara Temple, Malhar; Chandraditya, Basur, Mahadev Temple, Basur;

Delhi

Jantar Mantar; Uggrasain ki Baoli; Sultan Gari; Rajan ki Baoli; Jamali Kamali; Azim Khan's Tomb; Qutab Minar; Tuglakabad Fort; Gyasuddin Tomb; Hauz Khas Monuments; Chote Khan Bhare Khan; Idgah; Kotla Mubarakpur; Salimgarh Bridge & Fort, Red Fort; Kotla Firozshah; Tripolia Gate; Rosan Ara Baradari; Qudasia Gate; Badli ki Sarai; Purana Quila; Lal Bangla; Kharul Manzil; Safdarjung Tomb; Humayun Tomb; Arab ki Sarai; Isa Khan Tomb, Khane-I Khana Tomb; Subj Burj; Bara Batasa; Lakher wala's Tomb;

Goa

Se' Cathedral Church; St Francis, Assisi; Bam Jesus Church; Church of St. Augustine; Chapal of St. Cajetan; Church of Our Lady Rosary; St. Catherine Church; Mahadev Temple, Kurdi; Mahadev Temple, Tambdesurla; Excavated Site at Chandor;

Gujarat

Rani ki Vava, Patan; Excavated Site, Dholavira; Monuments at Pavagarh; Torana, Vadnagar; Sun Temple, Modhera;

Himachal Pradesh

Kangra Fort; Nurpur Fort; Kotla Fort; Lakshmi Narayan Temple, Chamba; Trilokinath Temple, Mandi; Buddhist Monastery, Tab;

Haryana

Suraj Kund; Sheikh Chillis Tomb, Thaneswara; Jal Mahal, Narnoul; Shah Jahan ki Baoli, Maham; Anangpur Dam; Mughal Bridge, Faridabad; Khawja Khizir's Tomb, Sonapat; Prithvi Raj Chouhan's Fort, Hansi; Baoli Farakhnagar; Gharunda Sarai, Gharaunda; Kabuli Bagh Mosque, Panipat;

Jammu and Kashmir

Remains of Ancient Site, Ambaram; Group of Temples, Kramchi; Fort & Samadhi, Ramnagar; Ancient Palace, Ramnagar; Bhagawati Temple, Manwal; Dera Babour, Manwal; Kala Dera I & II Manwal; Temple, Billawar; Trilokhinath Temple, Kathua; Mughal Arcade, Verinaga; Temple Martand; Arantiswara Temple, Avantipura; Temple Kakpara; Temple Ladhav; Pathar Masjid, Baramula; Sankaracharya Temple, Pattan; Partapswami Temple, Baramula; Stupa Pariharapura; Temple; Hemis Gompha; Ancient Gumph, Thiksey; Shey; Leh; Palace Stupa Tisseru; Sculpture Drass; Sculptures Mulbeg;

Jharkhand

Beni Sagar Tank, Benisagar;

Karnataka

Someswara Temple, Kolar; Chennakeshava Temple, Nagalapura; Tippu Sultan Palace, Bangalore; Mallik Rehan Darga, Sira; Mallikarjuna Temple, Kuruvatti; Kalleswara Temple, Bagali; Fort & Temples, Chitradurga; Hoysaleswara Temple, Halebidu; Group of Monuments Sravanabelagola; Keshava Temple, Belur; Group of Monuments (Chikkabetta), Sravanabelagola; Ananthapadmanabha Temple, Karkala; Chandikeswari Temple, Kadirampura; Treasury Building, Kamalapuram; Elephants Stable, Kamalapuram; Tippu Sultan Upper Fort, Bellary; Monuments at Hampi; Keerthinarayan Temple, Talakada; Keshava Temple, Somanathapur; Srikantheshwara Temple, Nanjangud; Musafirkhanda & Honda, Santhebennur; Kaitabeswara

Temple, Kotipura; Panchakuta Basti, Humcha; Someswara Temple, Bandalike; Panchakuta Basti, Kambadahalli; Keshava Temple, Nagamangala; Nambinarayana Temple, Tonnur; Ranganathaswamy Temple, Srirangapatna; Panchalingeswara temple, Gonvindahalli; Chakra Gundi Badiargudi, Aihole; Malgitti Shivalaya, Badami; Chandreshwara Temple, Patadakal; Asar Mahal; Karimuddin Mosques Bijapur; Ibrahim-Rouza; Mehatar Mahal, Bijapur; Gates, Dharwad, Mosque, Gulbarga; Nadurgudi; Charantinath; Veniyar Gudi; Hirschchumalli, Aihole; Fort Bhutanatha Temple, Badami; Group of Monuments, Halsi; Chiandranathadeva Basti, Bhatkal; Fort, Mirjan; Sola Khamba Mosque, Bidar; Gol Gumbad, Bijapur; Maha Stupa, Kanganhalli, Fort, Gulbarga;

Kerala

Kalasnatha Temple, Trissure, Fort, Palkkad; Bekal Fort Pallikara; Parasurama Temple, Tiruvallam; Telicherry Fort, Tellicherry; Parasurama Temple, Tiruvallan;

Madhya Pradesh

Kamlaapati Palace, Bhopal; Monuments at Mandu; Sas Bahu Temple, Mansingh Palace, Fort, Gwalior; Mahamad Gaus Tomb, Gwalior; Monestry and Temple, Surwaya; Udaiswara Mahadev Temple, Udaiswara; Fort Raisen; Temples at Khajuraho; Beer Singh Palace, Datia; Buddhists Caves, Bagh; Yasohavardhan Victory Pillar, Sodhani; Fort, Ajayagarh; Town Hall, Sivpuri;

Maharashtra

Pandulana Caves, Nasik; Kanheri Caves, Mumbai; Elephanta Caves, Gharapur; Fort, Raigarh; Group of Monument, Lonar; Bibi-ka-Maqbara, Aurangabad; Panhala, Panhala; Bedsa Caves, Bedsa; Markanda Temple, Markanda; Janjira Fort, Janjira; Sindhudurga Fort, Caves, Ajanta; Ellora; Farah Bagh Palace, Ahmednagar; Ancient Site, Newasa Ahmednagar; Salabat Khan Tomb, Ahmednagar; Fort Vaisai; Fort Namala;

Meghalaya

Meghalithic Bridge Umkungeh; Stone Memorial of U Mawthaw-dur Biew, Nartiang;

Nagaland

Ruins of a Fort, Dimapur;

Orissa

Baskareswara Temple; Bringeswara Temple; Lingaraj Temple; Papanasini Tank; Lord Jagannath Temple, Puri; Sunt Temple, Konark; Raja Rani Temple, Bhubaneswar; Excavated site, Udaigiri; Mahakal Temple, Ratanagiri; Mahamamani Temple, Ragadi;

Punjab

Fort, Bhatinda; Sarai, Dakhni; Baradari, Batala; Shamsher

Khan's Tomb, Batala; Nurmahel Sarai, Nurmahal; Buddhist Stupa, Sangahol;

Rajasthan

Fort & Monuments, Chittourgarh; Kumbhalgarh Fort, Madheswara Temple, Arthana; Deo Somnath Temple, Somnath; Sas Bahu Temple, Nagda; Harshmata Temple, Abaneri; Neelkant Temple, Neelkant; Fort Bhartpur; Fort Ranthambhar; Hasrshnath Temple, Sikar; Deeg Palace; Jaisalmer Fort, Fort Bhabner; Aneint Site Bangarh, Fort Mandor;

Sikkim

Ancient Capital of Sikkim, Rabdansa; Coronation Throne, Yaksam; Monastery Dubdi;

Tamil Nadu

Clive Building Chennai; Azhagiya Narasmha Swamy; Temple Emayiram; Fort Gingee; Kalisnatha Temple Kanchipuram; Sikkanatha Swami Temple, Kadumianmalai; Monuments Mahabalipuram; Dutch Cemetery Sadras; Fort & Temple, Chinnakavandanor; Sivagangalivee Fort, Tanjavour; Bridheswara Temple, G.K.C. Puram; Airavateswara Temple, Darasuram; Main Guard Gate Trichi; Siva Temple, Ammankurich; Fort, Vellore; Vaikundaperumal Temple, Ulliramesur; Siva Temple, Visalar; Pattabirama Temple, Narasingarayanpettai; Apathshayeswara Temple Sendamangalam; Ekambareswara Temple, Settur; Fort Thirumayam; Nursing Sister's House; Chennai; Valisvara Temple, Tiruvalisvaram; Bhakta Vatsis Temple; Clrera-malradai, Nityakalyamnaswamy Temple, Tiruvidanthai; Munhudumisuram Temple, P.V. Kelallaus; Megalithic Site, Manamai; Fort Attur; Siva Temple, Valikantapuram; Soundarajaperumal Temple, Irumbanadan; Group of Monuments, Vallimatai; Rock Cut, Siva Temple; Kunnandarkoil; Share Temple, Mahabalipuram; Moolanath Swamy Temple, Bahar; Dharmaswara Temple, Manimagalam; Kanthaligeswara Temple, Femai; Jvaruhareswara Temple, Kanchipuram; Megalithic Site, Sanur; Narasimha Temple, Namakkal; Brahmapurisvara Temple, Brahmadesam; Mukteswara Temple, Kanchipuram; Hill Fort Krishnagiri, Fort Rajanagudi; Triamalai Naik Palace, Sri Villiputtar; St. Mary's Church Chennai; Matengeswara Temple, Kanchipuram;

Tripura

Unokothi Tirtha, Unkothi; Gunavati Temple, Udaipur; Thakurani Tilu; Shyam Sunder, Tila; Pilak

Uttar Pradesh

Taj Mahal, Agra; Itmadula, Agra; Akbar's Tomb, Sikandra; Agra Fort, Rambagh, Agra; Govindje Temple, Vrindaran; Hati Tilla, Mathura; Chamundi Mound, Mathura; Jami Masjid, Agra; Great Idgah, Agra; Marigam Temple, Agra; Raman

Catholic Cemetery, Agra; Mughal City, Fatehpur Sikri; Ibrahim's Tomb, Rasoolpur; Jagner Fort; Kankali Tila, Mathura; Madan Mohan Temple, Vrindavan; Mosque & Tomb of Maqdoom Jahania Kannauj; Group of monuments, Aampur and Badaun; Group of Monuments, Jhinhana; Group of Monuments, Alamgirpur; Fort Jansi; Din-ud-daula, Karbala; Asafi Mosques, Jam Masjid, Residency, Amjad Ali Shah Tomb, Lucknow; Kalinjar Fort; Bahu Begam Tomb; Sujaud Daula's Tomb, Faizabad; Moosa Bagh; Marion Cemetery; Jami Majsid, Jhansi; Rani Mahal, Jhansi; Chandela Temple, Akaruna; Kacheri Cemetery, Kanpur; Bara Immambada; Bridge over Behta; Nasiruddin Haidur, Karbala, Lucknow; Excavated Site, Sahet; Excavated Site, Sravati; Excavated Site, Piprawa; Excavated Site, Ganwaria; Excavated Site, Sringaverpura; Excavated Site, Bhita; Cousat Gumbad, Kalpi; Rohila Temple, Mohaba; Gupta Temple, Deogarh; Choukhandi and other Monuments, Samath; Fort, Jounpur; Ramabhar Stupa, Kusunagar; Lalkhan's Tomb, Varanasi; Nirvan Temple, Kusunagar; Char Anguli Mosque, Jounpur; Dharara Mosque, Varanasi; Lord Comawalis Tomb, Gazipur; Rajghat, Varanasi; Iftiar Khan's Tomb, Chunar;

Uttaranchal

Group of Temples, Jageswar; Lakhamandal Temple, Lakhamandal; Temple, Adibadri; Bajnath; Temple, Bajnath; Pandukeswara Temple, Chamoli; Temple, Dwarhat; Mahasu Temple, Hanai; Excavated site, Purola; Sun Temple, Katarmal; Rudranth, Rawal Palace, Gopeswara; Fort, Adibadri;

West Bengal

Gokul Chand Temple, Gikunagar; Lalji Temple, Kalna; Begunia Group of Monuments, Baraker; Kotawali Darwaja, Maida; Koch Bihar Palace, Koch Bihar; Adina Mosque, Adina; Imambara, Hazarduari Palace, Murshidabad; Bais Gaozi's Wall, Maida; Chandra Ketugarh, Berachapa; Metcalf Hall, Kolkata; Mursid Kuli Khan's Tomb, Sabji Katra; Kadambra Fort; Raksasidanga, Kamasubama;

Pending Marketing Plans of Retail Outlets

2100. SHRI K. SUBBARAYAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. has implemented all the pending Marketing Plans of retail outlets in Coimbatore district of Tamil Nadu during the last three years;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of locations where these outlets were commissioned and under which marketing plan; and

(d) the details of marketing plan under which the COCO (Company Owned and Company Operated) retail

outlet situated at S.F. No. 130/162 of Singanallur village on Trichy Road, Coimbatore district, was commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) Selection process for Retail Outlets (ROs) at five locations in Coimbatore district viz, Peelamedu, Thondamuthur, Coimbatore, Singanallur and Tirupur has not been completed. This was mainly due to suspension of the selection process in the State of Tamil Nadu from 1999 onwards.

(c) During the last three years, only one RO at Caltonpet has been commissioned under Government approved Marketing Plan (Marketing Plan 1993-96) in March, 2001.

(d) The RO at location Singanallur village on Trichy Road, Coimbatore was commissioned in March, 1999 under Marketing Plan 1999-2001 Dealer Change (DC) on Company Owned and Company Operated (COCO) basis.

[Translation]

Export of LPG/CNG

2101. SHRI GAURISHANKAR CHATURBHUI BISEN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India have exported empty cylinders of LPG and CNG to some countries including Iraq;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the filled cylinders of LPG/CNG were also exported; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (d) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have not exported any empty/ filled cylinders of LPG or CNG to any country.

Employment to Drought Affected Families

2102. SHRI NIHAL CHAND: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to provide work to only one person of the families of drought affected areas under the "food for work scheme";

(b) if so, the rules being enforced by the Government to provide work to the people belonging to families consisting of four, five or more members under the above scheme;

(c) whether the Government is aware that families consisting of more than one member are not getting any benefit of the aforesaid scheme; and

(d) if so, the action proposed to be taken by the Government in each State of the country for the welfare of such people?

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 (d) The Food for Work Programme was implemented during the years 2000-01 and 2001-02. It was discontinued w.e.f 1.4.2002 and a Special Component has been introduced in its place under the Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) for augmenting food security through additional wage employment in the calamity affected rural areas after due notification by the State Government and its acceptance by the Ministry of Agriculture / Ministry of Home Affairs. Foodgrains released under the Special Component are given free of cost to the States/UTs and can be used in any Central or State scheme which has wage employment potential. The cash component is met from the Schemes in which the foodgrains are utilized. Wages will be partly in cash and partly in foodgrains. It is open to all rural poor who are in need of wage employment and desire to do manual and unskilled work in and around their village in the calamity affected areas. When the resources are limited, rationing may be necessary.

[English]

Royal Castle as Heritage Monument

2103. SHRI P. RAJENDRAN: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has taken note of the row erupted over the possession of Gallar Group on the 'Travancore Regent Maharani Sethu Lakshmi Bai's Halcyon Castle' in Kovalam in Trivandrum district of Kerala;

(b) the action taken by the Government against the illegal possession of the castle;

(c) whether the Government propose to take steps to retain the Royal Castle as a 'Heritage' Monument; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) to (d) No, Sir. 'Travancore Regent Maharani Sethu Lakshmi Bai's Halcyon Castle' in Kovalam in Trivandrum district of Kerala is not a protected monument of Archaeological Survey of India and there is no such proposal with the Archaeological Survey of India to retain the Royal Castle as a 'Heritage' Monument.

[Translation]

Ramp at Historical Places

2104. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to construct 'Ramp' at all historical places in the country for physically challenged persons;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Make shift ramps of wood and permanent ramp made on stone, specially designed toilet approachable by wheel chair, separate pathway at the entrance gate to facilitate entry of physically challenged visitors on wheel chair have been provided in some centrally protected monuments. The details of this are placed at statement-I. The centrally protected monuments identified for provision of such facilities are placed at statement-II.

(c) Archaeological Survey of India has already taken a decision to provide such facilities for physically challenged persons in the centrally protected monuments subject to feasibility.

Statement-I

List of centrally protected monuments (State-wise) where facilities for physically challenged persons to visit monuments have been provided

Sl. No.	Name of Monument	Remarks
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	
	i. Golconda Fort	Ramp
2.	Delhi	
	i. Red Fort	Ramps
	ii. Purana Qila	Ramps
	iii. Qutb Complex	Ramps, wheel chair
	iv. Jantar Mantar	Ramps
	v. Humayun's Tomb	Ramps
	vi. Safdarjung Tomb	Braille plate in Hindi and English, toilet has detachable wooden ramps
3.	Goa	
	i. Old Goa Church complex	Ramp, wheel chair
4.	Gujarat	
	i. Jami Masjid, Champaner, Pavagadh	Ramp
5.	Karnataka	
	i. Tipu Palace, Bangalore	Ramp
	ii. Dariya Daulat Bagh, Srirangapatna	Ramp
	iii. Group of Monuments at Pattadakal	Ramp
	iv. Group of Monuments at Ahioles, Distt. Bagalkot	Ramp
	v. Ibrahim Rauza at Bijapur	Ramp
	vi. Rock cut caves, Badami, Distt. Bagalkot	Wheel chair
	vii. Golgumbaz, Distt. Bijapur	Wheel chair

1	2	3
6.	Kerala	
i.	Mattancherry Palace, Kochi	Barille reading and wheel chair
7.	Maharashtra	
i.	Ajanta Group of Caves	Pathway cum ramp
8.	Rajasthan	
i.	Deeg Bhawans, Deeta Distt. Bharatpur	Ramp
ii.	Sas Bahu Tamples, Nagada, Distt. Udaipur	Ramp
iii.	Mahanalesvara Temple, Menal, Distt. Chittaurgarh	Ramp
iv.	Chittaurgarh Fort, Distt. Chittarugarh	Ramp
v.	Ancient Site, Bhangarh, Distt. Alwar	Ramp
vi.	Sun Temple, Amber, Distt. Jaipur	Ramp
9.	Tamil Nadu	
i.	Fort at Bekal	Wheel chair
ii.	Fort at Kannur,	Wheel chair
iii.	Fort at Palakkad	Wheel chair
iv.	Fort at Vattakottai	Wheel chair
10.	Uttar Pradesh	
i.	Residency	Ramp
ii.	Wheel chairs have been made available in Jhansi, Kanpur, Lucknow sub-circles.	
iii.	Akbar's Tomb, Sikandara	Ramp
iv.	Itimad-ud-Daulah	Ramp
v.	Fatehpur Sikri	Ramp
Wheel Chairs are provided at all ticketed monuments in Agra for the physically challenged persons.		

Statement-II			1	2	3
<i>List of centrally protected monuments identified for provisions of facilities to physically challenged person</i>					
Sl. No.	Name of Monument	Remarks			
1	2	3			
1.	Andhra Pradesh				
i.	N. Konda hill	Ramp			
2.	Assam				
i.	Sri Suryapahar Ruins in Goalpara Distt. Assam	Ramp			
ii.	Maidams at Charaideo, Distt. Sivasagar, Assam	Ramp			
			3.	Delhi	
			i.	Safdarjung Tomb	Ramps
			ii.	Isa Khan's Tomb	Ramps
			iii.	Afsarwala Tomb and Mosque	Ramps
			iv.	Sundarwala Mahal	Ramps
			v.	Sundarwala Burj	Ramps
			vi.	Arab-ki-Sarai	Ramps
			vii.	Kotla Feroz Shah	Ramps
			viii.	Kashmiri Gate	Ramps
			ix.	Jamali Kamali Tomb and Mosque	Ramps

1	2	3
	x. Wazirabad Gumbad	Ramps
	xi. Shalimar Bagh	Ramps
	xii. Hauz Khas	Ramps
	xiii. Nila Gumbad	Ramps
4.	Gujarat	
	i. Sun Temple, Modhera Distt. Mehsana	Ramp
	ii. Rani-ki-Vav, Patan, Dist. Patan	Ramp
	iii. Shahr ki Masjid, Champaner, Pavagadh	Ramp
	iv. Holy Jesus Church at Moti Daman, Daman	Ramp
	v. Chapel of Our Lady Rosario at Moti Daman, Daman	Ramp
	vi. Saint Paul's Church at Diu	Ramp
5.	Jammu and Kashmir	
	i. Avantiswamin Temple and Avantisvara Temple at Avantipur	Ramps
	ii. Tomb at Zanul Abdin's Mother (Badshah) at Srinagar	Ramps
	iii. Pathar Masjid at Srinagar	Ramps
	iv. Devi Bhagwati Temple, Manwal	Ramps
	v. Ancient Temple, Kala Dear I & II, Babour (Manwal)	Ramps
	vi. Ancient Fort attributed to Raja Suchet Singh and Samadhi at Ramnagar	Ramps
6.	Karnataka	
	i. Gumbaz in Srirangapatna	
	ii. Keshva Temple, Somanathpur	
	iii. Temples at Belur and Hallebid	
7.	Maharashtra	
	Bibi-ka-Maqbara, Aurangabad	Wooden ramp

1	2	3
8.	Tamil Nadu	
	i. Group of Monuments at Mamallapuram	
	ii. Brihadisvara Temple, Thanjavur	
	iii. Airavateswara Temple at Darasuram	
	iv. Brihadisvara Temple at Gangaikonda Cholapuram	
9.	Uttar Pradesh	
	i. Group of Temples at Deogarh, Dudhai Pali in Distt. Lalitpur	Ramp
	ii. Jarai-ka-Math in Distt. Jhansi	Ramp
	iii. Chowrasi Gumbaj, Kalpi, Manbai Palace & other monuments in Khosroobagh, Allahabad various monuments in Lucknow, Faizabad, Mahoba, Banda Distt.	Ramp

[English]

Installation of HPT/LPT/VLPTs

2105. SHRI SUBHASH SURESHCHANDRA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number and details of High Power/Low Power/Very Low Power transmitters installed through out the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the total number of high power and low power T.V. transmitters functioning in the country, particularly in Maharashtra, capacity-wise and location-wise;

(c) whether the Government has sanctioned the scheme for installation of high power T.V. transmitters at some other places particularly in Maharashtra;

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

(e) the time limit stipulated for each scheme?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) 258 TV transmitters (HPTs-62; LPTs-106; VLPTs-90) have been commissioned during the last three years. Details are given in the enclosed statement-I.

(b) 1403 TV transmitters (HPTs-190; LPTs-832; VLPTs-381) are presently functioning in the country. Out of these, 123 transmitters are located in Maharashtra. Details are given in the enclosed statement-II

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. High Power Transmitters at 21 places, including one in Maharashtra, have been sanctioned and are under implementation. Details are given in the enclosed statement-III.

(e) The above transmitters are expected to be commissioned, in phases, during the next two years, depending on construction of buildings & towers and supply of equipment. The transmitter at Ambajogai in Maharashtra is expected to be commissioned during 2004.

Statement-I

*TV transmitters commissioned during last 3 years
(1.4.2001 to 15.7.2004)*

S. No.	State/UT	HPTs	LPTs	VLPTs	Total Transmitters
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	-	-	2	2
2.	Andhra Pradesh	3	11	4	18
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	-	2	3
4.	Bihar	-	5	1	6
5.	Chhattisgarh	1	3	-	4
6.	Delhi	1	-	-	1
7.	Gujarat	3	3	-	6
8	Haryana	-	4	-	4
9.	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	7	7
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	10	9	55	74
11.	Jharkhand	2	3	1	6
12.	Karnataka	6	7	3	16
13.	Kerala	1	3	2	6
14.	Madhya Pradesh	4	3	1	8
15.	Maharashtra	6	13	2	21
16.	Manipur	2	-	-	2
17.	Meghalaya	1	1	-	2
18.	Mizoram	1	1	-	2

1	2	3	4	5	6
19.	Nagaland	1	-	1	2
20.	Orissa	1	3	-	4
21.	Pondicherry	1	-	-	1
22.	Punjab	3	-	-	3
23.	Rajasthan	3	6	1	10
24.	Sikkim	1	-	1	2
25.	Tamil Nadu	2	15	2	19
26.	Tripura	-	2	-	2
27.	Uttar Pradesh	5	8	-	13
28.	Uttaranchal	-	3	5	8
29.	West Bengal	3	3	-	6

Statement-II

TV transmitters functioning in Maharashtra

Sl. No.	Transmitter	Power
1	2	3
HPTs (13)		
1	Ambajogai	10 KW
2	Aurangabad	10 KW
3	Chandrapur	1 KW
4	Mumbai	20 KW
5	Nagpur	10 KW
6	Pune	10 KW
7	Ratnagiri	1 KW
8	Jalgaon (Int.)	1 KW
9	Mumbai (DD News)	20 KW
10	Nagpur (DD News)	10 KW
11	Pune (DD News)	10 KW
12	Aurangabad (DD News)	10 KW
13.	Mumbai (DDT)	5 KW
LPTs (89)		
14	Achalpur	100 Watts

1	2	3	1	2	3
15	Acot	100 Watts	46	Kankauli	300 Watts
16	Aheri	100 Watts	47	Karad	100 Watts
17	Ahmednagar	100 Watts	48	Karanja	100 Watts
18	Akalkot	100 Watts	49	Khamgaon	300 Watts
19	Akluj	100 Watts	50	Khanapur	100 Watts
20	Akola	100 Watts	51	Khopoli	100 Watts
21	Arhalner	100 Watts	52	Kinwat	100 Watts
22	Amravati	100 Watts	53	Kolhapur	100 Watts
23	Arvi	100 Watts	54	Mahad	100 Watts
24	Badalpur	500 Watts	55	Malegaon	300 Watts
25	Barshi	100 Watts	56	Mangal Wedha	100 Watts
26	Bhamragad	100 Watts	57	Mangaon	100 Watts
27	Bhusawal	300 Watts	58	Manmad	100 Watts
28	Bid	100 Watts	59	Mehekar	100 Watts
29	Brahampuri	100 Watts	60	Mahasle	100 Watts
30	Buldana	100 Watts	61	Morshi	100 Watts
31	Chandur	100 Watts	62	Nanded	100 Watts
32	Chikhli	100 Watts	63	Nandurbar	100 Watts
33	Chiplun	100 Watts	64	Nasik	100 Watts
34	Daryapur	100 Watts	65	Navapur	100 Watts
35	Deorukh	100 Watts	66	Osmanabad	100 Watts
36	Dhadgaon	100 Watts	67	Pandharkawada	100 Watts
37	Dharmabad	100 Watts	68	Pandharpur	100 Watts
38	Dhule	100 Watts	69	Parbhani	100 Watts
39	Diglur	100 Watts	70	Patan (Satara)	100 Watts
40	Garhchiroli	100 Watts	71	Phaltan	100 Watts
41	Gondia	100 Watts	72	Pulgaon	300 Watts
42	Hinganghat	300 Watts	73	Pusad	100 Watts
43	Hingoli	100 Watts	74	Rajapur	100 Watts
44	Ichalkaranji	100 Watts	75	Raver	300 Watts
45	Jalna	500 Watts	76	Rissod	100 Watts

1	2	3
77	Sangamner	100 Watts
78	Sangli	100 Watts
79	Satana	500 Watts
80	Satara	100 Watts
81	Shahad	100 Watts
82	Shirpur	100 Watts
83	Sholapur	100 Watts
84	Sironcha	100 Watts
85	Tumsar	100 Watts
86	Umerga	100 Watts
87	Umerkhed	100 Watts
88	Wani	100 Watts
89	Wardha	100 Watts
90	Washim	100 Watts
91	Yavatmal	100 Watts
92	Ambajogai (DD News)	100 Watts
93	Akola (DD News)	500 Watts
94	Amravati (DD News)	500 Watts
95	Bhandara (DD News)	100 Watts
96	Dhule (DD News)	500 Watts
97	Kolhapur (DD News)	500 Watts
98	Malegaon (DD News)	500 Watts
99	Nanded (DD News)	500 Watts
100	Nasik (DD News)	500 Watts
101	Sangli (DD News)	500 Watts
102	Sholapur (DD News)	500 Watts
	VLPTs (RLS) (20)	
103	Ambet	50 Watts
104	Arjuni	10 Watts
105	Ashti	10 Watts
106	Bhokar	10 Watts

1	2	3
107	Chikaldhara	10 Watts
108	Chimur	10 Watts
109	Junnar	10 Watts
110	Karanja (Wardha)	10 Watts
111	Karjat	10 Watts
112	Khed	10 Watts
113	Koregaon	10 Watts
114	Kurkheda	10 Watts
115	Malkapur	10 Watts
116	Malwan	10 Watts
117	Pimpalner-Sakri	10 Watts
118	Sakoli	10 Watts
119	Sindewa-II	10 Watts
120	Tiwsa	10 Watts
121	Vasantgarh	50 Watts
122	Wai	10 Watts
	Transposer (1)	
123	Aurangabad	10 Watts

Statement-III*High Power Transmitters under Implementation*

State/UT	Place
1	2
Bihar	Saharsa (DD1)
Chhattisgarh	Bilaspur (DD1)
Gujarat	Radhanpur (DD1)
	Vadodra (DD1)
	Vadodra (DD News)
Haryana	Hissar (DD1)
	Karnal (DD1)
	Hissar (DD News)
Himachal Pradesh	Dharamshala (DD1)
	Kasauli (DD News)
Jammu and Kashmir	Tithwal (DD1)

1	2
Kerala	Calicut (DD News)
Madhya Pradesh	Sagar (DD1)
	Chhatrapur (DD1)
Maharashtra	Ambajogai (DD News)
Punjab	Bhatinda (DD News)
Rajasthan	Bikaner (DD1)
Tamil Nadu	Tirunelveli (DD1)
	Dharmapuri (DD1)
West Bengal	Kharagpur (DD1)
	Kurseong (DD News)

**Prakash Narain Committee on
Railway Accidents**

2106. SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the main recommendations of the Prakash Narain Committee on Railway Accidents;
- (b) whether the report of said committee has been gathering dust;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the action taken/to be taken to implement the recommendations of said committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (d) There was no Prakash Narain Committee on railway accidents. However, a National Transportation Safety Board had been set up in 1987 under the Cabinet Secretariat, with the main objective of bringing about improvements in safety in different transport sectors like Railways, Civil Aviation, Road Transport etc. This Board was wound up with effect from 1st April, 1990. Shri Prakash Narain was the Chairman of National Transportation Safety Board.

After winding up the National Transportation Safety Board, some recommendations pertaining to Railways were communicated to the Ministry of Railways on which action as warranted was taken.

[Translation]

Atrocities Against Dalits

2107. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to make the

existing provisions for seeking to do away with Caste based discriminations and atrocities being committed against dalits more stringent;

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JEGADEESAN): (a) to (c) In accordance with provisions of Article 17 of the Constitution of India, 'Untouchability' stands abolished and its practice in any form is forbidden. The Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 prescribes punishment for the enforcement of any disability arising from preaching and practice of untouchability, which usually emanate from caste-based discrimination. It was felt that despite various measures to improve the socio-economic conditions of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, they remained vulnerable and subjected to various offences, indignities, humiliations and harassment and that the existing laws like the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 and the normal provisions of the Indian Penal Code were found to be inadequate, therefore, a special legislation to check and deter crimes against them by non-Scheduled Castes and non-Scheduled Tribes had become necessary and accordingly a more stringent legislation viz the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 was enacted.

The Government of India has been from time to time addressing the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations to implement the provisions of the Act in letter and spirit and central assistance is also provided to them mainly for strengthening of the administrative, enforcement and judicial machinery, awareness generation, and relief and rehabilitation of the affected persons. Further, for ensuring early prosecution of atrocity cases, 137 Exclusive Special Courts, have been set up in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh and that all State Governments except Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Nagaland, which are predominantly tribal Area States, have also notified the existing Courts of Sessions as Special Courts for the trial of offences under the Act.

The Government of India is, thus, making earnest efforts towards effective implementation of the Acts.

[English]

**Dilapidated Condition of Railway Stations
in Barasat-Hasnabad**

2108. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that all the stations in the entire Barasat-Hasnabad section are in a

dilapidated condition and are almost inaccessible to commuters during rainy seasons;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which these stations and approach roads are likely to be repaired?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (c) The condition of stations in the Barasat-Hasnabad section is satisfactory. However, *kutch*a approach roads available at some stations get affected by Monsoon rains. The total position is reviewed after every monsoon and necessary remedial measures taken to repair the approach roads subject to availability of funds and relative priorities.

[Translation]

Electrification of Lucknow-Gorakhpur Line

2109. YOGI ADITYA NATH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any proposal for electrification of Lucknow-Gorakhpur railwayline; and

(b) if so, the time by which the electrification work on this section is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. However, Lucknow-Barabanki section which is a part of Lucknow-Gorakhpur line is already electrified and due to relative priority for electrification of other high density routes, there is, at present, no proposal to electrify Barabanki-Gorakhpur railway line.

[English]

Agreement of India and Iran on LNG

2110. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agreement has been made between India and Iran on the sale of LNG to India; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed in January, 2003 between India and Islamic Republic of Iran for cooperation in Hydrocarbon Sector. There is a proposal for importing 5 Million Metric Tons Per Annum (MMTPA)

Liquefied Natural Gas. (LNG) from Iran in exchange for a stake in a discovered oil field.

Identity Cards to Rail Hawkers

2111. SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to introduce Identity Cards to Rail hawkers and Contractors/Workers; and

(b) if so, the steps taken so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Instructions have been issued to the railways to ensure that the staff of authorised railway catering contractors are given photo identity cards. However, unauthorised hawkers on the railway premises and on trains are punished under the provisions of Section 144 of the Railways Act, 1989. Action is taken by Railway Protection Force and Government Railway Police to evict them as they cause inconvenience to the passengers. Therefore, there is no question of issuing identity cards to them.

Construction of National War Memorial and War Museum

2112. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to construct a national war memorial and a national war museum as symbols of national pride and honour for the soldiers who laid their lives valiantly for the cause of motherland;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the same will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Ministry of Urban Development has been approached for allotment of suitable land. The land is yet to be allotted.

(c) It depends upon the allotment of land.

Selling of Milk/Milk Products in Trains/Stations

2113. SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH:

SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

SHRI S.D. MANDLIK:

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways has discontinued the sale of aerated drinks and propose to sell milk and milk products in trains/stations;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons for such change;

(c) the name of agencies selected for providing these products and the criteria for selection of such agencies;

(d) the total amount involved in introduction of such change;

(e) whether the Railways has considered the grievances of affected parties; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the manner in which the new change will benefit the passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Sale of aerated drinks has not been discontinued on railways. Railways have been advised to promote selling of milk and milk products like Pedha, Chhena, Rasgulla, Dahi, Kulfi, Chach and Matha.

(c) The name of the agencies which are at present supplying milk and milk products are as under:

1. M/s. Gujarat Co-operative Marketing Federation Limited
2. Andhra Pradesh Dairy Development Corporation Limited
3. Madhya Pradesh Dughd Sangh
4. Madhya Pradesh Government Dairy Limited
5. Rajasthan Dairy Co-operative Federation Limited
6. Karnataka Milk Federation
7. Bihar State Co-operative Milk Producers Federation etc.

(d) There is no change in the policy of railways as regards introduction of milk and milk products on railway.

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

Import of Natural Gas from Bangladesh

2114. SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to import Natural Gas from Bangladesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of industries where the gas will be used both State-wise and industry-wise?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) Government have not pursuing import of natural gas from Bangladesh. However, Government of Bangladesh have not considered the proposal at this stage on the grounds of insufficient sparable reserves for export.

(c) Does not arise.

Community Radio Service

2115. SHRI SURESH KURUP: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the present guidelines for community radio issued by the Government and procedure for getting license;

(b) the steps the Ministry are taking in order to ensure that communities are permitted to set up radio stations;

(c) whether Prasar Bharati has any plan to have community radio network by associating with people representatives; and

(d) if so, the details thereof:?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) The Government has issued guidelines for community radio licenses to well established educational institutions recognized by the Central/State Government including Universities and Institutes of Technology/ Management. These guidelines are available on the Ministry's website: <http://www.mib.nic.in>.

(b) Licenses are being given to focus on issues relating to education, health, environment, agriculture and developmental needs of local communities.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Do not arise.

Budget/Funds of Panchayats Audited by C&AG

2116. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to have the budget/funds of Panchayats audited by Comptroller and Auditor General of India;

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

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) As per Article 243J of the Constitution "The Legislature of a State may, by law, make provisions with respect to the maintenance of accounts by the Panchayats and the auditing of such accounts". Therefore, it is for State Governments to identify the agency to get the budget/funds of Panchayats audited. The Guidelines issued by the Ministry of Finance for the utilization of local bodies grants recommended by the Eleventh Finance Commission (2000-01 to 2004-05) provided that the C&AG shall be responsible for exercising control and supervision over the proper maintenance of accounts and their audit for all the three tiers/levels of PRIs and ULBs. State Governments should send a request under section 20(1) of the CAG (DPC) Act, for this purpose. As per the Guidelines, the format for preparation of budgets and for keeping of accounts for the local bodies shall be as prescribed by the C&AG. This subject will be discussed further in the Sixth Round Table of Ministers in charge of Panchayati Raj at Guwahati in November 2004.

[Translation]

**Amount of Assistance under
Indira Awas Yojana**

2117. SHRI HEMMAL MURMU:

SHRIMATI ARCHANA NAYAK:

SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is implementing any scheme for construction of houses for the people living below poverty line in the rural areas under the Indira Awas Yojana (IAY);

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

(c) whether the Government is receiving any complaints that the amount of assistance being provided to

the beneficiaries of Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) is less keeping in view the rise in prices of the construction material;

(d) if so, whether the Government is contemplating to increase the above amount of assistance;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the State-wise details of the above assistance being provided to various States under the said Yojana; and

(g) the targets fixed for construction of houses during the current 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) The Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) which is flagship scheme for Rural Housing, is being implemented by the Ministry of Rural Development in all States/UTs except Delhi and Chandigarh. Under the Scheme, financial assistance is provided to the below poverty line (BPL) rural households belonging to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and freed bonded labourer categories for construction of their dwelling unit. Minimum 60% of the funds are to be allotted to SCs/STs BPL families and upto 40 % for other BPL families. Since 1999-2000, upgradation of kutchha houses is also allowed under the IAY. The Scheme is funded on cost-sharing basis between the Centre and the States in the ratio of 75: 25.

(c) to (e) The Ministry of Rural Development had received requests for enhancing the per unit assistance for IAY house from the various State/UT Governments keeping in view of the rise in prices of the construction material. Accordingly, it has been decided to increase the ceiling of assistance from Rs. 20,000/- to Rs. 25,000/- per unit for the plain areas and from Rs. 22,000/- to Rs. 27,500/- for the hilly/difficult areas with effect from 1.4.2004. The upper limit in respect of conversion of kutchha houses into pucca house (upgradation) has also been increased from Rs. 10,000/- to Rs. 12,500/- for all areas.

(f) and (g) Details of State-wise Central allocation, release and targets fixed under the IAY during the current financial year (2004-2005) are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

*State-wise central allocation, central release and target of number of houses under
Indira Awas Yojana during 2004-05 (upto date)*

(Rs in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	Central* Allocation	Central Release	Number of Houses Targeted
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	17981.83	9547.07	115083
2	Arunachal Pradesh	825.98	381.29	4966

1	2	3	4	5
3	Assam	18584.99	8424.36	111735
4	Bihar	48846.34	26491.40	312617
5	Chhattisgarh	3074.96	1537.52	19680
6	Goa	116.18	58.09	744
7	Gujarat	5167.82	2583.96	33074
8	Haryana	1747.40	873.74	11184
9	Himachal Pradesh	773.06	386.53	4648
10	Jammu and Kashmir	924.74	485.12	5560
11	Jharkhand	14351.50	7175.81	91850
12	Karnataka	9301.41	4518.47	59529
13	Kerala	5763.87	2881.98	36889
14	Madhya Pradesh	10730.71	5365.47	68676
15	Maharashtra	16503.47	8251.82	105622
16	Manipur	984.83	275.03	5921
17	Meghalaya	1308.47	416.52	7866
18	Mizoram	314.12	157.08	1888
19	Nagaland	844.67	407.27	5078
20	Orissa	14476.04	7238.58	92646
21	Punjab	1157.56	578.79	7408
22	Rajasthan	4876.10	2438.12	31207
23	Sikkim	226.45	113.23	1361
24	Tamil Nadu	9030.00	4515.00	57792
25	Tripura	1910.49	955.25	11486
26	Uttar Pradesh	32923.88	16279.86	210713
27	Uttaranchal	3419.68	1709.84	20559
28	West Bengal	19407.12	9685.61	124206
29	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	218.73	153.67	1050
30	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	114.78	0.00	551
31	Daman and Diu	47.51	0.00	228
32	Lakshadweep	3.72	3.72	18
33	Pondicherry	108.59	40.14	521
Total		246067.00	123930.34	1562356

[English]

Restructuring of SGSY

2118. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have restructured the Swarnajayanti Gram Swarajgar Yojana (SGSY);
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of the changes brought about in the revised SGSY?

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, Sir. The Swarnajayanti Gram Swarajgar Yojana (SGSY) has been launched as an integrated programme for self-employment of the rural poor only in 1999 after review and restructuring of erstwhile Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) and allied programmes namely Training of Rural Youth for Self Employment (TRYSEM), Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA), Supply of Toolkits in Rural Areas (SITRA) and Ganga Kalyan Yojana (GKY), besides Million Wells Scheme (MWS). The earlier programmes are no more in operation with the launching of the SGSY. Since then, the scheme has not been restructured. However, based on the recommendations of National Conference on the 'SHG Movement and the SGSY' held in 2001, report of the Working Group on Poverty Alleviation for the Tenth Five Year Plan and feed back suggestions from the States/UTs, certain amendments have been made in the guidelines to make the programme more effective.

- (c) The gist of amendments in SGSY guidelines is enclosed as statement.

Statement

Gist of Amendments in the guidelines of SGSY

Objective of SGSY - The objective of the SGSY is to bring the assisted poor families (Swarozgaris) above the poverty line by ensuring appreciable increase in income over a period of time. This objective is to be achieved by inter-alia organizing the rural poor 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.

Number of Key Activities - The number of key activities selected in a block should not ordinarily exceed 10. However, focus should be on 4-5 key activities which are identified for training and micro enterprise development in a cluster approach for larger number of groups with desired backward and forward linkages.

Income from the Economic Activity - The economic activity taken up by the Swarozgaris should generate appreciable incremental income sustained over a period of time which will help the Swarozgaris to effectively cross the poverty line. DRDAs may ensure that the anticipated income as stipulated in the Project is realised during the project period and projects are not under financed.

Size of the Self Help Group - A Self Help Group (SHG) may generally consist of 10-20 persons. However, in difficult areas like deserts, hills and areas with scattered and sparse population and in case of minor irrigation and disabled persons, this number may be from 5-20. The difficult areas have to be identified by the State Level SGSY Committee.

Composition of the Self Help Group - Generally all members of the Group should belong to families below the poverty line. However, if necessary, a maximum of 20%, and in exceptional cases, where essentially required, upto a maximum of 30% of the members in a Group may be from families marginally above the poverty line, living continuously with BPL families and if they are acceptable to BPL members of the Group. The APL members of the Group will not be eligible for subsidy under the scheme and shall not become office bearers (Group leader, assistant group leader or treasurer) of the group. The BPL families must actively participate in the management and decision making which should not be entirely in the hands of APL families.

In case of disabled persons a group may comprise of persons with diverse disabilities or group may comprise of both disabled and non-disabled persons below the poverty line.

Provision for utilising the services of Animators/Community Coordinators - The SGSY is a process oriented Scheme, therefore, the role of Facilitator is very crucial in social mobilisation of people, formation and nurturing of SHGs. Many areas of the Country do not have presence of NGOs who could be involved as Facilitators. Keeping this aspect in view, DRDAs have been permitted to use the services of trained individuals as Facilitators DRDAs may support NGOs or Community Based Organisations (CBOs) or network of Community Coordinators/Animators or a team of dedicated functionaries of the Government in the task of initiating and sustaining the group development process. The Community Coordinators/ Animators could preferably be from the community or in some cases, may be from outside the area. They could be leaders/ members of Self Help Groups (SHGs) or persons having experience or training in the field of community organisation and social mobilisation. The selection of Facilitator/ Community Coordinator and their training and capacity building is critical for the success of the Programme. Therefore, the District SGSY Committee may select suitable organisations/ societies/ individuals as Facilitators/ Community Coordinators based on their past experience in SHG formation, community organisation or

any other similar work involving participatory approach, communication skill, ability to stay with the people in the rural area etc. They would have to stay for a period of 2-3 years with the group to ensure continuity as well as enable the groups to mature into a self managed organisations. A Community Coordinator/ Animator could take up the responsibility of managing 10-15 SHGs in a geographical cluster consisting of 4-5 villages with in a radius of 4-5 Kms.

An amount upto a maximum of Rs.10,000/- may be spent on formation of new Self Help Group and their training and capacity building. The payment of amount to the NGOs/ CBOs / Community Coordinators / Animators will be made in four installments based on the stage of development of the SHG in the manner as given the amended Guidelines.

The DRDAs may devise a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for entering into an agreement with NGOs / CBOs / Community Coordinators / Animators being involved as facilitators for group formation, development and training. The MoU should clearly define the role of facilitator in group formation and development. Further, payment to the facilitator should be specifically linked to the stage of development of the group and overall performance. The DRDA shall regularly monitor the progress of groups through periodic evaluations.

Flexibility in utilisation of Funds - The SGSY is a process oriented Scheme, therefore, the States/ UTs may be in different stages of the implementation of the Scheme. The fund required for training and capacity building including Basic Orientation, Skill development, Entrepreneurship development, Revolving fund to SHGs and Subsidy for economic activity may vary from State to State. The DRDAs may priorities the expenditure on different components i.e. Training and capacity building, Revolving Fund and Subsidy for economic activity based on the local requirements and different stages of group formation. However, the expenditure on infrastructure will not exceed 20% of the total annual allocation (25% in case of NE States). The asset creation for the Swarozgaris is one of the core objectives of the Scheme, therefore, DRDAs should give utmost importance on it and enable the Swarozgaris in acquiring income generating assets as the culmination of the whole process.

Provision for Studies related to Marketing Research/ value addition of products - An amount up to Rs. Five lakhs annually may be spent from the funds available under the Scheme on management of professional input related to marketing research, value addition or product diversification or any other input which would facilitate formulation of viable projects and marketing of the produce, ultimately resulting in additional income to the Swarozgaris and development of models which could be replicated.

Subsidy Norms for SHGs and Disabled Persons - Subsidy under the SGSY will be uniform at 30% of the project cost, subject to a maximum of Rs. 7500/-. In respect of SC/ STs and disabled persons however, these will be 50% and

Rs. 10,000/- respectively. For group of Swarozgaris (SHGs), the subsidy would be 50% of the project cost subject to per capita subsidy of Rs.10,000/- or Rs. 1.25 lakhs, whichever is less. There will be no monetary limit on subsidy for irrigation projects.

Expenditure on Training - The DRDA will be entitled to meet the expenses, incurred by the training institution for both Basic Orientation and Skill Development Training from out of the SGSY Fund. The Basic Orientation Training may include topics on concept of Self Help, group dynamics, conflict resolution, conduct of group meetings, maintenance of records, awareness about social and family welfare programmes etc. The training for skill development may include skill upgradation through exposure to latest tools and technology, value addition and diversification of products, entrepreneurship development, marketing skills, packaging, labeling etc.

The DRDA will be entitled to meet the expenses, incurred by the training institution for both Basic Orientation and Skill Development Training from out of the SGSY Fund.

The total expenditure on Basic Orientation and skill development training will not exceed Rs.5,000 per trainee. Duration of Skill development training will be decided by the State Government depending upon the activities and in order to ensure uniformity of the duration of training for all the Districts. Skill development training will be taken up only for Swarozgaris selected for assistance under the Scheme.

Expenditure on Fairs and Exhibitions for Swarozgaris - Expenditure incurred in organising fairs, exhibitions and participation of Swarozgaris in fairs and exhibitions may be met from the funds available under the SGSY Programme Infrastructure.

Relaxation of Time for Grading of SHGs - For minor irrigation schemes, relaxation of time for the second grading could be allowed, if the group is found credit-worthy and the project is viable. The decision in regard to the relaxation may be taken by the Block Level SGSY Committee.

In case, the Self Help Group has been in existence prior to the SGSY under other Programmes and have completed six/ twelve months from the date of formation and it is brought under the SGSY, such Groups may be subjected to First/ Second Grading, without waiting for another six/ twelve months for sanction of Revolving Fund/ Economic Activity respectively.

Distribution of Equipments to Physically Handicapped Persons

2119. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the medical camps have been held to distribute free equipments to the physically handicapped persons;

(b) if so, the details thereof particularly of camps held in Kerala;

(c) the number of handicapped persons benefited in each such camp, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government intending to give more help to physically handicapped persons in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JEGADEESAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. During 2003-04 under the scheme of Assistance to Disabled Persons for purchase/fitting of aids and appliances (ADIP) camps have been held in 12 Districts of Kerala viz. Allapuzha, Ernakulam, Idibbi, Kollam, Kottayam, Kozhikode, Mallapur, Palghat, Pattanmthitta, Thiruvanthapuram, Trissur, Waynad. Ministry has given a grant of Rs. 19.29 lakhs for holding such camps in the State of Kerala.

(c) During 2003-04 2,38,278 number (approx.) of beneficiaries were distributed assistive devices. State wise information of assistance given under the scheme is available in the website of the Ministry (www.socialjustice.nic.in).

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The grants would be given for distribution of assistive devices as per the ADIP scheme. Government has increased the budget allocation for the current year i.e. 2004-05 to Rs. 60 crores so as to cover more beneficiaries.

Gas Cracker Project in Dibrugarh, Assam

2120. SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the policy adopted and concrete steps taken by the Government so far for the establishment of Gas Cracker Project in Dibrugarh, Assam;

(b) the appropriate technical and scientific measures being taken by the Union Government for preventing further useless burning of natural gas in Assam involving several thousands crores of rupees; and

(c) the reason for not establishing Gas Cracker Project in Dibrugarh for the last one and a half decade?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI

SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (c) The Assam Industrial Development Corporation (AIDC), a State Government Undertaking, was issued a Letter of Intent (LoI) for setting up 3 lakh Tons Per Annum (TPA) ethylene gas cracker project. LoI was subsequently transferred to Reliance Assam Petrochemicals Limited (RAPL), a joint venture between AIDC and Reliance Industries Limited (RIL). The capacity of the project was brought down to 2 lakhs Tons. The Central Government in 1994 and 1997 have approved various incentives/concessions for the project which includes supply of feed stock at concessional and fixed rate of Rs.600/ thousand cubic meters of gas. RAPL signed agreement with OIL for supply of 5 Million Standard Cubic Meters Per Day (MMSCMD) of gas. ONGC has agreed to make available 1.35 MMSCMD of gas. Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) would be supplied by Indian Oil Corporation to make up for the shortfall in the supply of gas. Substantial funds would be required for giving subsidy to the oil companies. Funding of subsidy required is to be sorted out.

(b) The Gas flaring in Assam is mainly due to technical reasons and from small isolated fields which are not economical to integrate with main gas grid for utilization. However, various steps have been taken to reduce gas flaring in Assam such as:

- (i) Installation of low pressure booster compressors.
- (ii) Getting new fields connected to gas network.
- (iii) Looking for small customers near the isolated fields etc.

Free of Cost Foodgrains under SGRY

2121. SHRI B. VINOD KUMAR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has launched the Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana (SGRY);

(b) if so, the objectives of the programme, the agencies involved therein and the tasks assigned to them;

(c) whether the Government propose to include rural employment schemes besides providing foodgrains free of cost under the scheme;

(d) if so, the number of persons likely to be provided employment under the scheme, State-wise/Union Territory-wise and the extent of likely benefits to the poor;

(e) the financial assistance provided, as on date, States/Union Territory-wise especially to Andhra Pradesh;

(f) the quality of foodgrains provided free of cost and lifted by each State, as on date, under the scheme;

(g) the number of proposals received for rural development works under the scheme, State-wise; and

(h) the details of cost sharing between the Centre and the State Government under the 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) Yes, Sir.

(b) The objectives of the Programme are to provide additional wage employment in the rural areas as also food security, alongside the creation of durable community, social and economic infrastructure in the rural areas. The programme is being implemented through three levels of Panchayati Raj Institutions.

(c) Sampooma Grameen Rozgar Yojana is itself a rural wage employment scheme which has a cash as well as foodgrains component about 50% of the resources are in cash.

(d) No targets are fixed under the scheme. The number of mandays generated under SGRY in 2003-04 is given in statement-I.

(e) Statement-II showing Central grants released under SGRY during the years 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 (as on date) is enclosed.

(f) Statement-III showing foodgrains authorised and lifted under SGRY during the years 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 (as on date) is enclosed.

(g) The scheme is allocation based. Allocation of resources to the States/UTs is done at the beginning of the financial year based on certain pre-determined criteria. Under the scheme, selection, execution and monitoring of works is done by the Panchayati Raj Institutions concerned.

(h) Under the SGRY, the cash component of the Programme is shared between the Centre and the States in the ratio of 75:25. In the case of the Union Territories, Centre provides 100% funds. Foodgrains under the scheme are provided free of cost to the States/UTs.

Statement-I

Sl. No.	States	Mandays Generated (In lakhs)
1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	445.55
2	Arunachal Pradesh	18.42
3	Assam	637.20

1	2	3
4	Bihar	421.76
5	Chhattisgarh	283.98
6	Goa	0.49
7	Gujarat	252.77
8	Haryana	68.87
9	Himachal Pradesh	39.06
10	Jammu and Kashmir	47.89
11	Jharkhand	282.36
12	Karnataka	566.07
13	Kerala	100.86
14	Madhya Pradesh	585.21
15	Maharashtra	630.96
16	Manipur	10.32
17	Meghalaya	34.37
18	Mizoram	15.38
19	Nagaland	610.06
20	Orissa	618.57
21	Punjab	46.00
22	Rajasthan	268.62
23	Sikkim	8.21
24	Tamil Nadu	512.06
25	Tripura	126.96
26	Uttaranchal	75.98
27	Uttar Pradesh	893.54
28	West Bengal	407.08
29	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.42
30	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00
31	Daman and Diu	0.00
32	Lakshadweep	0.01
33	Pondicherry	1.42
	All India	8010.45

Statement-II

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	States	Central Release		
		2002-03	2003-04	2004-05*
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	24380.17	23995.5	14092.31
2	Arunachal Pradesh	824.26	1560.75	630.82
3	Assam	22496.96	29681.01	19420.80
4	Bihar	26727.42	34203.1	27592.20
5	Chhattisgarh	12013.04	12023.34	1865.18
6	Goa	75.04	110.36	128.63
7	Gujarat	6942.87	9654.67	6169.98
8	Haryana	5610.37	5599.45	3250.42
9	Himachal Pradesh	2046.00	2394.67	1207.36
10	Jammu and Kashmir	2051.61	10803.04	1430.19
11	Jharkhand	17584.68	26675.15	18926.12
12	Karnataka	17429.04	19428.39	10523.85
13	Kerala	7665.17	8696.74	4722.06
14	Madhya Pradesh	26872.02	26705.26	16985.19
15	Maharashtra	28960.58	31212.1	20016.85

1	2	3	4	5
16	Manipur	669.80	1331.4	320.18
17	Meghalaya	1905.92	2055.44	463.64
18	Mizoram	573.88	757.86	337.90
19	Nagaland	667.28	1168.08	572.10
20	Orissa	27406.55	24743.95	15940.39
21	Punjab	3848.98	4620.08	3615.34
22	Rajasthan	14904.76	13860.68	7991.19
23	Sikkim	439.18	703.55	374.11
24	Tamil Nadu	21161.09	23318.54	12322.86
25	Tripura	3850.07	3991.89	2353.68
26	Uttaranchal	4398.54	5355.75	3145.57
27	Uttar Pradesh	66092.08	65695.85	47097.04
28	West Bengal	20649.89	21453.96	15738.10
29	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	42.32	97.4	0.00
30	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	61.40	41.13	0.00
31	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00
32	Lakshadweep	0.00	28.57	28.57
33	Pondicherry	112.61	136.13	0.00
All India		368463.58	412103.79	263262.63

* Released as first instalment during 2004-05

Statement-III

(Food grains in MTs)

Sl. No.	States	2002-03		2003-04		2004-05*
		Authorized	Lifted	Authorized	Lifted	Authorized
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Andhra Pradesh	285972	234429	258617	279595	195933
2	Arunachal Pradesh	5033	0	5196	0	0
3	Assam	343445	281667	371484	448329	270019
4	Bihar	253388	216930	377859	240126	383629
5	Chhattisgarh	146422	135648	208689	129897	109354
6	Goa	665	43	129	30	1789

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7	Gujarat	75652	123269	156512	47160	85786
8	Haryana	68495	86269	60752	53918	45194
9	Himachal Pradesh	23813	15617	26859	19932	16788
10	Jammu and Kashmir	25198	38982	28480	33494	19875
11	Jharkhand	146377	36191	283853	258647	263141
12	Karnataka	272218	247780	346261	291110	146323
13	Kerala	120948	54816	94235	61308	65656
14	Madhya Pradesh	333920	286270	385152	244639	236155
15	Maharashtra	279014	237126	363638	353733	278307
16	Manipur	8218	5487	18883	6263	4452
17	Meghalaya	25102	6350	26338	12881	6446
18	Mizoram	7794	7962	9189	7809	4699
19	Nagaland	6559	7136	17253	2751	7232
20	Orissa	335023	295587	277998	302137	221630
21	Punjab	47103	33913	50266	47984	50267
22	Rajasthan	183856	159116	224972	212720	111108
23	Sikkim	4819	2760	8534	6221	5201
24	Tamil Nadu	260011	252979	244627	247381	171332
25	Tripura	53912	42250	50210	58939	32724
26	Uttaranchal	51329	19850	57984	63026	43735
27	Uttar Pradesh	908014	718272	776170	477023	654820
28	West Bengal	251184	207514	262879	275598	218816
29	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	379	0	1315	510	
30	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	560	0	555	0	0
31	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	0
32	Lakshadweep	0	0	421	0	0
33	Pondicherry	1401	1248	1591	562	0
	All India	4525824	3755461	4996901	4183723	3650411

AIR Station at Kargil, Ladakh

2122. SHRI CHHEWANG THUPSTAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether AIR station at Kargil-Ladakh is not functioning properly due to acute shortage of Programme and Ministerial staff;

(b) if so, the total number of posts sanctioned at the station;

(c) the number of posts vacant with duration of vacancy;

(d) whether the Government is contemplating filling up of the vacant posts;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) No, Sir. The station is functioning properly and smoothly.

(b) and (c) Information regarding sanctioned strength, No. of posts lying vacant and duration of vacancy are given in the enclosed statement.

(d) to (f) In the absence of Recruitment Board, it is not possible to fill up the quota of Direct Recruitment posts. As regards promotion quota posts, efforts are being made to fill up the posts after convening the Departmental Promotional Committee meetings.

Statement

Name of Posts	Sanctioned Strength	No. of Posts Lying Vacant	Duration of Vacancy
1	2	3	4
Programme Staff			
Programme Executive	Two	Nil	-
Farm & Radio Officer	One	Nil	-
Production Assistant/TREX	One	One	06/07/1999
Assistant Editor/TREX	One	One	14/08/1997
Transmission Executive	One	One	-do-
Announcer/Compere	One	One	-do-
Ministerial Staff			
Head Clerk	One	Nil	-

1	2	3	4
Upper Divn. Clerk	Two	One (Promotion Vacancy)	19/6/2003
Stenographer, Gr. III	One	One	14/8/2000
Lower Divn. Clerk	Three	Three	29/5/2000
			30/9/2000
			20/8/2001
Motor Driver	One	Nil	-
Peon	One	Nil	-

Sound and Light Show in Warrangal

2123. SHRI S.P.Y. REDDY: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has been pressing for some time seeking permission to conduct a sound and light show at 1000-Pillared temple in Warrangal;

(b) if so, whether necessary permission has been accorded for the purpose;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the proposal of the Andhra Pradesh Government is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Archaeological Survey of India cannot spare any space towards installation of transformer and construction of control room in view of on going work of reconstruction of Kalyana Mandapa and also repairs to Rudreswara temple.

(d) After the repairs are completed, a decision will be taken on the proposal, keeping the need to continue the rituals and space constraints in view.

Suspension of Qazigund-Baramulla Rail Project

2124. SHRI P.K. VASUDEVAN NAIR:

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Railway Construction (IRCON) has suspended the work at the prestigious

Qazigund-Baramulla railway project by withdrawing its engineers after the murder of its engineer Sudhir Kumar and his brother by terrorists;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to provide adequate security to IRCON employees and to resume the work on the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) On 23.06.2004 Shri Sudhir Kumar and his brother were kidnapped and brutally murdered as found on 25.06.2004. Thereafter IRCON's Engineers were withdrawn from the project for want of adequate security.

(c) Matter has been taken up with the Government of Jammu and Kashmir and the Ministry of Home Affairs to provide adequate security.

Participation of Outsider Producers

2125. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:

SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme for participation of outsider producers in production of serial for DD-2, Metro Channel of Doordarshan;

(b) if so, the nature of the scheme;

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

(d) whether the Government has published advertisements in this regard; and

(e) if so, the response of the people thereon?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) Prasar Bharati has informed that DD-2 (Metro) Channel of Doordarshan has already been closed and the facilities thereof are converted into DD-News Channel.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Shortage of Gangmen in Khurda Road Division in Orissa

2126. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the severe scarcity of Gangmen and other group of employees in Khurda Road Division in Orissa;

(b) if so, the position at present;

(c) whether a large number of them are being used as the domestic servant at the quarters of the higher officials;

(d) if so, the number of gangmen and other group of staffs presently working in Railway Officers Houses; and

(e) whether they are engaged as domestic servant with the approval of the Railway Board?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The recruitment is under process to fill up the vacancies.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Petroleum Refining Capacity in Public Sector

2127. SHRIMATI USHA VERMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the present petroleum refining capacity in the public sector;

(b) how much petroleum refining capacity has been increased during 2003-2004;

(c) whether the Government is considering to further increase its petroleum refining capacity;

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

(e) the total expenditure likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) The refining capacity of the Oil Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) as on 31.3.2004 was 92.968 million metric tones per annum (MMTPA).

(b) The petroleum refining capacity of the Oil PSUs has increased by 2.3 MMTPA during the year 2003-2004.

(c) to (e) The Oil PSUs have plans of expanding the installed capacity of their existing refineries by 19.33 MMTPA at a cost of Rs.13223 crore. Besides four grass root refineries with a total installed capacity of 31 MMTPA are also planned by the Oil PSUs for which an allocation of Rs.6247.11 crore has been made by them for the Tenth Plan period.

[Translation]

Monitoring Committee on PMGSY

2128. DR. RAM LAKHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the villages having a population of 500 people would be covered under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana by 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any monitoring committee has been set up to oversee the quality of the works carried out under the said scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the State-wise details of the works carried out under the 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 Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana seeks to provide connectivity to a Unconnected Habitations in the rural areas with a population of more than 500 persons, through good All-weather roads, by the end of Tenth Plan Period (2007). In respect of the Hill States (North-East, Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Uttaranchal) Desert Areas and Tribal (Schedule-V) areas, the objective is to connect Habitations with a population of 250 persons and above. The actual coverage will depend on the availability of funds.

(c) and (d) Under the PMGSY, quality is sought to be ensured through a three tier Quality Control System, the first two tiers of which are with the State Governments. At the central level, the National Rural Roads Development Agency (NRRDA) engages National Quality Monitors (NQMs), as a third tier to verify at random the quality of road works. The reports of the NQMs are sent to the State Governments to ensure that any infringement / deficiencies detected by the Monitors are rectified and action taken, wherever required as per the PMGSY Guidelines, against those responsible.

(e) A statement indicating State-wise details of the works cleared upto March 2004 is enclosed.

S. No.	Name of State	Value of proposals cleared (Rs. in crore)	Number of roadworks cleared
1	2	3	4
1	Andhra Pradesh	918.53	3733
2	Arunachal Pradesh	127.46	341

1	2	3	4
3	Assam	429.64	613
4	Bihar	452.87	968
5	Chhattisgarh	1086.24	1034
6	Goa	15.16	120
7	Gujarat	279.61	1072
8	Haryana	173.83	85
9	Himachal Pradesh	446.37	743
10	Jammu and Kashmir	171.69	178
11	Jharkhand	472.10	501
12	Karnataka	424.70	1709
13	Kerala	85.40	270
14	Madhya Pradesh	2089.72	2489
15	Maharashtra	680.28	2150
16	Manipur	120.71	790
17	Meghalaya	115.67	317
18	Mizoram	201.85	78
19	Nagaland	124.23	185
20	Orissa	961.81	1722
21	Punjab	139.03	449
22	Rajasthan	1385.40	3289
23	Sikkim	86.27	81
24	Tamil Nadu	550.51	2230
25	Tripura	76.60	247
26	Uttar Pradesh	1564.59	8599
27	Uttaranchal	258.93	213
28	West Bengal	1044.81	754
Total		14484.01	34960

TV Transmitter Towers

2129. SHRI RAMDAS BANDU ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many T.V. transmitter towers set up at various places in the country are not in operation though they are technically ready;

(b) if so, when these T.V. transmitter towers were set up and reasons for not making them operational so far; and

(c) the action taken by the Government so far for the deployment of staff in these transmitter towers?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) Twelve Low Power Transmitters are technically ready and are yet to be commissioned.

(b) The transmitters have been set up during the last two years. Staff for operation & maintenance of these transmitters is yet to be sanctioned.

(c) Efforts are being made to obtain the sanction of staff.

[English]

Violation of Concept of Panchayati Raj Constitutional Amendment

2130. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Governments are violating the concept of Panchayati Raj Constitutional Amendment in implementation of the Programmes by the Panchayats; and

(b) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) No Sir. State Governments are not violating the Constitution (73rd Amendment) Act, 1992 but as there is scope for the more effective implementation of the provisions of Part IX read with Article 243ZD of the Constitution relating to the Panchayats, a series of Round Table Meetings of Ministers in charge of Panchayati Raj is being organised in accordance with the schedule given below:

Round Table I:

Sat. - Sun., 24-25 July: Kolkata: "Panchayati Raj: Effective Devolution", comprising Functions, Functionaries and Finances, as well empowerment of Gram Sabhas.

Round Table II:

Sat. - Sun., 28-29 August: Bangalore: "Panchayati Raj: Planning and Implementation and Rural Business Hubs" including the question of parallel bodies.

Round Table III:

Wed. - Thursday 22-23 September: Raipur - "Reservations in Panchayati Raj", comprising Scheduled Tribes (including implementation of PESA), Scheduled Castes and Women.

Round Table IV:

Sat. - Sun., 2 - 3 October: Chandigarh - "Panchayati Raj in Union Territories and Panchayati Raj jurisprudence".

Round Table V:

Wed. - Thur., 27-28 October: Uttaranchal (venue to be decided) - "Annual Reports on the State of the Panchayats" (including preparation of a Devolution Index).

Round Table VI:

Sat. - Sun., 27-28 November: Guwahati - "Panchayati Raj Elections and Audit".

Round Table VII:

Sat. - Sun., 11-12 December: Pune - "Capacity Building and Training for Panchayati Raj Institutions".

[Translation]

Implementation of PMGSY in Jharkhand

2131. SHRI MANOJ KUMAR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the target of road to be constructed in Jharkhand under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana during the last three years;

(b) whether there was any plan in the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana to connect the far-flung and remote villages with the main highways;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by when the scheme will be completed; and

(d) the details of district-wise and road-wise expenditure under the 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) The number of road works cleared under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana in respect of Jharkhand for the years 2000-01 to 2003-04 is 501.

(b) and (c) The Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana seeks to connect all Unconnected habitations in the rural areas with a population of more than 500 persons, through good All-weather roads, by the end of the Tenth Plan period. In respect of the Hill States (North-East, Sikkim, Himachal

Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Uttaranchal), Desert Areas and Tribal (Schedule-V) areas, the objective is to connect Habitations with a population of 250 persons and above. Progress under the Yojana is related to the budget allocation, which is decided on a year-to-year basis.

(d) The Ministry of Rural Development does not maintain district level data on the roads taken up/ constructed under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana. Funds are released to the States Phase-wise. Details of the funds released to Jharkhand till date and the utilisation reported by the State are as under:

Year	Amount Rs. in crore		Number of road works	
	released	utilised	approved	completed
2000-01 (Phase-I)	123.92	115.16	168	98
2001-03 (Phase-II)	230.00	134.28	202	35

In addition, 131 road works were cleared in 2003-04, for which implementational steps are to be taken by the State Government.

[English]

Discount for Sale of Lube Oil

2132. DR. PRASANNA KUMAR PATASANI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that dealers and stockists of IBP are given different discounts for sale of Lube Oil to consumers;

(b) if so, whether dealers face difficulty in sale of Lube Oil in market vis-a-vis stockists;

(c) whether Retail Outlets of IBP are forced to lift huge quantity of Lube Oil for sale, every year;

(d) whether sale of Lube Oil by a R.O. is linked with sale of MS/HSD and if not the policy of company;

(e) whether the Government propose to rectify the above policy of the company; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) IBP follows a differential pricing structure for Retail Outlet (RO) and Bazar Trade mainly to compete with private companies.

(b) The customer base for dealers and stockists

for sale of Lube Oil being different, no difficulty is faced by dealers in sale of Lube Oil vis-a-vis stockists.

(c) No, Sir. IBP expects its dealers to do normal business giving the customers a single point service for all the requirements of fuel and lubricants.

(d) The sale of Lube Oil is based on MS/HSD sales of retail outlet, keeping in view the type of vehicles & the trading area of the outlet.

(e) and (f) Company reviews the policy from time to time especially in view of the severe competition faced by its dealers/ stockists from private companies.

[Translation]

Rebate in Transportation of Gypsum

2133. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the percentage of quantum of Gypsum transported by the Railways in terms of the total production for the last four years in Rajasthan;

(b) whether the Government propose to consider bringing Gypsum in 110 categories from 130 and to provide a rebate of 20%;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Based on the information regarding production of Gypsum in Rajasthan, as obtained from the Ministry of Coal and Mines, for the four years' period from 1999-2000 to 2002-03, the percentage quantum of Gypsum transported by the Railways during this period works out to around 38%.

(b) to (d) No, Sir. In the Railway Budget 2003-04, a single uniform Class-120 for trainloads and Class-125 for wagonloads was assigned to Gypsum in all its physical forms such as lumps, powder, moulds etc. as against the earlier classification ranging from Class-120 to Class-125 for trainloads and Class-125 to Class-130 for wagonloads. In the Railway Budget 2004-05, the freight rates for Gypsum have not been increased despite increase in Railways' working expenses.

Electrification of Katni-Allahabad Rail Section

2134. SHRI GANESH SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the Katni-Allahabad rail section has not yet been electrified;

- (b) if so, the action taken thereon;
- (c) whether the Government is aware that the Manikpur-Allahabad rail section still has a single line track;
- (d) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken in order to electrify and to lay double line track there; and
- (e) the time by which the above work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Due to relative priority for electrification of other high density routes, there is, at present, no proposal to electrify Katni-Allahabad railway line.

- (c) Yes, Sir.
- (d) The work of doubling of Manikpur Cheoki (Allahabad) has been taken up in phases. Earthwork and Bridge works are in progress.
- (e) Manikpur-Kataiyerdandi is targeted for completion during 2004-05. The target for other section has not yet been fixed.

Petrol Pumps and LPG Gas Agencies to Economically Backwards Upper Castes

2135. SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR:

SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to provide reservation to the economically backwards upper castes and weaker section in the allotment of petrol pumps and LPG agencies;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) At present, 50% reservation of retail outlet dealerships (petrol pumps), LPG distributorships and SKO-LDO dealerships has been provided for different sections of the society, as under:

(i)	Defence personnel	-	8%
(ii)	Freedom Fighters	-	2%
(iii)	Outstanding Sports Persons	-	2%
(iv)	Paramilitary/ Police/ Government Personnel	-	8%

(v)	Physically Handicapped Persons	-	5%
(vi)	Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes	-	25%

The Government do not propose to provide further reservation for any other specific category.

[English]

New Modern Signaling System

2136. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways has laid a new modern signaling system-route relay interlocking to avoid human error while operating signals;
- (b) if so, the details of new system;
- (c) the names of the Railway Stations selected for installation of new system in various zones;
- (d) the installation cost likely to be incurred by Railways for above system; and
- (e) the time by which the system is likely to be installed by Indian Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Modern relay/ electronic based route setting type of interlocking systems are being provided in replacement of overaged signalling assets. Modern inter locking system offers better operational efficiency, flexibility & enhanced safety by providing quick route setting by pressing entry & exit button on a central control panel. Since the system provides for complete track circuiting of the yard for track occupancy verification and electrical operation of points and signals and minimizes the involvement of human element in train operations, it ensures greater safety in train operation.

(c) There are 1550 stations, where work of providing such systems are in progress. Railway-wise number of stations being provided with these system as on 01-07-2004 is given in the enclosed statement.

(d) Average cost of providing such system at a station is approximately Rs. 1.5 crore per station, which varies according to the size of the station.

(e) Sanctioned works, which are in progress, are likely to be completed in next 3-4 years subject to availability of funds.

Statement	
Railway	Number of Stations being provided with
Central Railway	118
Eastern Railway	195
Northern Railway	263
North Eastern Railway	22
Northeast Frontier Railway	43
Southern Railway	55
South Central Railway	101
South Eastern Railway	132
Western Railway	44
East Central Railway	130
East Coast Railway	99
North Central Railway	154
North Western Railway	13
South East Central Railway	71
South Western Railway	34
West Central Railway	76
Total	1550

Reduction in Centrally Sponsored Schemes

2137. DR. COL. (RETD.) DHANI RAM SHANDIL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has taken a decision to reduce some centrally sponsored schemes related to the Ministry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JEGADEESAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. During the 9th Plan Period and first year of the 10th Plan, the Planning Commission reviewed the Centrally Sponsored Schemes being implemented by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and recommended the rationalization and merger of some schemes as under:

Name of the Scheme in 9th Plan	Name of the merged Scheme
Post Matric Scholarships to SC students	
Book Bank Scheme for SC students	Post Matric Scholarships and Book Banks for SC students.
Hostels for SC boys	
Hostels for SC girls	Hostels for SC, OBC and
Hostel for OBC boys and girls	Minority boys and girls.
Coaching & Allied Scheme for SCs	
Pre-Examination Coaching for OBCs	Coaching for SCs, OBCs and
Pre-Examination Coaching for Weaker Sections based on economic criteria	other weaker sections for competitive exams.
Post Matric Scholarships for OBCs	Pre & Post Matric
Pre Matric Scholarships for OBCs	Scholarships for OBCs and
	Minorities students

Shortage of Wagons in Tripura

2138. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is shortage of railway wagons for transportation of construction materials for North Eastern States and Tripura in particular;

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

(c) the demand of wagons made by the State Government of Tripura and various other agencies & organisations of Tripura for transportation of various items during the last three years; and

(d) the details of action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[Translation]

Direct Rail Route for Ranchi

2139. SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal for direct rail line from Tata Nagar to Ranchi via Chandil-Namkom; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) A traffic survey is in progress for a new broad gauge line from Ranchi to Kandra. Further, a reconnaissance engineering-cum-traffic survey for a new broad gauge line from Kandra to Namkom has been included in the Budget 2004-05. Kandra to Tata Nagar is already connected by a direct rail line.

[English]

Harassment of Employees in Maruti Udyog Limited

2140. SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is in the receipt of any complaint of harassment of employees in Maruti Udyog Limited;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the measures taken by the Government to curb the harassment of the employees of Maruti Udyog Limited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c) In terms of the Revised Joint Venture Agreement (RJVA) signed on 15.5.2002 between the Government of India, Suzuki Motor Corporation, Japan and Maruti Udyog Limited (MUL), Suzuki Motor Corporation (SMC) has become a major shareholder and as such SMC is free to manage the affairs of MUL. Under Article 2.5.2 of the RJVA, MUL Board alone shall be entitled to take decisions on various administrative matters including matters relating to appointments, disciplinary action and other labour and personnel matters without any interference. A few complaints relating to settlement of dues, reinstatement in service and appointment on compassionate grounds etc., are being received in this Ministry from time to time. Those are being forwarded to the Management of MUL for appropriate action.

[Translation]

Construction of Road Over-Bridge in U.P.

2141. SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD NISHAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal is pending with the Government for construction of road over-bridge at Bindki road crossing on Kanpur-Fatehpur rail route; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the construction work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Drug Addiction in Rural Areas

2142. SHRI LONAPPAN NAMBADAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the reports about the drug users including women in rural India is at high rise;

(b) if so, the reasons for this menace alongwith the details of findings of recent survey in this regard; and

(c) the measures taken or proposed to be taken to redress this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JEGADESSAN): (a) No, Sir. However, the findings of the National Survey on the Extent, Pattern and Trends of Drug Abuse indicate substantial abuse of alcohol, cannabis and opiates (excluding heroin, which has low prevalence) in the rural areas.

(b) No specific reasons have been mentioned in the report of the Survey.

(c) Recognizing drug abuse as a psycho-socio-medical problem, requiring community based interventions, the Government is implementing the "Scheme for Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drugs) Abuse", wherein registered Non-Government Organizations are being provided financial support for awareness programmes, counselling, treatment and rehabilitation services in varied settings such as the community, workplace, educational institutions, prisons, etc. with an objective of reducing the incidence and consumption of illicit drugs. Presently, under the Scheme 361 NGOs are being funded for running 62 Counselling & Awareness Centres and 379 treatment-cum-Rehabilitation Centres all over the country, besides De-addiction Camps and Workplace Prevention Programmes. Against an expenditure of Rs. 22.65 crores during 2003-04, an allocation of Rs. 29.15 crores has been made under the Scheme for the financial year 2004-05. A greater thrust is being given for addressing drug abuse in rural population through De-addiction Camps, which provide awareness and treatment services in rural settings where the services of Treatment Centres are either not available or are inaccessible.

Construction of Bridges in Jammu and Kashmir

2143. SHRI MADAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Defence has initiated a proposal to provide second bridge over river Chenab at Akhnoor and a bridge on Manawar Tawi at Bari Pattan to provide linkage to Chammb sector and Rajouri & Poonch districts of Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, the status of the said proposal; and

(c) the time by which the above bridges are likely to be constructed?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Lowest-bid has been finalised for construction of a second bridge on river Chenab at Akhnoor. The proposal for the Manawar-Tawi bridge has been accorded low priority due to other requirements of greater operational necessity.

(c) Probable Date of Completion (PDC) of Chenab bridge is December 2007. No time schedule has been fixed for Manawar-Tawi bridge.

[Translation]

Schemes for Unemployed Educated Persons

2144. SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the average number of educated/uneducated unemployed persons in rural areas of the country;

(b) whether the Government has assessed the number of educated unemployed in the country; and

(c) if so, the measures being contemplated by the Government to resolve this constantly growing problem in each State particularly in Maharashtra?

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 (c) As per 55th round (1999-2000) on employment and unemployment of National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO), the unemployment rate for the educated persons of age 15 years and above on Usual status basis in rural areas of Maharashtra has been estimated at 6.1% as compared to 6.7% in rural areas in the country as a whole. Unemployment rate for all (educated-uneducated) on usual status basis in rural areas of the country is estimated at 1.5% in 1999-2000.

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.

[English]

Cancellation of Allotment of Petrol Pumps by IBP Co.

2145. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has cancelled the allotments of Petrol Pumps made by IBP Co. Ltd. during the period March 2002 to April, 2003; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) After considering the matter of allotment of certain retail outlets (petrol pumps) made by M/s IBP Co. Limited during the period from April, 2002 to March, 2003, the Government has asked the company to terminate those dealerships which were commissioned in violation of the guidelines for selection of dealers. The company has also been asked to conduct fresh selection in those cases as per the guidelines.

Vacancies in All Railway Divisions

2146. SHRI KIRIP CHALIHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is large scale vacancies in almost all the Railway Divisions;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to fill up these vacancies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

LPG Bottling Plant in Gujarat

2147. SHRI DINSHA PATEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of LPG bottling plants functioning in Gujarat at present; and

(b) the details of proposed LPG bottling plants likely to be opened during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) At present, 9 LPG bottling plants of Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) with a capacity of 484 Thousand Metric Tons Per Annum (TMTPA) are operating in the State of Gujarat.

(b) OMCs do not plan to commission any new LPG bottling plant in the State of Gujarat during the current financial year, as the current demand of LPG in the State is being fully met through the existing bottling capacity. However, Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) plans to increase the capacity of its bottling plant at Rajkot from 44 to 66 TMTPA during the current financial year.

Demand for More LPG Agencies and Petrol Pumps

2148. SHRI PRAKASHBAPU V. PATIL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are demands from various organisations, co-operative societies, individuals from Maharashtra to set up more LPG agencies and Petrol Pumps in the State;

(b) if so, the details of such demands during the last three years;

(c) whether the Government has considered the demands favourably; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) After the dismantling of the Administered Price Mechanism from 1.4.2002, Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have been accorded commercial freedom for their marketing activities. Accordingly, OMCs conduct surveys to assess the potential/commercial viability of locations for setting up of new LPG distributorships and Retail Outlets (ROs) in the country including Maharashtra, at regular intervals. The viable locations are considered for the setting up of LPG distributorships/ ROs as per their commercial consideration. While conducting these surveys, OMCs keep in mind the representations received from various State bodies/ public representatives and other sources.

(b) to (d) OMCs have commissioned 192 distributorships and 416 ROs during last three years in the State of Maharashtra.

Allocation and Utilisation of Funds under PMGSY in Haryana

2149. SHRI JAI PRAKASH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated and utilised under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana in Haryana during last two years and till date, district-wise;

(b) whether the funds have been fully utilised in each district;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

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 (d) The Ministry of Rural Development does not maintain district level data on the roads taken up/constructed under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana. Funds are released to the States Phase-wise. Details of the funds released to Haryana till date and the utilisation reported by the State are as under:-

Year	Amount released (Rs. in crore)	Amount utilised (Rs. in crore) Upto June, 2004
2000-01 (Phase-I)	25.18	21.25
2001-03 (Phase-II)	62.74	58.43
2003-04 (Phase-III)	20.00	5.20

Cement Corporation of India

2150. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Units of Cement Corporation of India are functioning at Tandur, Karnakot in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the total number of permanent employees and contract labour at present working in this unit;

(c) whether this factory was running into losses earlier;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether it is a fact that this unit is now running into profit;

(f) if so, whether the salaries and dues of employees are being paid regularly;

(g) if so, the details thereof and if not, the steps taken or being taken by Government in this regard;

(h) whether Government propose to modernize this unit of Cement Corporation of India; and

(i) If so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Presently, there are 293 permanent employees and approx. 439 average daily deployment of contract labour at Tandur Unit.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Tandur Unit was running into losses from ever since the year of its commissioning in 1967-88 upto 2002-03.

(e) The unit has had operational surplus in 2003-04.

(f) and (g) Yes, Sir. The monthly salary and wages payment to employees and contract labour at Tandur Unit is being made by the Unit regularly from its own resources. All other statutory and retiral dues like Gratuity, Provident Fund etc. are also being paid.

(h) and (i) All CCI units including Tandur Unit are under sale as per BIFR directions and capital expenditure is therefore being deferred.

Vacant Post in DD/AIR

2151. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts in various cadres of AIR and Doordarshan under direct recruitment quota are presently vacant in the entire country;

(b) the action being taken by the Deptt. to fill up the vacant posts alongwith the target date upto which posts are to be filled;

(c) whether instead of recruiting fresh candidates, the department is engaging retired personnel's in Programme/Administrative cadres; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) Prasar Bharati has intimated that the information about vacant posts is not maintained centrally and so is not readily available.

(b) The occurrence of vacancies and the filling up of the same in accordance with the provisions of the Recruitment Rules, is an on-going dynamic process. The position keeps on changing from time to time.

(c) and (d) Sometimes in the exigencies of service,

where personnel are essentially required and the posts are lying vacant, retired personnel are engaged in public interest.

LPG Sale by Reliance

2152. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) has objected to allow Reliance Industries Limited to sell LPG directly to bulk customers;

(b) whether such situation will have an adverse impact on State run marketing companies; and

(c) if so, the details thereof stating the consequences and after effects?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) has not objected to Government about M/s. Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) selling LPG directly to bulk consumers. M/s. RIL is free to import LPG for sale to bulk customers as is being done by other parallel marketers. As per Government policy, indigenous LPG production is used entirely for consumption within country.

Rail Line between Orai and Mahoba via Rath

2153. SHRI RAJNARAYAN BUDHOLIYA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has a proposal for laying railway line from Khajuraho to Mahoba and also accorded approval for laying rail lines between Orai (U.P.) and Mahoba via Rath;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the expenditure likely to be incurred by the Government on laying of said rail lines; and

(d) the progress of work done on the said line so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) The work of laying new rail line between Khajuraho and Mahoba has been approved and taken up. The new line between Orai and Mahoba is not approved.

(b) New rail line from Khajuraho to Mahoba (64.90 kms.) is part of Lalitpur-Satna-Rewa-Singrauli & Mahoba-Khajuraho project.

(c) The anticipated cost of Khajuraho-Mahoba new line is Rs. 139.89 crore.

(d) Final location survey has been completed. Land acquisition is in progress. Out of 47.39 lakh cubic metre of earthwork, 13.12 lakh cubic metre has been completed. 2 major bridges out of 12 and 18 minor bridges out of 76 have been completed. The work on 10 major bridges and 9 minor bridges is in progress.

[Translation]

Gas Agencies at Block Level

2154. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had earlier proposed to set up a gas agency at every block level and then at the level of a fixed population;

(b) if so, the achievements made so far in this regard;

(c) the time by which the gas agencies would be set up in the remaining areas particularly at the block level in the rural areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) had earlier carried out a feasibility survey of all Blocks on an all-India basis and the viable locations were included in earlier Marketing Plans for setting up LPG distributorships. As on 1.4.2004, 848 LPG distributorships are still pending for commissioning out of the 1246 locations planned exclusively in rural areas.

(c) and (d) OMCs set up LPG distributorships at viable locations as per their commercial considerations and it is a continuous process. As the setting up of LPG distributorships involves identifying of a suitable location, land for setting up of godown and other statutory clearances, it is not possible to indicate a specific time limit for setting up of agencies at Block level. With a view to covering the uncovered blocks/tehsils/mandals, the Ministry has begun the process to advise the OMCs for innovations. The innovative steps for low income group customers include introduction of 5 kg. cylinders, setting up community kitchens in villages and sale of LPG cylinders through fair price shop dealers etc.

[English]

Opening of Petrol Pumps by Oil Companies in Foreign Countries

2155. SHRI TUKARAM GANGADHAR GADAKH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Indian Oil Companies with a view to earning huge profit have opened petrol pumps in Singapore and other foreign countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the stock of oil in the country is not sufficient for domestic consumption; and

(d) if so, the reasons for opening oil outlets by these companies in other countries?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) While none of the public sector oil marketing viz., Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. (IOC), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (HPC), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (BPC) and IBP Co. Ltd. (IBP) has opened any retail outlet (petrol pump) in Singapore, IOC, through its subsidiary companies, one each in Sri Lanka and Mauritius, has set up retail outlets in those countries. These subsidiary companies are obtaining their requirement of petrol and diesel from various sources, including local refineries, depending upon the economics. The company in Sri Lanka, apart from buying from local refinery and imports; is also obtaining part of its requirement from India in view of its geographical proximity. This also helps India export its surplus diesel.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) IOC is building itself into a transnational oil major. Overseas establishments will help IOC fulfil its vision, besides earning foreign exchange for the country and strengthening the energy security of the country.

Bilateral Exchanges between India and China

2156. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of recent bilateral exchanges made between India and China in the field of Defence;

(b) the proposal mooted by the Government to establish better bilateral relation in that field; and

(c) the steps taken to implement those proposals?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) Bilateral exchanges in the field of Defence as confidence building measures are a continuing process, aiming to enhance and deepen the mutual understanding and trust between the two nations. Recent exchanges include :

(i) Joint Exercise by Indian and Chinese Naval ships.

(ii) Visit of official delegations from both the sides.

- (iii) Regular Flag Meetings and Border Personnel Meetings.
- (iv) Celebration of Festivals/National days of each side during Special Border Personnel Meetings and Flag Meetings.

Development of UAVs and UUVs

2157. SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has developed its own unmanned defence systems like UAVs (Unmanned Aerial Vehicles) and UUVs (Unmanned Underwater Vehicles) to save the lives of troops;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the time by which these systems are likely to be developed?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir. DRDO has developed two types of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles- Lakshya & Nishant. Development of underwater autonomous vehicle has not been undertaken.

(b) The reusable Unmanned Aerial Target Vehicle 'Lakshya' is used for training gun and missile crew. It has been developed. Tactical UAV 'Nishant' used for battlefield reconnaissance and target acquisition has been developed by DRDO.

(c) Development work on underwater autonomous vehicles is planned to be undertaken by March 2005.

Food for Work Programme

2158. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU:

DR. M. JAGANNATH:

SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made under poverty alleviation programmes during last one year;

(b) whether poorest of the poor are getting the benefits under Integrated Rural Development Programme;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the measures taken to use surplus grain for the poorest of the poor;

(e) whether any shortcomings detected in the food for work programme;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the steps taken/ proposed to be taken by the Government for their rectification?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) During 2003-04, 8010.45 lakh mandays were generated under Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana (SGRY), 8,92,890 Swarozgaris were assisted under Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) and 13,34,245 houses were constructed/upgraded under Indira Awas Yojana (IAY).

(b) and (c) The Ministry of Rural Development is implementing the Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), a holistic self employment programme in rural areas w.e.f April, 1999, after restructuring the erstwhile Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) and its allied programmes. The objective of the SGSY is to bring the assisted poor families (Swarozgaris) above poverty line by organizing them into Self Help Groups (SHGs) 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 a credit linked scheme wherein credit is the key element and subsidy being an enabling component. 20.19 lakh Self Help Groups have been formed and 45.81 lakhs Swarozgaris have been assisted with a total investment of Rs.9522. 15 crores since inception of the scheme.

(d) to (g) With effect from 1.4.2002, the Food for Work Programme is being implemented as a special component of the Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana (SGRY), a wage employment programme. The main problems which have been noticed in the implementation of this programme include difficulties in timely, regular and adequate supply of foodgrains in deficit areas which delays payment of wages and logistics problems in movement of foodgrains. Some States have difficulties in arranging cash payments under the special component of the SGRY where only foodgrains are given free of cost by the Centre. The SGRY and the Special Component of the SGRY are part of Governments efforts to utilise surplus foodgrains.

Utilisation of Gas Resources

2159. SHRI MILIND DEORA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether ONGC has been working up on a plan to produce cheap electricity by utilising its gas resources;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the plan is likely to materialize;

(c) whether instead of transporting gas from off

shore oil and gas fields, power would be generated and wheeled on the existing grids; and

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

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) Marginal gas reserves established by Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) in some States/basins are not being exploited because of the isolated nature of these gas pools, marketing constraints in nearby localities etc. ONGC's proposal for generating power from the gas available in these isolated gas pools is at a preliminary stage.

(c) and (d) As indicated in (a) and (b) above, the proposal is at a preliminary stage.

[Translation]

Development of Supersonic Cruise Missile

2160. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has successfully developed pilotless aircraft 'Lakshya';

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress made in developing supersonic cruise missile on the lines of Lakshya's technology?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir. DRDO has developed Pilotless aircraft - Lakshya.

(b) The reusable Unmanned Aerial Target Vehicle 'Lakshya' is used for evaluation of surface to air missiles and training the crews. It has been developed.

(c) Lakshya is a subsonic target for firing practice of missiles. Supersonic cruise missile needs entirely a new technology.

[English]

Promoting the Sale of Extra Premium Petrol

2161. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in order to promote the sale of Extra premium petrol, Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) offered Indian Express newspaper free for a month on the purchase of Extra premium petrol worth Rs.600/- or more valid from March 4, 2004 to April 20, 2004;

(b) whether newspapers have not been supplied to the customers who purchased Extra premium petrol worth Rs.600/- or more; and

(c) if so, the action Government proposes to take to get IOC honour its offer immediately?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) Yes Sir, the offer was made for Delhi only.

(b) Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) Delhi State Office has received a few complaints from some customers that they did not receive copies of the Indian Express Newspaper.

(c) IOC is committed to honour its offer made during the Scheme period. On receipt of complaints, the matter was immediately taken up with the Indian Express authorities by IOC's Delhi State office to ensure that, as per the scheme, free copies of the Newspaper were delivered through their vendor network. In some cases, the delay took place due to incorrect/ incomplete addresses given on the vouchers. However, corrective action has been taken so that no eligible customers are deprived of the offer made by IOC.

Deccan Odyssey Train

2162. SHRI SHIVAJI ADHALRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the splendorous luxury train "Deccan Odyssey" conceptualized by the Government of Maharashtra has since hit the tracks;

(b) if so, the objectives, salient features and tariff of this train and details of the scenic and tourist spots covered by this train;

(c) whether the luxury train is running far below capacity;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the estimated annual income to be generated thereby and the manner in which it would be divided between the Union and the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The objective of running "Deccan Odyssey" train is to promote tourism by rail in India. On a 7-day trip, the train originates and terminates at Mumbai and covers the tourist destinations of Ratnagiri, Sindhudurg, Goa, Pune, Aurangabad and Nasik. The tourists are taken to the historical Jaigad and Sindhudurg Forts, for the Back Water Cruise at the Tarkarli, old Goan churches, Museums, the world heritage sites at Ajanta and Ellora. The salient features include the onboard facilities for Multi-cuisine Dining, Conference, Spa, Bar, Gymnasium etc. and sightseeing by Air-conditioned buses. The tariff structure of the Deccan Odyssey is as below:

Occupancy	Peak Season October to March	Lean Season April
Single Occupancy	US \$ 485 or Rs. 20,000	US \$ 395 or Rs. 15,000
Double Occupancy	US \$ 350 or Rs. 15,000	US \$ 295 or Rs. 12,000
Triple Occupancy	US \$ 285 or Rs. 10,000	US \$ 240 or Rs. 9,000
Presidential Suite/Single	US \$ 950 or Rs. 40,000	US \$ 750 or Rs. 30,000
Presidential Suite/Double	US \$ 700 or Rs. 30,000	US \$ 550 or Rs. 24,000

(Half fare for children between 5 and 12 years)

(Tariff in Rs. is for Domestic Tourists)

(c) to (e) So far it has undertaken only one commercial run on 07/04/2004. The train is receiving bookings for ensuing season. The train has recently been launched and would take some time to establish itself. Presently, it has been decided to share the revenue in the ratio of 50:50 between the Indian Railways and the Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation (MTDC) till March 2007.

Unemployed People in Rural Areas

2163. **SHRI RUPCHAND MURMU:** Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether official figures indicate decline in number of unemployed people in rural areas of the country during each of the last three years and the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof confirming the decline during the said period, State-wise;

(c) the details of the authority which collect and compile these figures;

(d) whether the Government has a machinery to find out the correctness of these figures; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government in the matter?

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 (e) The estimates of employment and unemployment are made by the Planning Commission on the basis of quinquennial survey conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO). The estimates of unemployment are based on the scientific methodology followed by the NSSO. As per the information furnished by the Planning Commission based on the latest quinquennial rounds of National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) on employment and unemployment, estimated unemployed persons by current daily status (CDS) for selected States in rural areas are given below:-

Estimated No. of Unemployed Persons ('000) on CDS basis in Rural Areas.

	Selected States	1999-2000
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2153
2.	Assam	532
3.	Bihar	2033
4.	Gujarat	629
5.	Haryana	217
6.	Karnataka	638
7.	Kerala	1800
8.	Madhya Pradesh	903
9.	Maharashtra	1567
10.	Orissa	787
11.	Punjab	207
12.	Rajasthan	470
13.	Tamil Nadu	2196
14.	Uttar Pradesh	1462
15.	West Bengal	3127
	All India	19495

[Translation]

Laying of Rail Line in Maharashtra

2164. **SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted a survey for laying rail line from Ballarsha to Etapalli via Atapalli at Garh Chiroli district in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the obstacles coming in the way of the survey and laying of rail line; and

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) As per available records, no demand for survey of this line has been received recently. Furthermore, there is heavy throw-forward of ongoing projects with acute constraints of resources. In this scenario, it may not be feasible to take up new line works with heavy investment required.

[English]

Gauge Conversion Work on Rangia-Murkongselek Railway Line

2165. SHRI NARAYAN CHANDRA BORKATAKY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the gauge conversion work on the Rangia-Murkongselek Railway line; and

(b) the details of fund released in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) The work of gauge conversion of Rangiya-Murkongselek has been included in the Supplementary Demands for Grants 2003-04. Detailed Survey and preparation of plans and estimate have been taken up. An outlay of Rs.3 crore has been proposed for this project in Budget 2004-05.

Oil Pool Deficit

2166. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of existing oil pool deficit;

(b) whether Government has shown reluctance to enter into forward marketing contracts with crude oil exporters;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the overall effect on the efforts to liquidate the oil pool deficit, as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (d) With the dismantling of Administered Pricing Mechanism in the hydrocarbon sector, the Oil Pool Account has been wound up effective 1.4.2002.

The Government does not trade in oil. The oil companies import crude oil through term contracts and spot tenders. Government have allowed oil companies to hedge crude oil imports/refining margins.

Oil Struck in Barmer District in Rajasthan

2167. DR. M. JAGANNATH:

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether more oil have been found in Barmer district in Rajasthan recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any other appraisal of the latest discovery of oil struck has been made; and

(d) the other potential fields in the new northern basin?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (d) Three oil discoveries have been made in block RJ-ON-90/1 in Barmer district of Rajasthan during the year 2004. Two of the discoveries, namely Mangala and NA, have already been appraised while third discovery viz. NC is under appraisal. The appraisal of the discoveries is undertaken by integrating the available geo-scientific data and acquiring additional data, if required, which is an ongoing process. In addition, five discoveries already made in the block viz. Guda #2, Saraswati, Rageshwari, Kameshwari and Greater Rageshwari are also under appraisal. The commerciality of a discovery is determined after appraisal and the development plan is made thereafter. In the case of the discoveries made by M/s Cairn Energy India Pvt. Ltd., these activities are to be carried out in accordance with the provisions of the Production Sharing Contract for the block.

Benefits to Soldiers

2168. SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the facilities and benefits, besides pay, that are being given to the soldiers; and

(b) the other facilities and benefits proposed to be given to them?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) The soldiers are entitled to a number of allowances besides pay. The admissibility of the allowances, however, depends on the area/place of posting

of the individual. A list of various allowances admissible to the soldiers is enclosed as statement-I. In addition to the pay and allowances, the soldiers are given a number of facilities and benefits. A list of such facilities/benefits is enclosed as statement-II. The facilities and benefits being provided to the soldiers are reviewed from time to time if the need arises.

Statement-I

Allowances Admissible to the Soldiers

(1) Risk related allowances:

- (a) Highly Active Field Area/Field Area/Modified Field Area Allowance
- (b) Special Compensatory Counter Insurgency Allowance
- (c) Special Compensatory Remote Locality Allowance
- (d) High Altitude/Uncongenial Climate Allowance
- (e) Siachen Allowance
- (f) Special Force Allowance (Para Commando Pay)
- (g) Para Allowance (Para Pay)
- (h) Para Reservist Allowance
- (i) Free Fall Jump Instructor Allowance
- (j) Flying Allowance for Infantry Medium-Machine-Gun Gunners
- (k) Flying Allowance for Army Aviators

(2) Other Allowances:

- (a) Transport Allowance
- (b) Island Special (Duty) Allowance
- (c) Qualification Grant
- (d) Qualification Pay to Army Aviators
- (e) Outfit Allowance
- (f) Kit Maintenance Allowance
- (g) Distinctive Uniform Allowance for Military Nursing Service Officers
- (h) Technical Allowance
- (i) Instructional Allowance
- (j) Official Hospitality Grant

- (k) Specialist Allowance (Army Medical Corps/ Army Dental Corps/ Remount Veterinary Corps)
- (l) Post Graduate Allowance (Army Medical Corps/ Army Dental Corps/ Remount Veterinary Corps)
- (m) Language Award/Allowance
- (n) Children Education Allowance
- (o) Monetary Allowances for Gallantry Awards
- (p) Air Despatch Pay
- (q) Composite Hill Compensatory Allowance
- (r) Personal Maintenance Hygiene Allowance
- (s) Rum Allowance
- (t) Classification Allowance

Statement-II

Benefits/ Facilities Admissible to Soldiers

(1) Benefits under the Army Group Insurance Fund:

- (a) Insurance Cover
- (b) Disability Cover
- (c) Extended Insurance Cover
- (d) Loans for
 - (i) House Building
 - (ii) Personal Computer
 - (iii) New car and second hand car
 - (iv) Two wheelers

(2) Leave Travel Concessions facilities

(3) Conveyance / travel facilities while on permanent duty and temporary duty

(4) Canteen Stores Department facilities

(5) Free Rations / Ration Allowance in lieu of Free Rations/ Special Ration Allowance

(6) Cash Allowance in lieu of Rum and Cigarette

(7) Education

- (i) Education for Wards in the Army Schools and various professional institutions
- (ii) Education scholarships

- (iii) Reservation of seats in professional courses for the wards of soldiers
- (iv) Provision of school buses for children
- (v) Vocational training for serving soldiers
- (8) Medical facilities for soldiers and their families including specialized medical treatment and financial assistance for specialized medical treatment
- (9) **Housing**
- (i) Provision of houses by Army Welfare Housing Organisation
- (ii) Housing loans at reasonable interests
- (iii) Provision of separated family accommodation for servicemen posted to Field Areas
- (iv) Transit facilities at 'Sainik Aramgrahs'
- (10) House Rent Allowance for Officers if they are not provided Government or hired accommodation.
- (11) Compensation in lieu of quarters for Personnel Below Officers Ranks who are not provided accommodation within their authorization.
- (12) Retention of Government accommodation in case of death of soldiers.
- (13) **Welfare**
- (i) Establishment of Training Centres by Army Wives Welfare Association
- (ii) Establishment of Asha Schools
- (14) Non Monetary Field Service Concessions while serving in Operational areas.
- (15) **Miscellaneous**
- (i) Concessions to Gallantry Award Winners.
- (ii) Recreational facilities at Auditoriums
- (iii) Indoor/Outdoor games facilities.

Drought Prone Areas

2169. SHRI B. MAHTAB:

SHRI PRAKASHBAPU V. PATIL:

SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total drought prone areas in the country. State-wise;

(b) the steps taken to provide adequate relief to the farmers to combat the drought situation in these States during the last three years and till date particularly in Orissa and Maharashtra;

(c) whether any employment scheme is undertaken for the drought affected farmers in each State;

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

(e) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for proper implementation of various schemes in the drought affected areas of the country during this period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) covers an area of 74.6 million hectares spread over 972 blocks of 182 districts in 16 States. The State-wise details are given in the enclosed statement-I.

(b) Government extends financial support from National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) and supply of food grains to the drought affected States as relief measures. The details of such assistance provided to the DPAP States including Maharashtra and Orissa during the last three years are given in the enclosed statement-II.

(c) to (e) Various Rural Development Programmes interalia, have the objective of poverty alleviation and employment generation in the rural areas of the country. However, two schemes namely Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojna (SGRY) and Swarn Jayanti Swrozgar Yojana (SGSY) are being implemented specifically for the generation of wage-employment and self-employment respectively. All the programmes of rural development are vigorously monitored and evaluated for their effective implementation.

Statement-I

State-wise details of area covered under Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP)

S. No.	States	No. of Districts	No. of Blocks	DPAD area (in Million Hectares)
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	11	94	9.92
2	Bihar	6	30	0.85
3	Chhattisgarh	8	29	2.18
4	Gujarat	14	67	4.39

1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
5	Himachal Pradesh	3	10	0.33	11	Orissa	8	47	2.62
6	Jammu and Kashmir	2	22	1.47	12	Rajasthan	11	32	3.20
7	Jharkhand	14	100	3.49	13	Tamil Nadu	16	80	2.94
8	Karnataka	15	81	8.43	14	Uttaranchal	15	60	3.57
9	Madhya Pradesh	23	105	8.91	15	Uttar Pradesh	7	30	1.56
10	Maharashtra	25	149	19.45	16	West Bengal	4	36	1.16
					Total				
					182 972 74.59				

Statement-II

*State-wise details of assistance provided for droughts
of 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04*

(Amount in Rs. in Crores)

(Foodgrains in Lakh MTs)

S. No.	States	Drought of 2001-02		Drought of 2002-03		Drought of 2003-04	
		NCCF	Foodgrains	NCCF	Foodgrains	NCCF	Foodgrains
1	Andhra Pradesh	-	31.50	123.51	17.20	50.58	7.82
2	Bihar	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	Chhattisgarh	-	-	127.51	4.74	-	-
4	Gujarat	-	-	-	3.06	-	-
5	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	14.35	0.10	-	-
6	Jammu and Kashmir	-	-	-	-	-	-
7	Jharkhand	-	-	-	0.40	-	-
8	Karnataka	-	1.00	207.65	7.20	298.16	7.29
9	Madhya Pradesh	34.62	-	171.88	7.80	-	-
10	Maharashtra	-	0.80	20.00	2.32	242.79	7.00
11	Orissa	-	1.00	5.29	4.22	-	-
12	Rajasthan	-	-	889.81	32.58	-	0.14
13	Tamil Nadu	-	-	332.09	5.00	173.35	3.04
14	Uttaranchal	-	-	-	0.50	-	-
15	Uttar Pradesh	-	-	310.06	2.00	-	-
16	West Bengal	-	-	-	-	-	-

NCCF: National Calamity Contingency Fund.

[Translation]

**Inclusion of Chapter on Drug Addiction
in School Syllabus**

2170. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to include a chapter on Drug Addiction in school syllabus as published in the 'Hindustan' dated June 26, 2004;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken so far by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JEGADEESAN): (a) to (c) Students at the Secondary/Higher Secondary school level are vulnerable to slipping into drug abusing behaviour due to various stress factors, peer influence, hormonal changes etc. It is felt that educating them on the ill effects of drug abuse, through appropriate inputs in the school curricula, can help reduce the numbers succumbing to this vice. The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment as the nodal Ministry for prevention of alcoholism and substance abuse is in dialogue with the Ministry of Human Resource Development for including these inputs in the school curriculum. The Ministry also funds voluntary organizations that are running awareness programmes in the area of drug abuse prevention. These organizations cover schools and colleges under these programmes.

[English]

SGRY in Orissa

2171. SHRI ARJUN SETHI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Orissa has complied with all the required guidelines to get pending assistance under SGRY from the Union Government; and

(b) if so, the specific reasons for which the 1st instalment of Central assistance under "Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana" (SGRY) for 2004-2005 has not been released in favour of seven districts of Orissa State such as Angul, Bhadrak, Boudh, Keonjhar, Malkangiri, Nayagarh and Nuapada?

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) Some documents were required from the districts before first instalment of resources under Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana could be released to them for the current year. The same have been received now and first instalment from the Centre has been released to all the seven districts.

Rail Projects in Madhya Pradesh

2172. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR:

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT:

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of new, pending/ongoing railway projects and the present status of on-going surveys in Madhya Pradesh, Project-wise;

(b) the allocation of funds made for those projects so far, project-wise;

(c) the target date fixed for completion of these projects; and

(d) the steps taken for timely completion of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (c) A statement is attached.

(d) The works are being progressed as per availability of financial resources. A number of initiatives have been taken to mobilize other than normal budgetary resources to expedite completion of ongoing projects.

Statement

The projectwise details of new/ongoing projects in Madhya Pradesh including anticipated cost, funds provided so far, outlay proposed during 2004-05 alongwith target date for completion wherever fixed is given as under:

(Rs. in crore)

S.No.	Name of Project	Kms.	Latest anticipated cost	Outlay expected to the end of 2003-04	Outlay proposed for 2004-05	Target date for completion
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
New Line						
1.	Guna-Etawah via Shivpur-Gwalior-Bhind	348.25	423.00	329.54	31.00	Guna-Bhind completed.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2.	Lalitpur-Satna - Mahoba-Khajuraho Rewa-Singrauli	541	925.00	50.96	32.00	Not fixed.
3.	Godhra-Indore-Dewas-Maksi	316	900.00	63.99	15.00	Dewas-Maksi completed. Target for balance project not fixed.
4.	Ramganj Mandi-Bhopal	262	727.13	24.06	27.00	Not fixed.
Gauge Conversion						
5.	Jabalpur-Gondia including Balaghat-Katangi	285	511.86	109.46	38.06	Gondia-Balaghat 2004-05. Target for balance project not fixed.
6.	Neemuch-Ratlam	135.38	167.51	59.93	25.00	Likely by 2005-06.
Doubling						
7.	Bolai- Kalisindh, Kalisindh-Kisoni, Kisoni-Bercha & Maksi-Pirumroad	25.7	49.29	45.18	0.18	Completed.
8.	Kalapipal-Phanda/Maksi - Bhopal	41.5	53.00	10.15	12.62	Not fixed.
9.	Akodia-Shujalpur	13.15	31.36	0.0001	5.02	Not fixed.
10	Manikpur-Cheoki (Pft.I)	32.68	50.74	25.72	10.00	2004-05

The details of ongoing surveys in Madhya Pradesh alongwith status thereof are as under:

S.No.	Name of project	Kms.	Status (Target date for completion)
1.	Shirpur-Mhow New line	185	31.08.2004
2.	Achalpur-Murtajapur-Yavatmal and Pulgaon-Arvi	225	30.09.2004
gauge conversion			
3.	Chhindwara-Nagpur gauge conversion	150	30.09.2004
4.	Bhopal-Bina 3rd line	139	30.09.2004

New Surveys in Madhya Pradesh Included in Budget 2004-05

S.No.	Name of project	Kms.
1.	Updating survey of Ratlam-Dungarpur new line	176
2.	Updating survey of Ratlam-Mhow gauge conversion	162

Integrated Watershed Development Programme in Rural Areas

2173. SHRI SHRINIWAS DADASAHEB PATIL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) state-wise allocation of fund for setting up watersheds in rural areas in the last three Budgets and its utilisation till date;

- (b) its break up for each State;
- (c) whether most of funds were not utilised by the States;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefore, State-wise;
- (e) the area in hectares treated under the IWDP Scheme for last three years in various States of the country;

(f) whether SWOT Analysis (Strength, Weakness, Opportunities, Threats) of IWDP Scheme has been done;

(g) if so, the details thereof;

(h) whether repairs of structures created under IWDP Scheme are not repaired by the local bodies; and

(i) if so, the reasons therefore and concrete steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) to (e) The Department of Land Resources in the Ministry of Rural Development is implementing three Area Development Programmes namely the Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP), the Desert Development Programme (DDP) and the Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP) on watershed basis. DPAP and DDP are implemented in pre-identified blocks in the country and IWDP in the remaining area. Area taken up for treatment and the funds released year-wise in the projects under these programmes

to the various States during the last three years are given in the enclosed statements I, II & III. As these programmes are demand driven, there is no State-wise allocation of funds. On receipt of proposals from the States, funds are released if all required documents are received and criteria met.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) Does not arise.

(h) There is adequate provision in the guidelines for creation of a Watershed Development Fund (WDF) during the term of the project which is to be utilised for maintenance of assets created on common lands after the completion of the project. WDF is created with 10% of the cost of works executed on individual lands as contribution from the User Groups (5% from SC/ST/persons identified below poverty line), and 5% of the development cost incurred on community lands in form of contributions from all beneficiaries and user charges etc.

(i) Does not arise.

Statement-I

Statewise Release of Funds under DPAP during the period 2001-02 to 2003-04

(As on 31-3-2004)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	No. of projects sanctioned	Funds Released during the year			Total Release (Rs. in lakhs)
			2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Andhra Pradesh	744	4067.00	4854.99	4937.40	13859.39
2	Bihar	166	242.06	249.75	323.06	814.87
3	Chhattisgarh	338	700.28	1599.62	1329.11	3629.01
4	Gujarat	601	1165.31	3273.13	3363.14	7801.58
5	Himachal Pradesh	130	316.62	370.81	529.66	1217.09
6	Jammu and Kashmir	176	297.00	222.75	422.19	941.94
7	Jharkhand	537	882.13	553.50	1212.34	2647.97
8	Karnataka	693	2093.75	2265.04	3215.77	7574.56
9	Madhya Pradesh	772	4361.00	4721.01	5021.66	14103.67
10	Maharashtra	892	2009.62	1294.62	1484.30	4788.54
11	Orissa	527	970.10	901.10	1045.92	2917.12
12	Rajasthan	305	1195.13	1430.93	1979.36	4605.42
13	Tamil Nadu	365	864.88	1059.53	2401.60	4326.01

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
14	Uttar Pradesh	410	905.72	1717.85	1498.13	4121.70
15	Uttaranchal	277	510.75	376.37	473.36	1360.48
16	West Bengal	132	317.65	108.00	243.00	668.65
17	Others		52.62	1.00	20.00	73.62
	Total	7065	20951.62	25000.00	29500.00	75451.62

Statement-II*Statewise Release of Funds under DDP during the period 2001-02 to 2003-04*

(As on 31.3.2004)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	No. of projects sanctioned	Funds Released during the year			Total Release (Rs. in lakhs)
			2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	
1	Andhra Pradesh	300	999.00	1212.45	566.68	2778.13
2	Gujarat	879	2258.37	3418.13	5612.08	11288.58
3	Haryana	339	1482.92	1809.78	1920.32	5213.02
4	Himachal Pradesh	217	514.13	850.87	786.99	2151.99
5	Jammu and Kashmir	229	574.89	901.71	1127.54	2604.14
6	Karnataka	491	994.43	1412.52	2319.65	4726.60
7	Rajasthan	2068	8164.26	8893.54	9146.74	26204.54
8	Others		15.00	1.00	20.00	36.00
	Total	4523	15003.00	18500.00	21500.00	55003.00

Statement-III*Statewise Release of Funds under IWDP during the period 2001-02 to 2003-2004*

(As on 31.3.2004)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Project Area (in ha)	Project Cost (Rs. in lakhs)	Funds Released during the year			Total Releases (Rs. in lakhs)
				2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Andhra Pradesh	130785	72711.00	1319.89	1395.33	3444.82	6160.04
2	Bihar	53000	24780.00	66.00	66.00	371.25	503.25
3	Chhattisgarh	82436	34476.96	295.91	549.54	1197.26	2042.71
4	Goa	10000	1200.00			82.50	82.50
5	Gujarat	95220	51529.20	1132.29	1494.42	1733.56	4360.27
6	Haryana	41740	8713.20	214.43	206.27	388.55	809.25
7	Himachal Pradesh	90110	40426.20	1035.98	1500.73	1349.51	3886.22

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
8	Jammu and Kashmir	35567	7636.08	321.07	220.86	241.96	783.89
9	Jharkhand	39037	12242.22	77.65	41.77	272.25	391.67
10	Karnataka	106678	51197.28	793.78	1394.38	2319.84	4508.00
11	Kerala	15000	2700.00	120.64	96.20	314.75	531.59
12	Maharashtra	72275	30846.00	746.58	705.08	949.41	2401.07
13	Madhya Pradesh	155704.47	120437.80	2206.09	3089.13	2866.22	8161.44
14	Orissa	96555	47579.70	822.55	885.06	1940.11	3647.72
15	Punjab	14181	2552.58	186.61		50.66	237.27
16	Rajasthan	87362	42092.04	1040.72	772.06	2097.32	3910.10
17	Tamil Nadu	78343	41902.32	743.00	837.95	1993.50	3574.45
18	Uttar Pradesh	105546	67729.32	1223.35	1657.04	1974.33	4854.72
19	Uttaranchal	70814	19965.48	305.30	335.90	364.30	1005.50
20	West Bengal	15460	1527.60	45.00		82.50	127.50
Total		1395813	682244.98	12696.84	15247.72	24034.60	51979.16

North-Eastern States

1	Arunachal Pradesh	94471	45700.08	85.85	458.54	351.89	896.28
2	Assam	232653	186881.40	1619.93	1440.19	1729.91	4790.03
3	Manipur	82500	25500.00	327.99	642.18	313.25	1283.42
4	Meghalaya	28000	11760.00	53.37	23.68	443.65	520.70
5	Mizoram	118595	35578.50	481.91	1156.16	612.44	2250.51
6	Nagaland	138280	48354.00	1162.69	1740.56	1868.31	4771.56
7	Sikkim	30177	4701.24	371.88	184.12	268.98	824.98
8	Tripura	19423	4661.52	160.23		31.61	191.84
Total of NE		744099	363136.74	4263.85	5645.43	5620.04	15529.32
Total of IWDP		2139912	1045381.72	16960.69	20893.15	29654.64	67508.48

Centrally Protected Monuments

2174. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether many States have represented to the Union Government to declare some monuments as centrally protected monuments;

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

(c) the criteria adopted for declaration of monument as national monuments;

(d) whether Union Government has asked additional information from the State Governments in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the details of monuments declared as centrally

protected monuments during the last three years, State-wise; and

(g) the funds allocated to each State for preservation of those monuments during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) Central Government receives proposals from various quarters including State Governments for central protection of monuments.

(c) Under the provision of Section 4 of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958; ancient monuments which are of historical, archaeolo-

gical or artistic interest and which have been in existence for not less than 100 years are declared by Archaeological Survey of India as monuments of national importance through notification in the official gazette of India.

(d) and (e) A preliminary notification is issued in the official gazette of India inviting objection from concerned persons and State Government etc.

(f) The list of monuments declared as of national importance during the last 3 years upto March 2004 is enclosed as statement-I.

(g) The funds allocated to each State for preservation of monuments during the last three years is given at enclosed statement-II.

Statement-I

List of Monuments declared as of National Importance during the last three years upto 31st March 2004

Sl. No.	Name of the Monument	Locality	District	State	Year of Protection
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Apathasahaswaraswamy Temple and Gateways with Horses	Sendamangalam	Sendamangalam	Tamil Nadu	2000
2	Swarneshwara, Temple	Halshi	Belgam	Karnataka	2000
3	Ramlingeswara Temple	Halshi	Belgam	Karnataka	2000
4	Narasimha Temple	Halshi	Belgam	Karnataka	2000
5	Kamaleshwara Temple	Halshi	Belgam	Karnataka	2000
6	Mazar of Mohd. Zauq	Central	Darya Ganj	Delhi	2000
7	Fortification Wall, Chhatta Bazar, Gates, Baoli and Moat of Red Fort, Delhi	Red Fort	Central	Delhi	2002
8	City wall of Shahjahanabad (Near Darya Ganj) from Link road connecting Ansari Road and Jawahar Lal Nehru Marg to Samta Sthal (Intact Portion)	Ansari Road, Darya Ganj	North	Delhi	2002
9	Salimgarh Fort comprising the main gate on north ancient structure and the entire fortification wall	Bela Road	North	Delhi	2002
10	Currency Building	Dalhousie Square	Kolkata	West Bengal	2002
11	Asiatic Society Building	Park Street	Kolkata	West Bengal	2002

1	2	3	4	5	6
12	Maghen David Synagogue	Ward No.45	Calcutta	West Bengal	2003
13	Institute de Chandannagar Dupleix Palace	Chandan Nagar	Hooghly	West Bengal	2003
14	Beth-el-Synagogue.	Pollock Street	Kolkata	West Bengal	2003
15	Patal Bhubaneswar Cave Temple	Bhubaneshwar	Didihat Pithoragarh	Uttaranchal	2003
16	Aga Khan Palace Building	Pune	Pune	Maharashtra	2003
17	Group of monuments at Jhajjar	Jhajjar		Haryana	2003
18	Ancient excavated site containing remains of Buddhist Stupa	Kanganhalli	Gulbarga	Karnataka	2003
19	South Gate, Kella Nezamat	Lalbag	Murshidabad	West Bengal	2003
20	Immambara Kella Nezamat	Lalbag	Murshidabad	West Bengal	2003
21	White Mosque Kella Nezamat	Lalbag	Murshidabad	West Bengal	2003
22	Yellow Mosque Kella Nezamat	Lalbag	Murshidabad	West Bengal	2003
23	Tripolia Gate Kella Nezamat	Lalbag	Murshidabad	West Bengal	2003
24	Town Hall	Shivpuri	Shivpuri	Madhya Pradesh	2003
25	Excavated Remains of Buddhist Vihara and Temple at Pallavaneswaram	Melaiyur Kaveripattinam	Sirkazhi Nagapattinam	Tamil Nadu	2003
26.	Nabha House	Dara Kalan	Kurukshetra	Haryana	2003
27.	Haldighati	Dara Rajsamand Nathdwara	Khemner	Rajasthan	2003
28.	Badshahi Bagh	Dara, Rajsamand Nathdwara	Khemner	Rajasthan	2003
29.	Chetak Samadhi	Dara Rajsamand Nathdwara	Khemner	Rajasthan	2003
30.	Vivekanand Rock Memorial	Kanya Kumari	Kanya Kumari	Tamil Nadu	2003

1	2	3	4	5	6
31.	Rakta Talai	Nathdwara	Rajsamand	Rajasthan	2003
32.	Ancient Site (Kotada)	Dholavira Bachau	Bhuj	Gujarat	2003
33.	Virupaksha Temple and Bazar	Hampi, Kamalapur	Bellary	Karnataka	2003
34.	Sat Narain Bhawan	Delhi Sadhora Khurd, Dinanath Marg, Roshanara Road	New Delhi	Delhi	2003
35.	Dharmaraj Temple	Pathra	Madanapur	West Bengal	2003
36.	Temples of Bandyopadhyay Family	Pathra	Madanapur	West Bengal	2003
37.	Sitala Temples	Pathra	Madanapur	West Bengal	2003
38.	Navratna Temple Complex	Pathra	Madanapur	West Bengal	2003
39.	Prehistoric Painted rock Shelters at Chatarbhuj Nala	Bhanpura	Mandsaur	Madhya Pradesh	2003
40.	Prehistoric Painted Rock Shelters of Sita Khardi	Bhanpura	Mandsaur	Madhya Pradesh	2003
41.	Pratap Smarak, Ruined Palace of Maharana Pratap at Chavand	Sarada	Udaipur	Rajasthan	2004
42.	Mahal Known as Hawa Mahal Veerpura (Jaisamand)	Sarada	Udaipur	Rajasthan	2004
43.	Hawa Mahal known as Roothi Rani ka Mahal, Veerpura (Jaisamand)	Sarada	Udaipur	Rajasthan	2004
44.	Chanpavati Temple	Chamba	Chamba	Himachal Pradesh	2004
45.	Kapilesvara Mahadev Temple	At-hatuari, Tehsil- Kamakhyanagar	Dhenkanal	Orissa	2004
46.	Tamluk Rajbati	Padumbasan, Tamluk	Purba Medinipur	West Bengal	2004
47.	Ancient Buddhist Site, Langudi Hill	Mauza Distt. Panimuhani Fazilpur & Salipur Tehsil, Dharmshala	Jaipur	Orissa	2004
48.	Clive's House Dum Dum known as Barakothi	Dum Dum, P.O. Nagar Bazar	North 24 Parganas	West Bengal	2004
49.	26 Siva Temples	Barrakpore Khardah	North 24 Parganas	West Bengal	2004

Statement-II

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	Expenditure (Rs. lakhs)		
		2001-2002	2002-2003	2003-2004
1.	Andhra Pradesh	114.39	417.16	320.14
2.	Assam	99.58	89.49	93.88
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.80	0.39	4.14
4.	Bihar	86.48	112.21	521.65
5.	Chhattisgarh	16.70	5.75	171.00
6.	Delhi	277.14	996.75	1147.07
7.	Damn and Diu	23.61	15.69	53.92
8.	Goa	50.61	82.57	96.79
9.	Gujarat	99.59	35.36	217.39
10.	Haryana	91.85	141.00	315.30
11.	Himachal Pradesh	91.11	44.45	35.22
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	145.03	121.23	290.41
13.	Jharkhand	4.33	8.07	171.00
14.	Karnataka	476.19	1143.68	917.23
15.	Kerala	75.12	18.26	119.30
16.	Madhya Pradesh	250.51	217.11	494.14
17.	Maharashtra	828.49	408.25	610.08
18.	Manipur	1.42	0.27	1.25
19.	Meghalaya	4.94	4.44	5.91
20.	Nagaland	5.67	12.92	12.94
21.	Orissa	114.73	1021.69	273.51
22.	Pondicherry	3.30	1.63	35.11
23.	Punjab	57.92	40.14	23.19
24.	Rajasthan	235.00	240.22	840.27
25.	Sikkim	27.60	32.99	32.00
26.	Tamil Nadu	187.79	322.20	525.20
27.	Tripura	17.05	20.05	29.82
28.	Uttar Pradesh	385.13	710.64	1161.23
29.	Uttaranchal	36.52	64.13	138.83
30.	West Bengal	146.13	260.18	369.44
Total		3955.73	6499.92	9027.36

[Translation]

Reduction in Duration of Advertisements

2175. SHRI SUBHASH SURESHCHANDRA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to reduce the duration of advertisements shown during time slot of various programmes;

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) to (c) The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), which has been notified as a Regulatory for broadcasting and cable services on 9th January, 2004, has been requested to make recommendations regarding Parameters for regulating maximum time for advertisements in pay channels as well as other channels. TRAI's recommendations are awaited.

Setting up of a Tribunal for Army

2176. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a separate Tribunal for disposal of army cases;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) A proposal to establish an Armed Forces Tribunal to deal with the service matters and appeals arising out of the verdicts of the court martial concerning the three services is under active consideration of the Government. The modalities and other details are being worked out.

[English]

Setting up of Wheel and Axle Plant

2177. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has a plan to set up Wheel and Axle Plant at Parsa near Chhapra in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details alongwith the cost of the project;

(c) whether the project has been cleared by the Government;

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

(e) whether the Railways Wheel and Axle factory at Yelahankas (near Bangalore) is being fully utilized; and

(f) if not, the reasons for setting up another Wheel and Axle Plant at Parsa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) An announcement has been made in the Railway Budget speech for the year 2004-05.

(b) Consultants have been asked to give the cost estimate for making a Detailed Project Report.

(c) and (d) Do not arise at the moment.

(e) The capacity of Rail Wheel Factory (earlier known as Wheel and Axle Plant) at Yelahanka is fully utilized.

(f) Does not arise.

Port Connectivity Through Rail

2178. SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH:

SHRI BRAHMANANDA PANDA:

SHRIMATI ARCHANA NAYAK:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated plan for Port connectivity through Rail;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has a plan to construct the railway track of 82 km. long from Haridaspur-Pradeep;

(d) if so, the details thereof and funds allocated for the above project; and

(e) the time by which the above project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Prima facie port connectivity projects have been identified. The details are given in the table below:

Port	Name of Project	
Sanctioned Port/Hinterland Connectivity Works		
Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT)	Panvel-JNPT	Doubling
	Panvel-Karjat	New Line
Paradeep Port	Rajatgarh-Nargundi	Doubling
	Nargundi-Cuttack-Raghunathpur	Doubling
	Rahama-Paradeep	Doubling
	Haridaspur-Paradeep	New Line
	Banspani-Daitari	New Line
Mangalore Port.	Hassan-Mangalore	Gauge Conversion
Pipavav Port	Surendranagar-Pipavav	Gauge Conversion
Cuddalore Port	Salem-Cuddalore	Gauge Conversion
	Thanjavur-Villupuram via Cuddalore	Gauge Conversion
Kandla & Mundra	Gandhidham-Palanpur	Gauge Conversion
Haldia Port	Panskura-Haldia: Phase-I (Panskura-Rajgoda)	Doubling
Hinterland Connectivity Works		
	Hospet-Guntakal	Doubling
	Barauni-Tilrath	Doubling
	Gonda-Gorakhpur loop	Gauge Conversion
	Bhildi-Samdari	Gauge Conversion
	Katihar-Jogbani (including Katihar-Radhikapur)	Gauge Conversion
	Mansi-Saharsa	Gauge Conversion
	Jayanagar-Darbhangha-Narkatiaganj	Gauge Conversion
	Rangia-Murkongselek	Gauge Conversion
Unsanctioned Port/ Hinterland Connectivity Works		
Vallarpadam-Idapally		New Line
Hastavaram-Krishnapattnam		New Line
Surat-Hajira		New Line
Bhadrak-Dhamra		New Line
Chhatrapur-Gopalpur		New Line
Tuglakabad-Dadri ICD		New Line
Bharuch-Samni-Dahej		Gauge Conversion
Ajmer-Phulera-Ringus-Rewari		Gauge Conversion
Delhi-Rewari		Gauge Conversion

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. On Haridaspur-Paradeep Project land acquisition is in progress. The anticipated cost of the project is Rs. 301.84 crore. An outlay of Rs. 6 crore has been proposed for the project during the current year.

(e) No target date for completion has yet been fixed. However, all projects in the National Rail Vikas Yojana are planned to be completed in time frame of 5 years.

Export of Arms and Ammunitions

2179. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India had any talks with third world countries or signed any agreement with them for export of arms and ammunitions manufactured in the country;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) the export made during the last three years till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE):

(a) and (b) No, Sir. However, the Ordnance Factory Board and the Defence Public Sector Undertakings have been exporting some of their products, after meeting domestic requirements, mainly to countries in Asia and Africa.

(c) The exports by the Ordnance Factory Board and the Defence Public Sector Undertakings during the last three years are as under:

2001-2002	US \$ 33.58 Million
2002-2003	US \$ 45.22 Million
2003-2004	US \$ 93.69 Million
2004-2005	US \$ 9.97 Million

(Provisional till June 2004)

[Translation]

Import of LPG

2180. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether LPG is being imported to cater to the needs of the consumers in the country;

(b) if so, the quantum of LPG imported during the years 2002-2003 and 2003-2004;

(c) the total consumption of LPG in each of the said years in the country;

(d) the quantum of industrial and domestic consumption of LPG, separately; and

(e) the consumer price fixed by the Government for domestic and industrial consumption of LPG, separately?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The information is as under:

(Million Metric Tonnes)			
		2002-03	2003-04
1.	Import of LPG	1.073	1.708
2.	Consumption of LPG	8.351	9.307
	i) PSUs' Sales	8.143	9.091
	a) Domestic	7.737	8.790
	b) Non-domestic	0.406	0.301
	ii) Private Companies' Sales	0.208	0.216

(e) While, domestic LPG is a subsidized product, non-domestic LPG is a decontrolled product. At present, the retail selling price of domestic LPG in New Delhi is Rs 261.60 per cylinder.

Doubling of Rail Line

2181. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for doubling of the railway line between Surat and Bhusawal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the length in kilometres of the railway line since doubled so far; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to complete the remaining work at an early date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (d) On Surat-Bhusawal line, double line already exists between Surat-Udhna (4 Km) and Jalgaon-Bhusawal (25 Km) sections. A survey for doubling of the remaining section i.e. Udhna-Jalgaon (306.93 km) has also been completed in 2003-04. As per the survey report, the cost of 306.93 Km long double electrified line has been assessed as Rs. 578.84 crore with a rate of return of 6.11%. The survey report is under

finalization in consultation with Western Railway. Further decision would be taken once the results of the survey are finalized.

[English]

Railway Link

2182. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the sectoral progress made on alternative Railway link to North East via New Moynaguri to Jogighopa showing status of locational survey, land acquisition, estimated amount and actual allocation against each sector;

(b) the details of the budget provision made for the above;

(c) whether land acquisition in Assam portion is delayed; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and action contemplated to complete the remaining task including gauge conversion of Dhubri to Fakiragram?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) The anticipated cost of construction of New Moynaguri-Jogighopa (245 km) is Rs.733 crore. Final Location Survey has been completed for the entire length. An amount of Rs.33.97 crore has been spent upto 31.03.04. Part estimate of Rs.89.07 crore has been sanctioned for New Moynaguri-Mathabhanga section. Land acquisition proceedings have been taken up with State Governments of West Bengal and Assam. An amount of Rs.9.36 crore and Rs.11.48 crore have been deposited with the State Governments of West Bengal and Assam respectively towards the cost of the land. Government of West Bengal has handed over land for 17.785 kms where works have been taken up.

(b) An outlay of Rs.42 crore has been proposed in the Budget 2004-05.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise on Fakiragram-Dhubri section, gauge conversion of Fakiragram-Sapathgram has been taken up where bridge works are in progress. Earthwork and bridge works have also been taken up between Golakganj and Gauripur.

Rail Line between Delhi and Bhiwadi

2183. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the important urban areas in the National Capital Region (NCR) which have not been brought under the Railway map so far;

(b) whether the Government has a proposal to connect those township by rail line; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to construct a railway line between Delhi and Bhiwadi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Meerut to Panipat and from Khurja to Rohtak via Palwal, Bhiwadi and Rewari are yet to be connected by rail link.

(b) No, Sir. As per the survey report conducted in 1995, the estimated cost for Khurja-Palwal-Rewari-Rohtak rail link (212.6 kms) was Rs. 365 crore and Rate of Return was less than 2%. Another survey was conducted in August 1997, for construction of a new railway line between Rewari and Rohtak via Jhajjar. Rewari-Bhiwadi Rail Link also formed a part of this route. The survey report revealed that the cost of 81 km long railway line would be approx. Rs.110 crore and the project is not financially viable as the Rate of Return is negative.

(c) Rail link between Delhi and Rewari already exists. However, construction of rail link between Rewari-Bhiwadi was proposed to be undertaken under Public Partnership scheme where the Government of Rajasthan was to take initiative and seek co-operation from the Government of Haryana regarding availability of land etc. in Haryana State. However no response has been received either from Project Development Corporation of Rajasthan (PDCOR) or Govt. of Haryana. M/s. RITES in their report has indicated that the project is not commercially viable due to negative Rate of Return.

ROB under Construction

2184. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Rail Over Bridges (RoBs) which are under construction, State-wise;

(b) whether there is any financial crunch or technical constraints to complete any of the ongoing work; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) A statement containing details of Road over/Under bridges sanctioned Statewise on cost sharing basis is attached.

(b) and (c) Railways construct bridge proper i.e. bridge over the track portion and approaches by State Govt. There is no financial constraint or technical constraint for taking up Railway portion of work by Railway. Works are taken up after approval of general arrangement drawing (GAD) and estimate by State Govt. concerned.

Statement

State-wise number of Road over/under bridge works sanctioned on cost sharing basis which are at various stages planning and execution are as under:

(In thousand Rs.)

State	Work in Progress		New Works sanctioned in 2004-05		Total	
	No.	Rs.	No.	Rs.	No.	Rs.
Andhra Pradesh	49	241147	1	1100	50	242247
Assam	3	10969	0	0	3	10969
Bihar	42	430552	5	17999	47	448551
Chhattisgarh	5	43550	0	0	5	43550
Delhi	1	7825	0	0	1	7825
Gujarat	4	19600	1	1000	5	20600
Haryana	13	122873	0	0	13	122873
Jharkhand	20	222020	0	0	20	222020
Karnataka	37	240800	1	2000	38	242800
Kerala	53	136700	0	0	53	136700
Madhya Pradesh	9	87343	0	4000	9	91343
Maharashtra	21	87576	2	700	23	88276
Orissa	9	30500	0	3000	9	33500
Pondicherry	0	0	3	1300	3	1300
Punjab	28	125352	0	0	28	125352
Rajasthan	7	62957	1	4000	8	66957
Tamil Nadu	41	282300	5	2900	46	285200
Uttar Pradesh	23	131165	3	16300	26	147465
West Bengal	45	171472	1	1000	46	172472
Total	410	2454701	23	55299	433	2510000

*[Translation]***DD/AIR Programme**

2185. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL:

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:

SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:

SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work of erection of HPT/LPT TV Transmitters has gone very slow ever since Prasar Bharati has been set up by the Ministry to speed up the work streamline the functioning and also expanding its network country-wide;

(b) the total population which is still deprived of the AIR programmes in the country alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c) the justification of wastage of crores of rupee

in the name of celebrating Platinum Jubilee by AIR instead of increasing its broadcast network;

(d) If so, whether the target of making the programmes of All India Radio and Doordarshan available to cent percent population would be achieved with such slow pace of work;

(e) If so, by when the target is likely to be achieved alongwith the reasons of delay therein; and

(f) the steps being taken by the Government for achieving the target?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) After the formation of Prasar Bharati in November 97, Doordarshan have commissioned 479 additional transmitters. For further expansion of terrestrial coverage, 59 transmitter projects are presently under implementation in different parts of the country.

(b) The present Radio coverage by AIR through MW and FM Transmitters is 99.13% by population which is expected to increase to 99.49% after implementation of 10th plan schemes. In addition to MW and FM Transmitters, AIR also broadcasts through SW transmitters. Taking into account SW transmission services, 100% of the country by area and population is already covered by AIR.

(c) The celebrations of Platinum Jubilee of All India Radio were held as part of Akashvani Annual Awards in Cuttack for which no additional funds were provided.

(d) to (f) Main thrust in 10th Plan is to provide TV coverage to uncovered areas through satellite transmission in Ku-band, which is expected to commence during 2004. With the commissioning of Ku-band transmission, it would be possible for the viewers in any part of the country (except Andaman & Nicobar Islands) to receive 30 free to air TV channels with the help of a small sized dish antenna system.

[English]

Production of Ethanol

2186. SHRI SHRINIWAS DADASAHEB PATIL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government for alternative fuel development such as Ethanol Gas Hydrates etc.;

(b) whether a road map to switch over to Ethanol blending in petrol and diesel is formulated by the Inter-Ministerial task force;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether private sector is encouraged for investment in Ethanol based;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the production of Ethanol during last three years?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) The Government has inter-alia undertaken the following steps for alternative fuel development:

- Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has issued directives for sale of 5% ethanol-blended petrol in 10 sugar producing States and 3 contiguous Union Territories.
- Two pilot projects at Rewari (Haryana) and Mumbai (Maharashtra) have been launched by the Oil Marketing Companies to examine the operational, financial, environmental and other related aspects of blending of bio-diesel with diesel.
- A road map for storage, supply and distribution of hydrogen as an alternative fuel has been drawn up by the Research and Development Centre of Indian Oil Corporation Limited.
- A Steering Committee (backed by a Technical Committee) has been reconstituted during October, 2000 under National Gas Hydrate Programme with the ultimate objective of harnessing gas hydrates on a commercial scale.

(b) and (c) Blending of ethanol up to 5% with petrol has been implemented completely in the States of Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal, in 21 districts of Andhra Pradesh and in 9 districts of Tamil Nadu, and in the Union Territories of Chandigarh, Dadra Nagar and Haveli and Daman and Diu. Future road map for the ethanol blended petrol programme is dependent on assured availability of ethanol at economic prices.

No time-frame for blending ethanol with diesel has been formulated.

(d) and (e) The Sugar Development Fund Act, 1982 and Sugar Development Fund (SDF) Rules, 1983, as amended from time to time, provide for extending loans to any sugar factory, or any unit thereof for production of an hydrous alcohol or ethanol from alcohol with a view to improving viability. SDF rules do not make any distinction between cooperative sector and private sector units while processing applications from sugar factories for the production of ethanol. The Act and Rules are administered

by the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution.

(f) Ethanol is a derivative of sugarcane molasses which is decontrolled item. As such, no data are being maintained.

Use of Railway Land

2187. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large portion of land under Railways is unutilized;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has formulated any plan to utilize this land;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government has earned any revenue after commercialization of this land and total revenue earned by railways during the last three years;

(f) the total land of railway under unauthorised occupation at present; and

(g) the steps taken or being taken by the Government for maximum utilization of railway land?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (d) Railways have about 4,23,000 hectares (ha) of land out of which 20,000 ha of land is vacant, mostly in longitudinal strips along the track. The land is required by Railway for its own use.

(e) and (g) The land which is not needed for immediate use is utilised temporarily for plantation, commercial licensing for purposes directly connected with Railway working etc. Revenue earned by Railways during last 3 years is as under:

	Rs. in crore
2001-02	223.53
2002-03	91.49
2003-04	116.53 (Provisional)

(f) About 2200 ha.

Security and Identification of Passengers Luggage in Trains

2188. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has prepared any

plan for the security and identification of the luggage of passengers travelling by Rajdhani trains;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to extend this plan in other trains also;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the manner in which it will benefit the passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (e) No, Sir. No such plan is under consideration.

Overview of PMGSY

2189. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ministry of Rural Development has urged the Government to provide more funds for rural development during 2004-2005;

(b) if so, whether the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana will be increased from amount sanctioned Rs. 16029 crore for 2004-2005;

(c) whether during the period till date over 31,000 habitations have been covered comprising a length of approximately 80,000 kms;

(d) whether under PMGSY in the States all the eligible habitations with 1000 plus population have been connected in keeping with the schedule in 13 States;

(e) if so, to what extent more funds have allotted for PMGSY; and

(f) to what extent all the States, which were lagging behind, will be completed during 2004-2005?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) Ministry of Finance and Planning Commission have been addressed to provide an additionality of Rs. 2325 crore for the year 2004-05 on account of an additional cess of 50 paise per litre levied on HSD in the budget of 2003-04, and another Rs. 1500 crore for Upgradation of rural roads.

(b) The proposed budget for 2004-05 is Rs. 2468 crore.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The coverage of 1000+ populations in the

various States is dependent on the number of such unconnected habitations and the allocation of funds under the PMGSY for the States.

(e) and (f) Budget allocations for PMGSY is made on year-to-year basis by Government. Funds are released to the States depending on the progress made and expenditure incurred with reference to earlier released funds.

Kargil Conflict

2190. SHRI B. VINOD KUMAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of personnels, killed, injured and made prisoner of war by Pakistan and also those who are still missing since Kargil conflict;

(b) whether serving and retired defence officers have shown great concern over the proliferation of Kargil funds;

(c) if so, whether some people are reported to have deposited amount with the Prime Minister, Defence Authorities and also with various political leaders;

(d) if so, the total amount collected on this account from various organisations and individuals in different relief funds separately;

(e) the extent to which this amount has been utilised so far; and

(f) the number of families of deceased jawans rehabilitated so far and the compensation paid to those who were injured, become disabled and missing?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (f) The number of personnel killed, injured and made prisoner of war by Pakistan and those who are still missing since Kargil conflict are as under:

Nature of case	Army			Air Force			Total
	Officer	Junior Commissioned Officers	Other Ranks	Officer	Junior Commissioned Officer	Other Ranks	
Killed	26	23	473	03	-	02	527 @
Injured	99	84	1445	-	-	-	1628
Prisoner Of War	-	-	02	01\$	-	-	03
Missing	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	125	107	1920	04	-	02	2158

@ Includes 3 Officers and 8 Other Ranks missing, presumed killed.

\$ Officer got released later.

No instance of serving and retired defence officers who have shown concern over the proliferation of Kargil fund, has come to the notice of the Ministry.

Army has an Army Central Welfare Fund from which monetary grants are made for rehabilitation of all families of Battle Casualties including the widows and the disabled. Contributions have been received in this fund from various donors for rehabilitation of families of battle casualties including the Kargil War.

Defence Ministry is not aware, of the details of contributions received by the other agencies in the country. Different agencies who received donations during Kargil conflict are not accountable to this Ministry.

All the Next of Kins (NOKs) of 522 Army personnel

killed during OP Vijay Kargil except two cases, which are subjudice, have been paid all the financial benefits. Out of two cases that are subjudice, in one case assistance of Rs. 1.20 lakhs invested in Fixed Deposit in Regiment Centre in the name of the parents of the deceased. In other case, Army Group Insurance of Rs. 3.75 lakhs, Army Group Insurance Maturity of Rs. 1,506 and ex-gratia of Rs. 30,000 has been paid to the wife of the deceased. In addition assistance of Rs. 2 lakhs has been paid to the parents of the deceased.

A comprehensive welfare package has been provided to the next of kin of the Armed Forces personnel killed in the Kargil conflict. This includes ex-gratia lumpsum compensation of Rs. 10 lakhs; liberalized special family pension on the basis of last pay drawn by the deceased soldier and death gratuity and family gratuity as per specified

rates, as applicable. Army Group Insurance - Rs. 8 lakhs to Officers and Rs. 3.75 lakhs to Personnel Below Officer Rank.

Apart from the above, the following assistance has been provided from the National Defence Fund (NDF): Rs. 5 lakhs for dwelling unit; Rs. 1 lakh per child for education upto Rs. 2 lakhs per family; Rs. 2 lakhs for needy parents who were dependent on the deceased soldiers. An additional ex-gratia amount of Rs. 30,000/- has also been provided from the Army Central Welfare Fund.

Out of the 527 killed, Next of Kins of 359 have been given retail outlet/LPG agency and 20 widows and 30 disabled soldiers have been given employment by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission.

Dwelling Unit Grant from NDF has been provided to NOK of 520 deceased soldiers. Out of a total of 309 soldiers who were disabled, 149 have been boarded out and 160 are still retained in service. They have also been paid a suitable National Defence Fund package.

Land Occupied by Army along Indo-Pak Border

2191. SHRI CHHEWANG THUPSTAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that large chunk of agricultural land all along Indo-Pak border have been occupied by Army for operational reasons during various wars;

(b) if so, the area of land under the possession of Army at present;

(c) whether there is any proposal for handing over such land to their owners; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Approximately 4735 acres of land are still in possession of the Army at present.

(c) While most of the lands earlier occupied have been handed over to the owners, the remaining lands will be handed over after de-mining except a small area of land which will be retained for operational requirements.

(d) As stated in (c) above, a small area of land is required for operational purposes.

[Translation]

Laying of Rail Lines

2192. SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the length of rail line (in Kilometres) constructed during the last three years, State-wise, details thereof;

(b) whether any target has been fixed for laying new rail lines during the current financial year, State-wise;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the funds allocated for the construction of the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Details of new lines constructed during the last three years are as follows:

Project	Length (in Kms)	State
Yeramaras-Krishna	15	Andhra Pradesh
Dharmavaram-Penukonda	32	Andhra Pradesh
Fatuha-Islampur	42	Bihar
Duraundha-Maharajganj	5	Bihar
Sasaram-Nokha	20	Bihar
Jagdishpur-Tilaiya	10	Bihar
Una-Chararu-Takrala	16	Himachal Pradesh
Bajalta-Udhampur	40	Jammu and Kashmir
Dewas-Maksi	36	Madhya Pradesh
Panvel-Karjat	28	Maharashtra
Joruli-Keonjhar	48	Orissa
Kumarghat-Manu	21	Tripura
Katra-Faizabad	9	Uttar Pradesh
Bajkul-Kanthi-Nichanda	28	West Bengal
Gazol-Buniadpur-Balurghat	71	West Bengal
Kakdweep-Namkhana	13.26	West Bengal

(b) and (c) It is proposed to complete 273 Kms of New Lines during the year 2004-05. Details are as follows:

Project	Length (in Kms)	State
1	2	3
Amravati-Chandurbazar	44	Maharashtra
Rajgir-Natesar	18	Bihar
Nokha-Sanjauli	10	Bihar
Banka-Barahat	13	Bihar

1	2	3
Chandigarh-Morinda	45	Punjab
Kakinada-Kotipalli	44	Andhra Pradesh
Kanthi-Digha	32	West Bengal
Mahendralalnagar-Amta	12	West Bengal
Hassan-Shravanabelagola and Bangalore-Neelamangala	55	Karnataka

(d) Under Plan Head New Lines, provision of Rs. 947.1 crore has been proposed in the Budget 2004-05.

[English]

Extension of Rail Line

2193. SHRI S.P.Y. REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal for extending the existing rail line in Andhra Pradesh upto foot hills of Srisailem Hills; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) The former Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh had requested in 2003 for extension of railway line upto foot hills of Srisailem Hills within Mahabubnagar and Kurnool Districts. The suggested line between Hyderabad and Srisailem via Kalwakurthy would be about 160 kms long and would cost not less than Rs.480 cr. In view of heavy throw-forward of new line projects coupled with the severe resource constraints, the proposal could not be taken up for consideration.

[Translation]

New Rail Lines in Uttaranchal

2194. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT "BACHDA": Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has a proposal to lay new rail lines in Uttaranchal;

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon and name of the new railway tracks;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up computerised centre near the Tehsil Headquarters of Uttaranchal; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The work of construction of new rail line from Kichha to Khatima via Nanakmata, Sitarganj (57.7 kms) at an approx. cost of Rs.165.67 crore has been included in Supplementary Budget 2003-04. Final Location Survey is being taken up. An outlay of Rs. 5.37 crore has been proposed for the work in the Budget 2004-05.

(c) There is no policy to provide computerized Passenger Reservation Centres near the Tehsil Headquarters in any part of the country.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Increase in Consumption of Natural Gas

2195. SHRIMATI USHA VERMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the consumption of natural gas has increased during the last three years;

(b) if so, the figures during each of the last three years;

(c) whether the increased consumption of natural gas can increase the petroleum products surplus; and

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

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There has been a marginal increase in the consumption of natural gas during the last three years. The consumption during last three years i.e. 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04 has been about 65, 69 and 73 Million Standard Cubic Meters Per Day (MMSCMD) respectively.

(c) and (d) As the increase was marginal, there has been no significant impact on consumption of petroleum products.

[Translation]

Inclusion of Castes in SCs List:

2196. SHRI NITISH KUMAR:

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD NISHAD:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some State Governments/Union Territory Administrations including Government of Uttar Pradesh have requested to the Union Government to include some of the castes in the list of Scheduled Castes;

(b) if so, the details of requests/ proposals received alongwith names of castes in this regard during each of the last three years, till date, State/Union-Territory-wise;

(c) the present status of each request/proposal including name of castes so far included, pending for inclusion alongwith the time by which the same will be included in the list, State/Union Territory-wise;

(d) whether any initiative has been taken or is being taken by the Government to include in the list of Scheduled Castes those castes which have been mentioned in Clause 'A' of Uttar Pradesh; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JEGADEESAN): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) to (e) Out of 451 requests for modifications in the list of Scheduled Castes, 323 requests were referred to the concerned State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations including Government of Uttar Pradesh since the requests lacked ethnographic details. The caste wise names are maintainable only in such cases where the complete proposals with ethnographic information have been received from the concerned States/ Union Territory Administrations and sent to the Registrar General of India. Further, the proposals, which have been agreed to by the Registrar General of India are referred to National Commission for Scheduled Castes for their comments as per approved modalities. Accordingly 46 proposals have been referred to the Registrar General of India and 80 proposals to the National Commission for Scheduled Castes; the caste-wise details of which are given in the enclosed Statement-I. The caste-wise details of those proposals, which have been agreed to by the Registrar General of India and the National Commission for Scheduled Castes are also given in the enclosed Statement-II.

No time frame for final disposal of proposals can however be given as it requires consultation with various agencies. The names of castes, which are already included in the lists of Scheduled Castes are available in the Manual of Election Law published by the Ministry of Law and Justice.

Statement-I

(A) Proposals referred to the Registrar General of India

Sl. No.	State/ UT	Name of Community
1	2	3
2.	Madhya Pradesh	1 Kumhar
3.		2. Moghia

1	2	3
3		3 Sooth Sarathi
4		4. Arakh Khangar
5		5. Dahiya
6		6. Sakhwar
7		7. Chik
8		8. Dholi, Damami, Dom, Bareth, Nagarachi
9	Uttar Pradesh	1. Aheriya
10		2. Chik/Chikwa etc.
11	Orissa	1. Chambhar
12		2. Kesuria
13		3. Bhina, Tulabhina
14		4. Dhoba Baishnab, Rajak, Rajaka
15		5. Khadal/Khodal/Khadola
16		6. Bagia
17		7. Betra
18		8. Mehantar
19		9. Gokha Baishnab; Gokah Baishnab
20		10. Situria, Sitra
21		11. Aghera Kela, Mundapota Kela, Sinduria Kela
22		12. Jayantara Pano, Jena Pano, etc.
23		13. Adhuria Domb, Adhuria Dom
24		14. Khatia
25		15. Kuduma, Kodma, Kodamam etc.
26		16. Kandra Baishnab, Kandara Baishnab
27		17. Kalandi, Kalandi, Baishnab, Kalindi Baishanb

1	2	3
28		18. Pana Baishnab, Pano Baishanb etc.
29		19. Buna Pano, Pana Tanti
30		20. Bauri Baishnab
31	Kerala	1. Vetan
32		2. Malayan
33		3. Madiga
34		4. Perumannan
35		5. Koppalan
36		6. Wyanad Pulayan, Wyanadan Pulayan, Pulava
37		7. Ajila, Nalkadaya, Naladedeyava
38		8. Pannan
39		9. Adi Andhara
40		10. Chandala
41		11. Koosa
42		12. Nayadi
43		13. Palluvan
44		14. Pulluvan
45	West Bengal	1. Layak
46	Jharkhand	1. Tanti (Tatwa)

(B) Proposals referred to National Commission for Scheduled Castes

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	Name of Community
1	2	3
1	Chandigarh	1. Sapera
2		2. Chamar, Ravidas
3	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1. Rohit
4	NCT of Delhi	1. Dhusia
5	Gujarat	1. Meghwal Charania

1	2	3
6		2. Charania Meghwal
7		3. Meghwal Maheshwari
8		4. Maheshwari Meghwal
9	Haryana	1. Kabirpanthi Julaha
10		2. Halakhori Khakrob
11		3. Meghwal
12		4. Barwala
13	Himachal Pradesh	1. Tarkhan
14	Jammu and Kashmir	1. Chura
15		2. Gen
16		3. Mazhabi
17		4. Nadiala
18	Karnataka	1. Bovi, Kalluvaddar, Mannuvaddar, Bandivaddar
19		2. Domb, Dommara
20		3. Paradeshi Bhamta, Takari, Uchillian
21		4. Bhamta, Bhompta, Ghanti Chore as synonym of Ghanti Chores
22		5. Koravari, Kaikadi Korama Setty, Kunchikorava, Yerakala, Erakala
23		6. Koracha
24	Kerala	1. Pulluvan
25		2. Sambavan
26		3. Pulaya
27		4. Thachar (other than Carpenter)
28	Madhya Pradesh	1. Basod
29		2. Chitari, Chitar-Maharana, Chiter, Chitrakar

1	2	3
30		3. Dahiya
31		4. Sarathi
32		5. Sais
33	Maharashtra	1. Hela
34		2. Pardeshi-Chamar
35		3. Basod
36		4. Charmakar
37	Manipur	1. Chakpa
38	Orissa	1. Sapur Kela, Nalua Kela, Mundapata Kela, Sinduria Kela
39		2. Jaggili, Jagli
40		3. Bariki
41		4. Lakheri
42		5. Kummari
43		6. Patratanti
44		7. Baiti, Baoti, Chunari
45		8. Bajia
46		9. Chamara, Chamar Rohidas, Chamar Ravidas
47		10. Rajaka
48		11. Khadal, Khodal
49		12. Ghani
50	Tripura	1. Dhobi
51		2. Chamar- Rohidas, Chamar-Ravidas
52		3. Jhalo-Malo, Malla-Barman
53	Uttar Pradesh	1. Baiswar
54		2. Sanaurhiya
55	Chhattisgarh	1. Bagri, Bagdi
56		2. Banchada

1	2	3
57		3. Bargunda
58		4. Bedia
59		5. Bhanumati
60		6. Chadar
61		7. Chidar
62		8. Chitar
63		9. Dahait, Dahayat, Dahat
64		10. Dhanuk
65		11. Dhed, Dher
66		12. Dohor
67		13. Holiya
68		14. Kanjar
69		15. Khangar, Kanera, Mirdha
70		16. Kuchbandhia
71		17. Meghwal
72		18. Moghia
73		19. Muskhan
74		20. Nat, Kalbelia, Sapera, Navdigar, Kubutar
75		21. Pasi
76		22. Rujjhar
77		23. Silawat
78		24. Zamral
79		25. Deletion of Coma wrongly has been added in between Chamar and Mangan
80		26. Turi

Statement-II

(C) Proposals Agreed to By Registrar General of India and National Commission for Scheduled Castes

Sl. No.	State/UT	Name of Community
1	Madhya Pradesh	Bagri, Bagdi (Modification of existing entry)
2	Kerala	Thandan (Modification of existing entry)

Note: Year-wise details of modification in the list of Scheduled Castes are not maintained.

**Completion of Makshi-Indore-
Dewas-Godhra Project**

2197. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the amount earmarked for Makshi-Indore-Dewas-Godhra project in the last budget has been utilized;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the estimated cost of the project and time schedule fixed for completion of this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) On this project, work on Dewas-Maksi section has already been completed and the line commissioned on 31.01.2003. However, necessary clearances are yet to be obtained to take up work and to incur expenditure on the balance project which was frozen in 1992.

(d) The anticipated cost of the project is about Rs. 900 crore. On this project, work on Dewas-Maksi section has already been completed and the line commissioned. No target date has yet been fixed for completion of balance project.

**Review of Jawahar Gram
Samridhi Yojana**

2198. SHRI RAMDAS BANDU ATHAWALE:

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR DUBEY:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana was launched with objective to create village level infrastructure in the country;

(b) if so, whether any internal study and review has been done under the said scheme in the different parts of the country;

(c) if so, the findings and outcome thereof, State-wise particularly in the State of Jharkhand alongwith the impact of JGSY;

(d) whether the Employment has not been generated as expected;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to make it successful in the rural areas of Jharkhand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir. The objective of Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana (JGSY) was to create demand driven durable community infrastructure at the village level. This scheme was merged with Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) w.e.f. 25th September 2001.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Studies were conducted in various States including Jharkhand. By and large performance under JGSY was found to be satisfactory. Some of the major findings are:

(i) There was social intermediation/convergence between JGSY and other ongoing rural development programmes like Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY).

(ii) The programme was able to provide supplemental wage employment during two years of its implementation at the village level.

(iii) The need for capacity building through training of grassroots and PRI functionaries was highlighted.

(iv) Maintenance of assets created needs improvement.

(d) No physical targets were fixed under the programme.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) The programme is no longer in operation.

[English]

**Gauge Conversion from
Naupada to Gunupur**

2199. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Gauge Conversion work from Naupada to Gunupur has been pending with East Coast Railways;

(b) if so, the reasons for the delay;

(c) the present status of the project; and

(d) the time by which the above gauge conversion project is likely to be taken up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (d) The gauge conversion of Naupada-Gunupur line has already been taken up. Land acquisition is in progress. Contracts for earthwork and bridges for a length of 90 Kms. have been awarded and the work is in progress. A sum of Rs. 15.65 crore approximately has already been spent on this project till 31.03.2004 and an outlay of Rs. 15 crore has been proposed for this project in the Budget 2004-05.

**Deal between India and Iran for
Purchase of LNG**

2200. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY:

SHRI BHUVANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Iran have entered into a deal for purchase of LNG in exchange for a stake in a discovered oilfield;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the likely tonnes of LNG to be imported;

(d) whether the high price of LNG imported would be subsidized one;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the mode of providing subsidy?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed in January, 2003 between India and Islamic Republic of Iran for cooperation in Hydrocarbon Sector. Under the MoU, there is a proposal for importing Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) from Iran in exchange for a stake in a discovered oil field.

(c) Negotiations are underway to import 5 Million Metric Tons Per Annum (MTPA) LNG under the above proposal.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Fencing of LoC

2201. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY:

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the fencing of LoC has been completed;

(b) if so, the length thereof;

(c) if not, the length of LoC fenced so far; and

(d) the time by which the entire LoC is likely to be fenced?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (d) Out of 690 kms. planned, 650 kms. of fencing have already been completed. For the balance 40 kms., work is in progress, to be completed by end of September 2004.

Ban on Advertisements of Liquor

2202. SHRI MANOJ KUMAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has imposed a ban on advertisements of liquor in print and electronic media;

(b) if so, whether this ban is being violated by the liquor manufacturing companies;

(c) if so, the action proposed to be taken by the Government against such companies;

(d) whether the Government propose to ban the proxy advertisement of liquor; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) to (e) All India Radio and Doordarshan both follow their Code for commercial advertising which prohibits advertisements of liquor.

Advertisements on all satellite TV channels when transmitted/ re-transmitted through the Cable Television Network are required to adhere to the Advertising Code prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and Rules framed thereunder. The Advertising Code inter-alia prohibits advertisements, which promote directly/indirectly production, sale or consumption of cigarettes, tobacco products, wine, alcohol, liquor or other intoxicants.

Complaints/suggestions from members of the public and organizations are received from time to time regarding alleged violations of the Advertising Code. The Central Government has constituted an Inter-Ministerial Committee under Section 20 of the Act to look into violations of the Advertising Code on 22.05.2002. Cognizance of such violations of Advertising Code is also taken suo moto by the Committee. On recommendations of the Committee, TV

channels are directed not to telecast advertisements found to be violative of the Advertising Code. Since inception of the Advertising Committee, final orders directing various TV channels not to telecast 14 (fourteen) advertisements of brands of liquor have been issued.

In so far as private FM channels are concerned, licensees have to adhere to Code for Commercial Advertising of All India Radio.

Press in India is free from government control. The Press Council of India (PCI) is a statutory autonomous body set up under the Press Council Act, 1978, for the purpose of preserving the freedom of the Press and of maintaining and improving the standards of newspapers and news agencies. As per Section 13, sub section 2(c) of the Act, the Council is required to ensure on the part of newspapers, news agencies and journalists, the maintenance of high standards of public taste and foster a due sense of both the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.

Press Council of India (PCI) has framed the following norms:

"No advertisement shall be published which promotes directly or indirectly, production, sale or consumption of cigarettes, tobacco products, wine, alcohol, liquor and other intoxicants".

Freight Charges for Limestone

2203. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the railway freight charges for limestone has increased four times whereas import duty and freight charges on imported limestone have slashed down;

(b) if so, the details of the increase and decrease in this regard, year-wise;

(c) whether the Government is considering to bring the transportation of limestone under category 110 and to provide 10% exemption of freight charges; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir. Railway freight charges for imported as well as indigenous limestone are the same and have not been increased since 2002-03.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Not Sir. In the Railway Budget 2004-05 also, the freight rates for limestone have not been increased despite increase in railways' working expenses. Limestone continues to be charged at Class-120 for trainloads.

Lalitpur to Singrauli Rail Line

2204. SHRI GANESH SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether railway line from Lalitpur to Singrauli has been sanctioned and the work on this line has already been started;

(b) if so, the details thereof and progress made thereon; and

(c) the time by which the work on the railway line is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) The work of Lalitpur-Satna-Rewa-Singrauli & Mahoba-Khajuraho new broad gauge rail line has been included in the Budget 1997-98. The detailed estimate for Lalitpur-Khajuraho and Mahoba-Khajuraho sections has been sanctioned. Land acquisition is in progress. Out of 99.6 lakh cubic metre of earthwork, 14.83 lakh cubic metre has been completed, 2 major bridges out of 25, and 39 minor bridges out of 151 have been completed. The work on 20 major bridges and 28 minor bridges is in progress. The final location survey in balance length is in progress.

(c) No target has yet been fixed.

Expansion of Airport Area

2205. SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cultivable land of farmers is being acquired forcibly for expansion of airport area under Indian Airforce;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any compensation is being paid to the farmers;

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

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to provide compensation to affected farmers?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir. Land, as necessary for defence purposes is acquired in accordance with statutory provisions of Land Acquisition Act, 1894 (as amended) and J & K. Requisitioning and Acquisition of Immovable Property Act, 1968, as applicable.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (f) As and when land is acquired, the compensation is paid to the farmers under the provisions of the Acts.

[English]

Development of D-6 Gas Field in AP

2206. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any proposal to develop D-6 Gas field in Andhra Pradesh from Reliance Industries Limited;

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

(c) the name of the power plants benefited by this Gas Field;

(d) whether the Government has also fix rates for supply of Gas to such power plants;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) The development plan has been received from M/s Reliance Industries Ltd. for two out of eight gas discoveries viz. Dhirubhai-1 & 3 made in block KG-DWN-98/3.

(c) As production from discovery is yet to commence, no power plant has been benefited from the gas discovery so far.

(d) to (f) In the light of (c), question does not arise.

Smuggling of Old Statues and Artefacts

2207. SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been substantial increase in the smuggling of old statues and artefacts from various parts of India and particularly Rajasthan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government to curb and also to ensure the safety of such places of archaeological importance?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) There is no increase in the smuggling of old statues and artefacts from the centrally protected monuments. However, as reported by the Rajasthan Police, 786 antique objects have been recently seized and 25 culprits have been arrested in this connection.

To ensure the security of the old statues and artefacts, round the clock watch and ward staff, armed police guards and private security guards are deployed by the Archaeological Survey of India at the centrally protected monuments.

CAPART in Jharkhand

2208. SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR DUBEY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of projects taken up with the assistance of Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology (CAPART) in Jharkhand during Tenth Five Year Plan, year-wise;

(b) the details of achievements made thereunder;

(c) the details of financial assistance provided to Voluntary Organisations in each States through CAPART during said period, year-wise and location-wise;

(d) the names of voluntary organization whose grant has been withheld due to alleged irregularities in utilization of said grant, State-wise; and

(e) the estimated amount earmarked for CAPART during the last three years and till date for the Jharkhand?

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

Villages in U.P. Deprived of LPG

2209. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA:

SHRI RAJARAM PAL:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that a large number of villages and towns in Uttar Pradesh are deprived of LPG for cooking purpose;

(b) if so, the names of such villages and towns along with the names of LPG distributors and;

(c) the plan of Government to cover all such villages and towns for LPG supply?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) The distribution of domestic subsidized LPG is being done through the distributors of Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs). As on 1.4.2004, OMCs were operating 1015 LPG distributorships

with a customer strength of 77.88 lakhs in the State of Uttar Pradesh. The details of villages covered by these distributorships are not maintained by OMCs. However, OMCs have carried out feasibility survey of all the Blocks in the State and identified 158 viable locations exclusively under rural category for inclusion in the earlier Marketing Plans. These distributorships cover 15 KM radius from the nuclear location to cover the surrounding rural areas. It is expected that after commissioning of all these distributorships, rural areas in the State would be fairly covered for LPG distribution.

Railway Over Bridges

2210. SHRI PRAKASHBAPU V. PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to construct some railway over bridges all over the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof together with the allocation of funds during 2004-05, State-wise; and

(c) the details of railway over bridges proposed in Maharashtra during the year and the details of allocation of funds for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir. There are total 433 works of Road Over/Under Bridge sanctioned on cost sharing basis which are at various stage of planning and execution on Indian Railways. This includes 23 works included in the current year Works Programme.

(b) A statement is attached.

(c) There are 21 ongoing works of ROB's in Maharashtra. Two works of ROB's at Jogeshwari (South) and (North) in lieu of level crossing No. 24-25 & 26-27 respectively in Maharashtra have been included in the Works Programme of 2004-05. An outlay of Rs. 7 lac has been provided for both these works during the year in addition to Rs. 875.76 lac provided for 21 on-going works on cost sharing basis.

Statement

Works Programme 2004-05. Allocation of funds State-wise in Thousand

State	Work in Progress		New Works sanctioned in 2004-05		Total	
	No.	Rs.	No.	Rs.	No.	Rs.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	49	241147	1	1100	50	242247
Assam	3	10969	0	0	3	10969
Bihar	42	430552	5	17999	47	448551
Chhattisgarh	5	43550	0	0	5	43550
Delhi	1	7825	0	0	1	7825
Gujarat	4	19600	1	1000	5	20600
Haryana	13	122873	0	0	13	122873
Jharkhand	20	222020	0	0	20	222020
Karnataka	37	240800	1	2000	38	242800
Kerala	53	136700	0	0	53	136700
Madhya Pradesh	9	87343	0	4000	9	91343
Maharashtra	21	87576	2	700	23	88276
Orissa	9	30500	0	3000	9	33500
Pondicherry	0	0	3	1300	3	1300

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Punjab	28	125352	0	0	28	125352
Rajasthan	7	62957	1	4000	8	66957
Tamil Nadu	41	282300	5	2900	46	285200
Uttar Pradesh	23	131165	3	16300	26	147465
West Bengal	45	171472	1	1000	46	172472
Total	410	2454701	23	55299	433	2510000

**Transfer of Customers as per Guidelines
in Karnataka**

2211. DR. PRASANNA KUMAR PATASANI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that IOCL is not doing transfer of customers as per Government guidelines at Bylakuppe in the State of Karnataka to viable new LPG distributor; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) The process of transfer of customers from IOCL distributor to BPCL distributor is under progress. Government have advised both the oil companies to conduct an independent investigation to find out the reasons for delay in transfer of customers, and to take corrective action on priority basis, as per Government guidelines.

**Opening of New Petrol Pumps and Gas
Agencies in HP and J&K**

2212. DR. COL. (RETD.) DHANI RAM SHANDIL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to open new petrol pumps and gas agencies in various districts of Himachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) The public sector oil marketing companies, viz., Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. (IOC), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (HPC), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (BPC) and IBP Co. Ltd. (IBP) have plans to

set up the following number of retail outlet (RO) dealerships (Petrol Pumps) and LPG distributorships in various districts in the States of Himachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir:

Name of Oil Co.	Himachal Pradesh		Jammu and Kashmir	
	No. of ROs	No. of LPG	No. of ROs	No. of LPG
IOC	66	19	55	3
BPC	24	42	55	42
HPC	22	3	67	7
IBP	64	0	46	0
Total	176	64	223	52

Many of these dealerships/ distributorships are likely to be commissioned during the current year, i.e., 2004-05; however, it may be difficult to indicate the exact time-frame within which all these will be commissioned because commissioning will depend on various factors like selection of candidates, allotment of dealerships/distributorships, availability of land and other statutory approvals from the local authorities, etc.

Shortage of LPG in Hyderabad City

2213. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of LPG in Hyderabad city;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether a 600 km long pipeline to transport gas from Vishakapatnam to Hyderabad is under construction;

(d) if so, the details thereof and present position of this project;

(e) the time by which this project is likely to be completed; and

(f) the extent to which this pipeline is likely to meet the growing demand of LPG of the people of Hyderabad?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) At present, Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) are meeting the LPG demand, in full, of their customers in Hyderabad city. No shortage of LPG has been reported by any OMC.

(c) The Vizag-Secunderabad pipeline (VSPL) for transportation of LPG has been mechanically completed on 22nd June, 2003.

(d) and (e) The pipeline section from Vishakapatnam to Vijaywada has been commissioned and is under commercial operation. The pipeline section between Vijayawada and Secunderabad has been commissioned on 21st July, 2004.

(f) The pipeline has capacity to transport approximately 7,68,000 MT per annum of LPG exclusively for the city of Secunderabad/ Hyderabad.

Sanctioning of Proposals under SGRY in Maharashtra

2214. SHRI SHIVAJI ADHALRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra had submitted a number of proposals under SGRY in April, 2002;

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

(c) whether the same have been approved and sanctioned; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefore?

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 (d) The Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) is allocation based. Allocation of resources under the scheme to the States and within the States/UTs amongst the districts is done at the beginning of the financial year based On predetermined criteria. The scheme is implemented 100% by the Panchayati Raj Institutions. The cash allocation of Maharashtra for the year 2002-03 was Rs.14108.67 lakhs against which Rs.13724.74 lakhs were released.

Families Covered under Special Component Plan

2215. SHRI RUPCHAND MURMU: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of families covered under the special component plan formulated for the SCs during each of the last three years and to be covered during 2004-05, State/Union Territory-wise;

(b) the target fixed under the plan for the said period State/Union Territory-wise;

(c) whether the target fixed has been achieved; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JEGADEESAN): (a) to (d) In accordance with the Guidelines the State Governments/UT Administrations are required to prepare and implement the Special Component Plan (SCP) for the socio-economic development for Scheduled Castes as integral part of the States/UTs' Five Year and Annual plans.. The statistical data regarding the fixation of targets, implementation of the SCP is maintained by the respective State Governments/UT Administration.

[Translation]

Withdrawal of Forces from Indo-Pak Border

2216. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India has taken any decision to withdraw the forces deployed along Indo-Pak borders after the secretary level talks held between India and Pakistan;

(b) if so, whether any time limit has been fixed for the purpose;

(c) if not, whether it is being viewed as an obstacle in the way of shaping normal relations between the two countries; and

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

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The Government do not view it as an obstacle. Deployment of defence forces are a matter of sovereign right, to ensure adequate security and effective action against terrorism.

[English]

Companies dealing with LPG connection & Distribution in West Bengal

2217. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the name and the number of companies dealing with LPG connection and distribution in West Bengal;

(b) the number of distributors/ dealers appointed by each company;

(c) the name of such distributors/ dealers;

(d) whether the Government has a proposal to increase the LPG connections in that State; and

(e) if so, the target set for 2004-2005?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) At present, four Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) namely; Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) and IBP Company Limited (IBP) are distributing LPG connections to the consumers in West Bengal.

(b) and (c) As on 1.4.2004, OMCs were operating 426 LPG distributorships in the State of West Bengal. The names of LPG distributorships are available with Directors (Marketing) of the OMCs.

(d) and (e) At present, LPG connections are available on demand in the country including the State of West Bengal. Further, OMCs have also been given freedom to set up LPG distributorships in various parts of the country, including rural areas, based on the potential of the locations and their commercial viability.

Status of Importing Liquid Natural Gas from Iran

2218. SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal for importing Liquid Natural Gas from Iran; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed in January, 2003 between India and Islamic Republic of Iran for cooperation in the Hydrocarbon Sector. There is a proposal for importing 5 Million Metric Tons Per Annum (MMTPA) Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) from Iran in exchange for a stake in a discovered oil field.

Connectivities of Hajira Port

2219. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has a plan to connect the Hajira Port to its hinterland;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has also a plan to extend the siding track of Kribhco upto Hajjira; and

(d) if so, the time by which the work is likely to be taken up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) The proposed connection to Hajira Port is a part of National Rail Vikas Yojana.

(c) As per the techno-economic feasibility survey, the new line is proposed parallel to the existing KRIBHCO siding.

(d) The construction will be taken up on completion of the project development, agreement of strategic partners in financial participation and sanction of the project. At present, the project development is in progress.

Electrification of Khargpur and Bhubaneswar Section

2220. SHRI ARJUN SETHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the electrification of Khargpur and Bhubaneswar section of East Coast and South-Eastern Railway has not yet been completed in spite of the revision of time schedules more than once; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Electrification work on Khargpur-Bhubaneswar section is in progress and is targeted for completion by March, 2005.

Progress Made in the Refinery at Bina, Madhya Pradesh

2221. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in response of refinery at Bina in Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to expedite the establishment of that Refinery?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) The refinery project at Bina has three

components (i) six million metric tonnes per annum refinery at Bina (ii) crude oil import facilities at Vadinar (Gujarat) and (iii) cross country crude oil pipeline from Vadinar to Bina. Land for the refinery block at Bina and for the crude oil terminal at Vadinar has been acquired. Acquisition of right of user/ right of way along the route of the crude oil pipeline has been completed. All environmental clearances for the project have also been obtained. An expenditure of Rs.156 crore (approx.) has so far been incurred on the project. Physical progress of the project is 5.3%.

(b) In order to meet the changed demand-supply scenario of petroleum products and conformance to upgraded product quality specifications, a proposal to carry out process configuration review study is under finalisation. Further, in order to ensure the financial viability of the project, State Government of Madhya Pradesh is being requested to give certain tax incentives on the lines of similar incentives granted by other State Governments to grassroots refinery projects in their respective States.

Oil Refinery at Paradeep Port in Orissa

2222. SHRIMATI ARCHANA NAYAK:

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY:

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the proposed Paradip Oil Refinery Plant in Orissa;

(b) whether the Government has decided to start the construction work of the plant without any further delay;

(c) the estimated cost of the plant; and

(d) the time by which the production from this plant is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (d) A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between Government of Orissa and Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) on 16.2.2004 according to which IOCL will initiate all necessary steps to complete the construction of the refinery by the year 2009-10. However, if market conditions in the country favour higher levels of domestic sale of products from the refinery as compared to earlier estimates, IOCL will endeavour to complete the project by 2008-09. The estimated cost of the project based on October, 2002 prices is Rs. 7,500 crore.

Reconstruction of CCI

2223. SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA:

SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH:

SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

SHRI S.D. MANDLIK:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether repeated attempts to privatize Cement Corporation of India (CCI) has come to naught with no bids being received for the company's cement plants;

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

(c) whether the Government is considering reconstruction of these cement plants;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the other corrective measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) Pursuant to directions of Hon'ble Board for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction (BIFR), bids were invited, by the Operating Agency (IFCI) for sale of CCI units individually or collectively or company as a whole for all the ten plants of CCI but only two financial bids were received for Rajban plant on 15.1.2004.

(c) to (e) CCI is under reference to BIFR since April 1995 and has been declared sick in 1996. Process of sale of CCI units is going on under the aegis of BIFR. Decisions regarding CCI will be taken after the final decision of BIFR is received.

Abolition of Luxury Tax on Oil

2224. SHRI TUKARAM GANGADHAR GADAKH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to abolish luxury tax on oil for the users of two wheelers and four wheelers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) No luxury tax is being levied on Petroleum Products.

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

[Translation]

Railway Projects of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh

2225. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN:

SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE:

SHRI PRADEEP GANDHI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several rail projects of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh have not yet been completed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the new projects to be started in the Tenth Five Year Plan indicating amount to be spent on each of the above project and the time schedule of their completion;

(d) the various steps to be taken by the Government to complete these projects as per time schedule;

(e) whether land acquisition process for Daltirajhara Jagdalpur (Bastar) railway line has been started; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The project-wise progress along with the target dates, wherever fixed, expenditure incurred up to 31/03/2004 and budget allocation proposed during 2004-05 for various on-going New Line, Gauge Conversion, and Doubling projects passing fully or partly through Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh are as given under:

S. No.	Name of the Project	Present Status	Anticipated Cost (Rs. in crore)	Expenditure incurred up to 31/03/2004 (Rs. in crore)	Budget allocation proposed during 2004-05 (Rs. in crore)
1	2	3	4	5	6
New Line					
1.	Guna-Etawah via Shivpur-Gwalior-Bhind (348.25 Km)	Guna-Bhind has been completed. Earthwork & bridgeworks are in progress on Bhind-Etawa (36 Km).	423.00	329.54	31.00
2.	Lalitpur-Satna, Rewa-Singrauli & Mahoba-Khajuraho (541 Km)	Work is being taken up in phases. Final Location Survey for Lalitpur-Khajuraho (167.5 Km) & Mahoba-Khajuraho (65 Km) has been completed and land acquisition is under process. Earthwork & bridge works have been taken up. Final Location Survey for Khajuraho-Satna (116 Km) & Rewa-Singrauli (191.6 Km) is in progress.	925.00	29.33	32.00
3.	Godhra-Indore via Dahod, Sardarpur, Dhar & Dewas-Maksi (316Km)	Dewas-Maksi (36 Km) has been completed. Work on Godhra-Indore is to be taken up in consultation with the Planning Commission.	900.00	58.10	15.00
4.	Ramganj Mandi-Bhopal (262 Km)	Final Location Survey has been completed. Work between Ramganj Mandi-Jhalawar (25.72 Km) has been taken up.	727.13	6.72	27.00
5.	Dallirajhara-Jagdalpur (235 Km)	The first phase of this railway line, viz., from Dallirajhara to Rowghat, is to be constructed entirely at the cost of M/s Steel Authority of India	369.00	0.43	0.01

1	2	3	4	5	6
		Ltd (SAIL) who have not yet deposited the cost of this part project with the Railways, for want of the requisite forestry clearance. Ministry of Environment and Forests (MOEF) has recently accorded 'in-principle' approval for diversion of required forestland for this leg.			
6.	Bishrampur-Ambikapur (19.88 Km)	All land except the forestland has been acquired and transfer of forestland is in progress. Earthwork and bridgework are in progress	80.33	28.49	20.00
Gauge Conversion					
1.	Jabalpur-Gondia incl. Balaghat-Katangi (285 Km)	Earthwork, bridge works and track linking on Gondia-Balaghat section are in progress. The section is targeted for completion during 2004-05. The work on 12-km detoured alignment from Jabalpur end as well as the work of bridges on Balaghat-Katangi and Balaghat-Nainpur sections has also been taken up.	511.86	109.81	38.06
2.	Neemuch-Ratlam (135.38 Km)	Eartwork & bridgeworks are in progress. The work is likely to be completed during 2005-06.	167.51	55.44	25.00
Doubling					
1.	Kalapipal-Phanda/Maksi-Bhopal (41.49 Km)	Land acquisition has been started. Earthwork & bridgeworks have been taken up.	53.00	6.63	12.62
2.	Akodia-Mohammad Khera-Shujalpur (13.15 Km)	Included as new work in the Budget 2003-04. Preparation of plans & estimates has been taken up.	31.36	0.00	5.02
3.	Manikpur-Cheoki (Phase-I) (32.68 Km)	Earthwork, bridgework & ballast supply are in progress. Tender for track-linking is under finalization. The work is targeted for completion during 2004-05	50.74	25.72	10.00
4.	Korba-Gevra Road (8 Km)	Gevra Road-Kusumunda (3 Km) has been completed and commissioned. Work is in progress between Kusumunda-Korba	46.80	29.72	13.23
5.	Bilaspur-Urkura (3rd Line) (110 Km)	Bilaspur-Dagori is targeted for completion during 2004-05. Between Dagori-Bhatapara, mid-section track linking between Nipania-Bhatapara has almost been completed. Bhatapara-Urkura is being implemented by Rail Vikas Nigam Ltd. (RVNL).	249.86	105.90	72.00

(c) to (f) Out of the above, the work on Dallirajahara-Jagdarpur (235 Km) new line and Akodia-Mohammad Khera-Shujalpur (13.15 Km) doubling projects is yet to be started.

The first phase of Dallirajaijara-Jagdarpur new line, viz., from Dallirajahara to Rowghat, is to be constructed entirely at the cost of M/s Steel Authority of India Ltd (SAIL). SAIL has not yet deposited the cost of this part-project with the Railway for want of the requisite forestry clearance. However, Ministry of Environment and Forest (MOEF) has recently accorded 'in-principle' approval for diversion of the necessary forest land for Dallirajahara-Jagdarpur segment. The work would be taken up as soon as SAIL deposits the money with the Railways and the State Government hands over the possession of the requisite land.

Other new works which shall be included in Railways Works Programme during 10th Plan shall be decided at appropriate time.

Doubling of Akodia-Mohammad Khera-Shujalpur (13.15 Km) has been included as a new work in the Railway Budget 2003-04. Preparation of plans & estimates has been taken up.

[English]

LPG Gas Agencies to Women Self Help Groups

2226. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has a proposal to allot new Liquefied Petroleum Gas agencies to the women self help groups;

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

(c) the date from which such LPG agencies are proposed to be allotted to the women self help groups?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) At present, there is no scheme to allot LPG gas agencies directly to women self help groups by Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs).

Accumulation of Obsolete Spare Parts

2227. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the obsolete spare parts worth crores of rupees are accumulated in the three wings of Defence Forces;

(b) if so, details of such spare parts, their estimated cost, origin and year of procurement; and

(c) the quantum of obsolete spare parts auctioned during 2003-2004 and 2004-2005 so far and amount derived out of the sale of these spare parts?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The spare parts of various types, origin and vintage have been accumulated. The details of obsolete spare parts, their estimated cost, origin and year of procurement are not readily available.

(c) A total amount of Rs. 6.61 crores was derived out of the sale of 3289 items during the year 2003-2004. The figures for 2004-2005 so far, are not available at this stage.

[Translation]

Profit and Loss of Oil Refinery Companies

2228. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

SHRI NITISH KUMAR:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether consequent upon decrease/increase in crude oil prices in the international market, the quantum of profit and loss of oil refinery companies has been assessed;

(b) if not, the facts thereof;

(c) quarter-wise details of decrease/increase in the profit/ loss of oil refinery companies during the year 2002-03 and 2003-04;

(d) the details of steps taken/ to be taken by the Government for making these companies profitable?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (d) The details of quarter-wise Profit after tax of IOC, BPCL and HPCL, integrated oil refining and marketing PSUs, for the years 2002-03 and 2003-04 are given in the enclosed statement.

These companies are Navratna PSUs. In a decontrolled scenario, they take decisions as per their commercial considerations. The steps taken by them to improve their profitability, inter alia, include increase in refinery throughput, reduction in energy consumption, reduction in costs, etc.

Statement

(Rs./Crore)

Quarter	IOC		BPCL		HPCL	
	2003-04	2002-03	2003-04	2002-03	2003-04	2002-03
April-June	944.67	624.99	319.27	245.02	157.34	116.62
July-September	1806.77	2513.69	477.11	324.60	443.84	456.00
October-December	2403.44	776.56	484.29	233.01	775.71	330.62
January-March	1849.94	2199.65	413.90	447.40	527.05	634.12
Total	7004.82	6114.89	1694.57	1250.03	1903.94	1537.36

[English]

Watershed Development
Programmes in Orissa

2229. SHRI B. MAHTAB: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects/proposals under Watershed Development Programmes received by the Union Government from Government of Orissa during last three years and till date, district-wise;

(b) the number of proposals sanctioned so far, district-wise;

(c) the time by which the remaining proposals are likely to be cleared; and

(d) the amount of funds allocated and utilised so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) to (c) The Department of Land Resources in the Ministry of Rural Development is implementing the Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) and the Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP) in Orissa. DPAP is implemented in pre-identified blocks only. District-wise number of Projects sanctioned under DPAP over the past three years in Orissa are given in Statement-I. The districts and the number of new projects sanctioned in the last three years under IWDP in Orissa are given in Statement-II.

(d) These programmes are demand driven, and funds are released to the State if all required documents are received and criteria met. District-wise funds released so far under DPAP and IWDP are given in Statement-I & II.

Statement-I

Pre-identified districts under DPAP in Orissa

Sl. No.	Districts	Number of Projects sanctioned during the last three years (2001-02 to 2003-04)	Funds released from 2001-02 till date (Rs. in lakhs)
1	Bargarh	54	381.7000
2	Bolangir	96	499.2200
3	Boudh	25	124.1150
4	Dhenkanal	21	93.1500
5	Kalahandi	120	743.9455
6	Naupada	55	424.3895
7	Phulbani	130	459.0000
8	Sonepur	26	191.6075
Total		527	2917.1275

Statement-II

IWDP sanctioned projects in Orissa

Sl. No.	Districts	Number of Projects sanctioned during the last three years (2001-02 to 2003-04)	Funds released from 2001-02 till date (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4
1	Balasore	1	89.45
2	Cuttack	1	124.55

1	2	3	4
3	Deogarh	1	113.04
4	Gajapathy	1	57.28
5	Ganjam	1	125.95
6	Kalahandi	1	57.75
7	Keonjhar	1	49.20
8	Khurda	1	63.26
9	Koraput	1	41.25
10	Malkangiri	1	41.25
11	Mayurbhanj	1	49.50
12	Navarangpur	2	199.65
13	Rayagada	1	41.25
14	Sambalpur	1	193.01
15	Sundergarh	1	41.25
Total		16	1287.64

FM Radio Station

2230. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government intend to review the policy with regards to FM radio stations in the country;

(b) if so, whether the new guidelines has been decided;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the number of private FM radio stations are functioning in the country at present; and

(e) the number of towns/cities are selected for allowing private FM radio stations in the country particularly in Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) to (c) Government had constituted committee on 24.7.2003 under the chairmanship of Dr. Amit Mitra, Secretary General, FICCI, to make recommendations of FM Broadcasting for phase-II. The Committee submitted its reports to the governments in November, 2003, which is available on Ministries web site ([http:// www.mib.nic.in](http://www.mib.nic.in)). The report, alongwith comments received from general public thereon, has been referred to TRAI for their recommendations, which are awaited.

(d) 21 Private FM Radio stations are currently operational.

(e) 40 cities were selected for private FM Radio Broadcasting in phase-I which includes Thiruvananthapuram and Kochin in Kerala.

[Translation]

Requirement of Coaches

2231. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of various types of railway coaches required every year by the railways;

(b) whether the demand of the railway coaches are not met by our factories and coaches are required to be imported from foreign countries;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the passenger coaches are exported by the Government; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) During the last three years, the Railways have yearly acquired nearly 40 types of coaches.

(b) and (c) The present capacity available in the two coach factories of Indian Railways i.e. Integral Coach Factory (ICF), Chennai and Rail Coach Factory (RCF), Kapurthala, supplemented by two coach factories in public sector i.e. M/s Jessops & Co., Kolkata and M/s Bharat Earth Movers Limited, Bangalore, is more than sufficient to meet the requirement of Indian Railways. There is, therefore, no import of coaches on account of shortage in capacity.

(d) Yes, Sir. M/s Rail India Technical & Economic Services (RITES) and M/s Indian Railway Construction Limited (IRCON), the two public sector undertakings under Ministry of Railways are nominated to export the rolling stock & spares manufactured by Indian Railways.

(e) The details of export of coaches and coach spares, manufactured by the two Indian Railway Coach Factories, during last 10 years are as under.

ICE

Year	Number of coaches/ coach spares	Country to whom exported
1994-95	15 Metre Gauge coaches	Vietnam
1997-98	27 Metre Gauge coaches	Tanzania

RCF

Year	Number of coaches/ coach spares	Country to whom exported
2000-01	72 Nos. Metre Gauge Bogies	Vietnam

[English]

Military Ties with USA

2232. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL:

SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether USA has shown its keenness on continuing close military ties with India;

(b) if so, whether USA has offered missile defence and defence related technology and has proposed combined military exercises;

(c) if so, the response of the Government thereto;

(d) whether the Government has since finalized their policy in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) The US has shown keenness to continue military relations between the US and the Indian Armed Forces in the mutual interest. This was reiterated during the 6th meeting of the US-India Defence Policy Group held in India on June 1-2, 2004.

(b) The US and India have had a dialogue on missile defence that has included briefings on the US Ballistic Missile Defence Programme. No specific offer for supply of missile defence technology was made nor sought. Combined military exercises are an integral aspect of India-US military-to-military relations. Enhanced access to defence related technology is a nascent area of US-India defence relations.

(c) to (f) There are no specific proposals to which the government has responded as yet. The government seeks closer engagement and relations with the US, including in the area of defence, within the parameters of an independent policy in keeping with past traditions. Specific proposals will be considered on their merits and in the national interest.

New Rail Lines from Cuddapah to Bangalore

2233. DR. M. JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for new Railway lines from Cuddapah to Bangalore via Madanapalli, Bhadrachalem; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Government of Andhra Pradesh has recently requested for taking up construction of new rail line from Cuddapah to Bangalore via Madanapalli. Bhadrachalam is not covered in the demand and it also does not fall on the proposed alignment.

(b) An updating survey for Cuddapah-Bangalore via Madanapalli new rail line has been included in the Budget 2004-05.

Economic Growth of Rural Clusters

2234. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is in favour of a proposal envisaged development of the economic growth clusters in rural areas for faster economic growth in the next five years;

(b) if so, whether Government had already approved concept of sharing growth clusters and 5000 rural clusters had been identified for the purpose;

(c) if so, the time by which the final decision for these proposals are to be taken;

(d) whether rural areas have been selected for faster growth; and

(e) if so, the details of the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) The proposal has been discussed at various levels, but it has not yet been finalized.

[Translation]

Utilisation of Funds

2235. SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN:

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds allocated to the defence during each of last three years and the amount out of that spent during the said period;

(b) the reasons for not utilizing the allocated funds; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to utilize the allocated funds within the financial year?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) The details of funds allocated to the Defence services, and the amount spent there against during, each of the last three years are as under:

(Rs. in crores)

	Net Budget Estimates	Actual Expenditure
2001-2002	62000.00	54265.73
2002-2003	65000.00	555661.83
2003-2004	65300.00	60030.51*

*Provisional, accounts not yet closed.

(b) The reasons for not utilizing the allocated funds are given in the Appropriation Accounts (Defence Services) for the respective years, laid on the Table of the House.

(c) In order to fully utilize the allocated funds, the status of various procurement processes and the progress of defence expenditure are kept under constant review and

follow up action, as necessary, is taken. A new procurement organization has also been established to deal with acquisition on capital account for the Defence services.

Utilisation of allotted amount by Uttaranchal under PMGSY

2236. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA': Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated so far to Uttaranchal State under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana;

(b) the year-wise details of the amount utilised by the State Government out of the amount allocated by the centre for the said purpose;

(c) the number of proposals received for new approval under the scheme; and

(d) the details about the roads constructed under the said scheme during the last three years?

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 (d) Under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, funds are released to the States Phase-wise. Details of the funds released to Uttaranchal during the last three years and the utilisation reported by the State are as under:

Year	Amount Released (Rs. in Crore)	Number of Road works approved	Amount utilised (Rs.in crore) Upto May, 2004	Number of road works completed
2000-01 (Phase-I)	60.63	69	54.11	65
2001-03 (Phase-II)	140.41	92	43.74	31
2003-04* (Phase-III)	0	52	0	0

*Proposals amounting to Rs. 59.53 crore were cleared. However, no funds were released, as the State had funds in hand.

Ticketless Travellers in Trains

2237. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of passenger caught travelling without ticket in trains and the estimated loss suffered by the Railway due to this during 2003-04 and the current year till date, zone-wise;

(b) the amount recovered therefrom during the said period, zone-wise; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government to check ticketless travelling in trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) The number of persons caught travelling without/with improper tickets and amount of railway dues recovered from them during the year 2003-04 and the current year (upto May, 2004) is given in the statement attached. The amount of loss suffered due to ticketless travel is not quantifiable.

(c) Apart from routine checks, special drives are conducted regularly against ticketless travel in association with the Railway Magistrates, Railway Protection Force and Government Railway Police personnel. The persons so apprehended are dealt with as per the provisions of law. In addition, with a view to discouraging the ticketless/irregular travel, the minimum penalty has been increased from Rs. 50/- to Rs. 250/-.

Statement

Railway	No. of passengers caught travelling without/with irregular ticket in trains (in lakhs)	Amount of railway dues recovered (Rs. in crore)
	April, 2003 to May, 2004	April, 2003 to May, 2004
Central	16.17	28.19
Eastern	14.07	10.88
East Central	11.79	14.08
East Coast	3.00	4.04
Northern	44.26	49.45
North Central	16.75	27.33
North Eastern	8.31	12.85
Northeast Frontier	3.52	6.68
North Western	5.45	7.15
Southern	6.27	9.08
South Central	15.04	22.82
South Eastern	4.76	6.23
South East Central	4.71	5.27
South Western	2.50	4.49
Western	20.59	28.22
West Central	5.97	9.98
Total	183.16	246.74

Implementation of Rural Development Schemes through District Level Units

2238. SHRI NITISH KUMAR:

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to entrust the responsibility of implementation of the centrally sponsored rural development schemes to the district level units;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has selected some institutes at district level for implementation of the said schemes;

(d) if so, the names of such institutes;

(e) whether the Government would also address the local district level problems through these schemes; and

(f) 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) and (b) The Ministry of Rural Development releases the funds to implement the major Rural Development Programmes directly to the District Rural Development Agencies (DRDAs)/Zilla Parishads, and the implementing agencies. The procedure has been evolved in consultations with the State Governments, based on the experience of the Ministry in programme implementation and in consonance with the principles of decentralization as enshrined in the Constitution. The procedure is expected to accelerate the pace of implementation.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. The Ministry addresses the local district level problems, concerning rural areas through the implementation of various Rural Development Programmes. Under the decentralized a system of Panchayat Raj Institutions, District Planning Committees are also set up to addresses the local level problems.

Tokenless System with Route Relay Interlock in Indore Devas-Ujjain Section

2239. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal/scheme seeking to provide tokenless system with Route Relay Interlock in the Indore-Devas-Ujjain section is under consideration of the Government; and

(b) if so, the time by which the work of Route Relay Inter locking are likely to be completed and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) On Indore-Devas-Ujjain Section, there are eight stations, out of which one station (Indore) is being provided with Route Relay Interlocking (RRI) and the remaining seven stations are being provided with Panel Interlocking (PI) as these stations are smaller in size. Work of Block Proving by Axle Counter (tokenless block working) will also be carried out with PI & RRI works.

(b) Work of panel interlocking at six stations, viz. Mangaliyagaon, Beriai, Dewas, Naranjipur, Karchha & Vikramnagar has been completed. Work at other stations viz. Laxmibainagar and Indore is likely to be completed by March, 2005. Block Proving by Axle Counter (Tokenless block system) on this section is also likely to be provided by March, 2005.

[English]

Procurement of Defence Equipments

2240. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals on defence equipments that were cleared by the defence procurement Board since its institution and the number out of them have not yet been executed; and

(b) the reasons for remaining these proposals unmaterialised?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Seventy-five proposals for procurement of defence equipments were cleared by the Defence Procurement Board since its institution. Fifty-one contracts have since been concluded. Remaining twenty-four cases are at various stages of processing.

[Translation]

Control on Expansion of Desert Areas

2241. SHRI RAMDAS BANDU ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of States in the country where desert areas are expanding;

(b) the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to control the expansion of desert in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) to (c) Desertification is a land degradation process due to extreme climatic conditions, inappropriate management practices and socio-economic conditions. Studies conducted by

Department of Space indicate the process of desertification in pockets of Rajasthan, Gujarat, Punjab, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh. Assessment of intensity of desertification requires detailed assessment of various climatic, land water & socio-economic parameters. No such studies have been conducted so far. To check the process of desertification, Ministry of Rural Development & Ministry of Agriculture have initiated programmes such as Desert Development Programme, Drought Prone Areas Programme, Integrated Wastelands Development Programme, National Watershed Development Programme in Rain Fed areas etc. and National Afforestation Programme of Ministry of Environment and Forests in degraded forest land.

[English]

International Guarantee for Gas Pipelines passing through Pakistan

2242. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR:
SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH:
SHRI S.D. MANDLIK:
SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA:
SHRIMATI MINATI SEN:
SHRI ABDULLAKUTTY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has a proposal to lay a gas pipeline between India and Iran;

(b) whether Pakistan has agreed to provide international guarantee for a gas pipeline destined for India from Iran passing through Pakistan;

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

(d) the estimated expenditure involved for the said pipeline;

(e) the time by which the project is likely to be completed; and

(f) the percentage of gas likely to be received through this pipeline for consumption?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) Government have had under consideration for several years alternative options for supply of Iranian gas to India, including laying a natural gas pipeline between Iran and India.

(b) and (c) Pakistan has from time to time, expressed

its support for the proposal of an Iran-Pakistan-India overland gas pipeline and its willingness to address India's concerns regarding security of supply. Pakistan has also indicated its willingness to hold talks in this regard.

(d) to (f) Details of the project have not been worked out.

Upgradation of Quality of Petrol

2243. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether various oil companies have upgraded the quality of Petrol and Diesel to Euro-III norms;

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

(c) the details of the expenditure involved in revamping the existing processing units to Euro-III norms, company-wise; and

(d) the time by which such upgradation is likely to be completed, company-wise?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. In line with the road map laid down in the Auto Fuel Policy, the Oil Public Sector Undertakings (PSU) are implementing quality upgradation projects to supply Euro-III equivalent fuel in metros/identified cities by April, 2005 and in rest of the country by April 2010. The schedule for introduction of Euro-III equivalent norms in the entire country from 1.4.2010 is subject to review in the year 2006 after the introduction of Bharat Stage-II norms in the entire country and Euro-III equivalent norms in identified cities with effect from 1.4.2005. The details of expenditure involved in the above upgradation projects along with the expected time of completion of the projects is given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Name of the Company	Expenditure involved for upgradation to Euro-III (Rs. Crore)	Expected time of completion of projects
Phase-I (For supply of Euro-III to identified cities)		
Scheduled for April, 2005		
Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL)	5551	March, 2005
Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL)	1941	October, 2004-January, 2005
Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL)	1152	April, 2005-May, 2006
Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited (CPCL)	1157	October, 2004
Phase-II (For supply of Euro-III to entire country)		
Scheduled for April, 2010		
Mangalore Refinery & Petrochemicals Limited (MRPL)	400	February, 2006
Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL)	4412	2009-10
Kochi Refinery Limited	2080	2009-10
Numaligarh Refinery Limited	296.86	2005-06
Bongaigaon Refinery and Petrochemical Limited (BRPL)	805	2009-10

Restructure of Hindustan Cable Factory

2244. SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of Hindustan Cable Factory at Rupnarayanpur in West Bengal;

(b) whether the Government intend to restructure the factory; and

(c) if so, the measures have been taken for its restructuring, particularly, in the context of dislocated employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF

HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) There has been no production in Rupnarayanpur (West Bengal) unit of Hindustan Cables Ltd. (HCL) since February 2004 due to non-availability of working capital.

(b) and (c) BIFR had appointed State Bank of India as Operating Agency (OA) to explore the possibility of restructuring and revival of HCL. The OA had proposed a Rehabilitation Package for HCL which included a fresh equity infusion of Rs.933 crore and reliefs, waivers and other concessions amounting to Rs.483 crore. The Rehabilitation Package was examined in the Department of Heavy Industry and it was prima-facie felt that the proposal was not viable, as even after infusion of such a large amount of equity the long term viability and sustainability of the company was not assured. However, Department of Telecommunication has been requested to consider the possibility of a merger of HCL with BSNL. As the company is not in a position to pay even the dues of employees from its own resources, the Government of India released non plan support of Rs.13.76 crore in March 2004 for payment of salary and wages of the employees. The Counselling, Retraining, Redeployment (CRR) Scheme of the Department of Public Enterprises is available to employees seeking VRS or those who are separated.

Folklore Academy

2245. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Folklore academy is functioning in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government of Kerala has sent a proposal to set up such an academy in the State; and
- (d) if so, the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, some of the autonomous organisations of the Ministry of Culture like Sangeet Natak Akademi, Sahitya Akademi, Zonal Culture Centres, Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sanghralaya etc. are already engaged in preservation and documentation of Folklore. Similarly, some well established non-Governmental organisations like National Folklore Support Centre, Chennai, Rupayan Sansthan, Jodhpur are also doing excellent work in this field.

- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Transfer of Technology for Manufacturing of Sukhoi-30 MK-I

2246. SHRI SUBHASH SURESHCHANDRA DESHMUKH:

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any agreement for transfer of technology for manufacturing of Sukhoi-30 MK-I was signed between India and Russia;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the amount the India is likely to pay to Russia as per this agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Agreement envisages licensed production of SU 30 MK-I aircraft along with engines and sets of aggregates. The Russian side will provide for supply of licence technical documents, specific non-standardised equipment and toolings, technical assistance, deputation of Russian Specialists to India, training of Indian engineers in Russia and supply of technical kits in different stages of production.

(c) The Government accorded sanction to the licensed Manufacture of SU-30 MK-I aircraft, its engine and accessories at HAL at a total cost of US \$ 4809.3 million (Rs. 22122.78 crore at year 2000 price level and at 1 US \$ = Rs. 46) which includes payment to Russia towards licence fee, technical assistance, technological facilities and cost of technical kits.

[English]

Committee on Watershed Development Programme

2247. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any committee had been set up to monitor the Watershed Development Programme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether many States have urged the Government to continue the committee;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(e) the response of the Government thereto;

(f) the manner in which the Government propose to meet the establishment cost of staff under the said scheme;

(g) whether Orissa has requested the Centre to release more funds under the Watershed Programmes in view of drought conditions there; and

(h) if so, the details and funds made available to the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) to (f) Vigilance and Monitoring Committees under the Chairmanship of Minister (Rural Development) at State level and the Concerned Member of Parliament at the District level have been set up to review and monitor all Centrally sponsored/ Central Sector Rural development programmes including Watershed Development Programmes. These committees operate on a regular basis subject to reconstitution as and when changes occur with respect to elected Members of Parliament/ State Assemblies. However, no specific committee has been set up for monitoring of Watershed Development Programmes separately. All expenditures on the Meetings of these Committees and for making other arrangements are to be booked under DRDA Administration head available with the Districts.

(g) and (h) No such request has been received from Orissa.

Signalling Network at Nizamuddin

2248. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has a proposal to modernise the signalling network at Nizamuddin Railway Station;

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

(c) the details of the modernisation activities undertaken there so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir. Hazrat Nizamuddin station was provided with Siemen's type Route Relay Interlocking in the year 1992-93. Subsequently, a work of addition & alterations in coaching yard to provide additional facilities at Nizamuddin station was sanctioned. This work has since been completed in June, 2004. Two additional passenger platforms have been added and the length of two existing platforms has been extended. The signalling system at the station has been modified for commissioning these additional facilities.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Status of MMTS

2249. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of second phase of Multi Model Transport System linking Secunderabad-Kachigud-Falaknuma areas;

(b) the total funds sanctioned and released for this purpose so far; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) The works on Secunderabad-Kachiguda-Falaknuma were taken up under phase-I of Multi-Model Transport System (MMTS) and the same has been commissioned for suburban services on 14-02-2004.

(b) The sanctioned estimate for the project is Rs. 69.64 crore, now revised to Rs. 85.92 crore. The expenditure up to 30.6.2004 is as under:

(i) Railway's share Rs. 44.32 crore

(ii) State Government Rs. 39.61 crore.

(c) Complete Section of Phase-I of MMTS had since been commissioned.

Oil in Offshore of Orissa Coast

2250. SHRI ARJUN SETHI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether recently oil has been struck in the offshore of Orissa Coast; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Blackmarketing of Rail Tickets

2251. SHRI SHIVAJI ADHALRAO PATIL:

SHRI KAILASH BAITHA:

SHRI AJIT KUMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the passengers are facing a lot of inconvenience in getting rail tickets/ reservation due to the complicity between railway officials and touts engaged in black marketing of rail tickets;

(b) if so, whether despite a number of raids, no effective check could be put on this menace;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to revise the existing provisions to check the illegal reservation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken by the Government to identify and check the racket involved in this practice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Some cases have come to notice.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Review of provisions of the Railways Act/ Rules is a continuous process and necessary action as warranted is taken as and when required. However, regular and surprise check are conducted by Commercial and Vigilance Departments in association with Government Railway Police and Railway Protection Force Personnel to curb the activities of touts/anti-social elements. Those apprehended are taken up under provisions of Law. Action is also taken against officials found conniving with touts etc. under Disciplinary and Appeal rules.

[Translation]

Coordination between GRP and RPF

2252. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to set up a central agency to monitor the co-ordination between the Railway Protection Force and the Government Railway Police;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the non-cooperation and the indifferent attitude shown by these forces for providing security to passengers in trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

LPG Agencies and Petrol Pumps Functioning in Orissa

2253. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of LPG agencies and petrol pumps functioning in Orissa;

(b) whether the Government has any proposal to install new petrol pumps and LPG distributorships i.e. the State during the current financial year 2004-05; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) At present, Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) are operating 160 LPG distributorships and 498 Retail Outlets (ROs) in the State of Orissa.

(b) and (c) OMCs set up LPG distributorship/ ROs at viable locations as per their commercial considerations and it is a continuous process. During the current financial year, OMCs plan to set up 38 LPG distributorships and 80 ROs in the State of Orissa.

[Translation]

Project of Laying Pipeline in Sudan

2254. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has cleared the project of laying pipeline in Sudan by the ONGC Videsh Ltd.;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the benefits of this project for the common man?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. On 24.6.2004 Government accorded approval to ONGC-Videsh Limited (OVL) for undertaking construction and associated works of a 12 inch diameter 741 Km. onland multiproduct pipeline from Khartoum refinery to Port-Sudan on turn-key basis, at an estimated cost not exceeding US\$ 200 million.

(c) As per the contract with the Government of Sudan, the returns from OVL's investment in the pipeline project could be taken in the form of crude oil or cash at OVL's option, which would facilitate enhancing the oil security of the country. Also, the Engineering Procurement and Construction (EPC) contract for the pipeline project provides for an Indian component which will generate business opportunities for Indian companies.

Exploration of Inflammable Gas in Kangra, H.P.

2255. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the

exploration of inflammable gas in the volcanoes in Kangra district of Himachal Pradesh is on for several years in the past;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any steps have been taken by the Government to disposal the sense of fear in the public;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the time by which the production of gas is likely to begin at this site for commercial purposes?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (e) Since its inception, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) has been carrying out exploration for hydrocarbons in the State of Himachal Pradesh, including Jwalamukhi area, through geo-scientific survey and drilling. As on 1-4-2004, a total of 3,899 Ground Line Kilometers (GLK) of 2-D seismic survey has been carried out by ONGC in Himachal Pradesh. Eleven exploratory wells were drilled in the State, of which five wells were drilled in Jwalamukhi structure. One well was drilled in Balh structure. The wells, JMI-1 and Balh-I showed presence of minor gas and JMI-6 had gas indication. All other wells are devoid of hydrocarbons. On 10-7-2002, one of the wells, JMI-B drilled earlier, was reported to have become active leaking minor gas and water. ONGC officials thereafter took measures to cap the well and currently there is no activity. Nevertheless, the well has been kept under observation and the area continues to be cordoned off with 'round the clock' security.

At present, ONGC is carrying out exploration in Kangra-Mandi area awarded on nomination basis and in HF-ONN-2001/1 block awarded under the third round of New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) in Himachal Pradesh. The feasibility of production of gas can only be assessed after a discovery and establishment of commercial quantity of gas reserves in the area.

[English]

Transport of Gas from AP Coast to NTPC Plant, Gujarat

2256. SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether arrangements for transport of gas from field of the Andhra Pradesh coast to NTPC's power plants in Gujarat have been finalized;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the reasons for ignoring GAIL's offer to transport at a lower cost?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. NTPC had invited bids for procurement of fuel for its power plants in Gujarat on International Competitive Bidding basis. The supply of fuel (Re-gasified Liquefied Natural Gas (RLNG)/Natural Gas) was up to power plant boundaries, i.e. including transportation of gas from re-gasification terminal (in case of LNG supply chain) and from gas field in case of domestic natural gas.

As an outcome of the bidding process, the proposal submitted by Reliance Industries Ltd. (RIL) for supply of natural gas has been found to be techno-commercially acceptable and the lowest in financial evaluation.

A letter of intent had already been placed on RIL for supply of natural gas, which has been accepted by them. The scope includes transportation and delivery of gas from gas field off the Andhra Pradesh coast to NTPC's power plant boundaries in the State of Gujarat.

- (c) The price indicated by GAIL was subsequent to the opening of the price bid of NTPC and, therefore, could not be given cognizance.

Udavikaram Scheme for Disabled by IOC

2257. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Indian Oil Corporation has released amount for the implementation of 'Udavikaram' a Social Welfare Scheme for Disabled; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) Under a programme titled "Indian Oil Indane Udvikaram Thittam", the Corporation has released 50 and 64 domestic LPG connections respectively to physically challenged persons at Trichy on 10.6.2004 and at Tharangambadi on 20.6.2004. The cost of the security deposit, refill costs, etc., were borne by the Indane distributors.

Issuing Licence for Channels

2258. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether large number of proposals are under consideration for issuing licence for channels;
- (b) if so, the total proposals that are under consideration for the Government to grant licence to these channels to operate in India;

(c) the number out of them are with foreign collaboration and how many are without collaboration; and

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

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL

REDDY): (a) and (b) As on date, 11 new proposals are under process for permission to uplink TV channels from India, the details of which are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) As per the applications, all the applicant companies have 100% Indian equity.

(d) No time frame can be indicated.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the Companies	Name of the Channels	Share holding/Equity	
			Indian	Foreign
1	Falak TV Ltd.	Falak TV & Al Hind TV	100%	-
2.	Seven Star Shopping Network Pvt. Ltd.	Seven Star	100%	-
3.	Twenty First Century News Room Productions Ltd.	CAT TV	100%	-
4.	Ekonkar Television Pvt. Ltd	Ekonkar Television	100%	-
5.	Total Telefilms Pvt. Ltd.	TOTAL TV	100%	-
6.	Enter 10 Television Pvt. Ltd.	Enter 10	100%	-
7.	Senior Media Limited	Senior 1 TV	100%	-
8.	KDM India Pvt. Ltd	SHAKTI Entertainment	100%	-
9.	Amrita Enterprises Ltd.	Amrita	100%	-
10.	Shalom Communication Pvt. Ltd	Shalom Television	100%	-
11.	Telugu Cinema Entertainment Pvt. Ltd	Telugu Cinema	100%	-

[Translation]

Gauge Conversion of Ratlam Mau Station

2259. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any scheme to undertake gauge conversion of Ratlam Mau section alongwith Ratlam Neemuch section; and

(b) if so, the time by which the work relating to gauge conversion of this section is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

LPG Distributors in Maharashtra

2260. SHRI RAMDAS BANDU ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) The State-wise number of LPG distributors alongwith the names of the companies particularly in Maharashtra and the criteria for appointing LPG distributors;

(b) whether the Government is making I propose to make arrangements for gas agencies as per the requirement of the States;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the State-wise target fixed for opening of gas agencies during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) The number of LPG distributorships of Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) operating in different States/UTs of the country as on 1.4.2004 is given in the enclosed statement. The names of agencies are available with Directors (Marketing) of the respective OMCs.

(b) to (d) At present, LPG connections are available on demand throughout the country. However, OMCs conduct

surveys to assess the potential/ commercial viability for setting up of new LPG distributorships in the country at regular intervals. The viable locations are considered for setting up of LPG distributorships as per the commercial considerations of OMCs. The setting up of LPG distri-

butorships involves identifying of a suitable location, land for setting up of godown and other statutory clearances. Government have not fixed any specific target for OMCs to set up LPG distributorships in a specific period.

Statement

State-wise LPG Distributors as of 01.04.2004

States	IOC (MD)	IOC (AOD)	IOC (Total)	BPC	HPC	IBP	Total
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	290	0	290	160	272	4	726
Arunachal Pradesh	5	23	28	0	0	0	28
Assam	74	130	204	15	8	0	227
Bihar	153	0	153	60	42	0	255
Chhattisgarh	46	0	46	20	34	0	100
Delhi	191	0	191	69	46	0	306
Goa	6	0	6	17	28	0	51
Gujarat	296	0	296	105	118	6	525
Haryana	130	0	130	76	55	8	269
Himachal Pradesh	77	0	77	13	16	0	106
Jammu and Kashmir	70	0	70	14	54	0	138
Jharkhand	81	0	81	276	23	0	131
Karnataka	206	0	206	108	154	0	468
Kerala	183	0	183	95	70	0	348
Madhya Pradesh	235	0	235	112	96	0	443
Maharashtra	182	0	182	367	389	7	945
Manipur	7	21	28	0	0	0	28
Meghalaya	14	18	32	0	0	0	32
Mizoram	3	20	23	0	0	0	23
Nagaland	7	16	23	0	0	0	23
Orissa	62	0	62	29	66	0	157
Punjab	231	0	231	95	69	12	407
Rajasthan	189	0	189	103	106	0	398
Sikkim	3	0	3	0	0	0	3
Tamil Nadu	321	0	321	113	84	9	527

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Tripura	8	18	26	0	0	0	26
Uttar Pradesh	619	0	619	235	143	18	1015
Uttaranchal	115	0	115	16	12	1	144
West Bengal	251	5	256	68	94	8	426
Sub-Total	4055	251	4306	1917	1979	73	8275
Union Territories							
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	2	0	2	0	0	0	2
Chandigarh	21	0	21	3	6	0	30
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
Lakshadweep	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
Pondicherry	6	0	2	2	5	0	13
Sub-Total	31	0	31	5	14	0	50
All India	4086	251	4337	1922	1993	73	8325

[English]

**Entrance of ONGC into Crude
and Gas Shipping**

2261. **SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ONGC proposes to enter into the crude and gas shipping business;

(b) if so, the amount of investment proposed to be made by ONGC in the crude and gas shipping business;

(c) the additional area in the domestic and foreign sector where ONGC proposes to diversify its business; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) have informed Government that, as part of their business growth plan and synergistic integration with their operational units, they are contemplating entry into crude and natural gas shipping. The proposal is at a conceptual stage and it is in this context that alternative options contained in the proposal are being evaluated. It is only thereafter that an assessment can be made of the investment likely to be made.

(c) and (d) ONGC have further informed Government that, in tune with the strategy pursued by most global oil majors, ONGC is pursuing business growth options by way of value chain integration and synergy amongst all operational units. As ONGC is already involved in natural gas and LNG business besides owning refinery, the company has been evaluating various business options for entry into power, petrochemicals sectors, etc.

Land Under Encroachment

2262. **SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA:**

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the quantum of land assessed to be under encroachment in the various zones of railways; and

(b) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to free these lands from encroachments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Approximately 2200 hectare of Railway land is under encroachment.

(b) Railways are engaged in a continuous exercise, to free their land from encroachments as per the provisions of Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971 and the Railways Act, 1989.

Social Security Programme for Senior Citizens

2263. SHRI RUPCHAND MURMU: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any social security programme for senior citizens;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to bring forward a suitable legislation to protect them; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JEGADEESAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There are several such programmes. The details are given in the enclosed statement.

- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.

Statement

Social Security Programme for Senior Citizens

(i) Annapoorna Scheme - by State Governments/UT Administration:

Under the Annapoorna Scheme being implemented by the States/UT Administration, 10 kgs. of food grains per beneficiary per month are provided free of cost to those senior citizens who though eligible have remained uncovered under the old age pension scheme. The beneficiary must be 65 years and above and destitute, having little or no regular means of subsistence from either own sources of income or through financial support from family members or other sources.

(ii) Antyodaya Scheme - by Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution:

Government of India has launched the Antyodaya Scheme in December 2000. 1.5 crore families identified from amongst the BPL families are provided food grains at the rate of 35 kgs. per family per month. The food grains are issued @ Rs.3/- per kg. for rice and Rs.2/- per kg. for wheat.

(iii) State Old Age Pension Scheme - by State Govts./UT Administration:

Under the Old Age Pension Scheme, monthly pension is given at variable rates by the States/UTs to the destitute old.

(iv) Varishta Pension Bima Yojana by Ministry of Finance (Insurance Div.):

The Government has launched a special pension policy called the "Varishta Pension Bima Yojana" guaranteeing an annual return of 9% in the form of monthly pension scheme to senior citizens. Indian citizens aged 55 years and above, are eligible (no upper age ceiling). Pension will be paid during the lifetime of the pensioner. The minimum pension is Rs. 250 per month and maximum pension is Rs. 2,000 per month. This monthly pension will start from the month following the payment of the lump-sum amount by the citizen.

[Translation]

AIR and DD Relay Centres in Uttaranchal

2264. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA': Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Akashvani and Doordarshan relay centres sanctioned by the Prasar Bharati for the hilly States of the country especially in Kumaon division of Uttaranchal during the last three years;
- (b) the number out of these which have been set up and the reasons for non-commissioning of the remaining centres; and
- (c) the time by which these sanctioned centres are proposed to be set up by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) 42 DD projects and 6 AIR projects have been sanctioned in Uttaranchal during the last three years. Of these only 2 AIR projects are located in Kumaon region of Uttaranchal.

(b) and (c) 34 DD projects have been commissioned and the remaining 8 are in different stages of implementation and are expected to be commissioned during the next two years. Insofar as AIR is concerned, site for the stations is yet to be allotted by the State Govt. It will take about two years to install the station after the site is handed over by the State Govt.

[English]

Allotment of Land for Public Welfare Activities

2265. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAIISI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the land under possession of Defence in Hyderabad at present;

(b) whether it is a fact that a large portion of land is lying unutilized for many years in Hyderabad;

(c) whether some NGOs and others have demanded Government to allot defence land for public welfare activities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and decision taken or being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) An area of 11,004.915 and 13,638.87 acres of land is under the possession of Defence in Hyderabad and Secunderabad respectively.

(b) No, Sir. Most of the land is under active use and the land seemingly lying vacant or unutilized is actually earmarked for future requirements of Defence.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Some organizations, namely, Ambedkar Seva Sangam, Secunderabad; Chairman, Aeronautical Society of India, Hyderabad; President, Indira Gandhi Educational Society, Secunderabad; and Founder/ President, Jai Jawan Park, Hyderabad have approached for allotment of defence land for various purposes. In view of the present policy and the fact that no surplus land is available at Hyderabad and Secunderabad, defence land cannot be allotted to such organizations.

Modernisation of Railway Stations

2266. **SHRI ARJUN SETHI:**

SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY:

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the existing Railway Stations in the country, zone-wise and State-wise;

(b) the details of the railway Stations being upgraded/ modernised as on date, zone-wise and State-wise;

(c) the funds allocated and utilized on the job during each of the last three years;

(d) whether the Government has received proposals for upgradation/ modernisation of railway stations during the last three years and current financial year as on date from various States particularly from Orissa;

(e) if so, the details and action taken so far; and

(f) the time by which all the proposals are to be acceded to and jobs are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) The number of Stations (excluding block huts and halt stations), zone-wise, as on 31.3.2003 are as under:

Central Railway - 854, Eastern Railway - 663, Northern Railway - 1164, North Eastern Railway - 546, Northeast Frontier Railway - 432, Southern Railway - 744, South Central Railway - 689, South Eastern Railway - 791, Western Railway - 1023.

Statewise figures are not maintained.

(b) and (c) Upgradation/renovation/ modernisation of railway stations is a continuous process and the same is undertaken every year, wherever warranted, on condition basis. Information with regard to the zone-wise & State-wise allocation, under the Plan Head "Passenger Amenities", and the major modernization works (each costing above Rs. 50 lakhs & above) in progress, with expenditure incurred so far, and new works approved for the current year at various railway stations, are included in the Works, Machinery and Rolling Stock Programme, Part II presented to the Parliament along with the Railway Budget Documents.

While the list of major modernization works are available as given above, for other passenger amenity works costing below Rs.50 lakh each, lumpsum allotment is made to the respective Zonal Railways depending upon the total sums available, progress of works and need for carrying out new works based on their inter-se priorities. In addition, improvements at stations are also done in the course of Doublings, Gauge Conversions and provision of Passenger Reservation System (PRS), where warranted. Some improvements are also done in the course of annual repairs and maintenance.

Such works are financed from provisions made to the Zonal Railways under the Plan Head "Passenger Amenities". Following were the allotments and utilization under this plan head during last three years:

Year	Allotment (Rs. in crore) (Budget Estimate)	Expenditure (Rs. in crore)
2001-02	190*	169
2002-03	200	175
2003-04	205	181**

*excluding Build, Operate, Lease and Transfer (BOLT)

** Provisional

(d) to (f) A large number of requests/ suggestions are received at various levels from the general public and people's representatives for provision of additional facilities at different stations and in trains. The details of all such requests are not compiled. Although it is Railways' endeavour to accommodate as many suggestions as possible, the works are undertaken considering the volume of traffic handled, relative importance of the station and the availability of resources. Zonal Railways have been instructed to take into account all such suggestions while formulating their Annual Works Programme & Rolling Stock proposals.

**Pending Cases before Railway
Claims Tribunal**

2267. SHRI RAMDAS BANDU ATHAWALE:

SHRI P. RAJENDRAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of benches of Railway Claims Tribunal, location-wise;

(b) the number of cases disposed off by the Railway Claims Tribunal alongwith the total amount paid by the tribunal during each of the last three years, till date;

(c) the number of cases pending before the Railway Claims Tribunal, till date;

(d) the time since when these cases are pending and the reasons for delay in disposal of such cases;

(e) the average time taken in the disposal of such cases in general;

(f) the steps taken by the Government for the speedy disposal of the claim petitions before the tribunal;

(g) whether the Government propose to open some more benches of claim tribunal in the country particularly in Quilon, Kerala for speedy disposal of pending cases; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Railway Claims Tribunal (RCT) is having 21 Benches at 18 locations. 1. Delhi*, 2. Chandigarh, 3. Lucknow, 4. Ghaziabad, 5. Gorakhpur, 6. Kolkata**, 7. Patna, 8. Guwahati, 9. Bhuvaneswar, 10. Bombay, 11. Bhopal, 12. Ahmedabad, 13. Jaipur, 14. Nagpur, 15. Chennai, 16. Secunderabad, 17. Ernakulam, 18. Bangalore

*two **three

(b)	Years	No. of cases disposed	Amount decreed (Rs.)
	2001-2002	9952	34.06 Cr.
	2002-2003	10496	45.06 Cr.
	2003-2004	8785	37.58 Cr.
	2004-2005 (upto 1-7-04)	1783	5.33 Cr.

(c) 24,566 as on 01-07-2004.

(d) *Age-wise pendency of claim cases*

Less than 1 Yr. old	1 Yr. old	2 Yrs. old	3 Yrs. old	4 Yrs. old	5 Yrs. old and above 5 yrs.
7358	5880	3190	2300	1609	4229

The main reasons for delay in settlement of cases are as under:

(i) Vacancies of Members from time to time.

(ii) Non-availability of heirship title with the claimants.

(iii) Adjournment sought by the applicant/ their counsel for producing their witnesses other evidence.

(iv) Transfer of claims cases from one Bench to the other, sought by the claimants.

(e) During 2003-04 average time taken for disposal of claims is as under. Goods - 687 days, Refund - 669 days, Train Accidents-417 days and Untoward Incidents-757 days.

(f) (a) Facility for the claimant to file the claim for accident cases at a place where the claimant normally resides, originating station, destination station as against only at place of occurrence earlier.

(b) Number of adjournments in each case restricted to three.

(c) RCT to pronounce an order within 21 days after the date of final hearing.

(d) An accident cell is set up under the Chief Claims Officer at all Zonal Railways to monitor quick disposal of accident claims cases.

(e) Single window clearance for major commodities for expeditious settlement of claims cases.

(f) Target time is laid down for claims settlement of different commodities and efforts made to process the cases within the time frame.

(g) Regular meetings held with important customers for finalizing their claims.

(g) No, Sir. In Kerala State one bench is already functioning at Ernakulam.

(h) Does not arise.

[Translation]

LPG Dealership and Petrol Pumps to Dependents of Martyrs

2268. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN:
PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications for LPG dealerships and petrol pumps received by the Government from the dependents of the martyrs who sacrificed their lives in Kargil war;

(b) the number of petrol pumps and LPG dealerships awarded to such people till date; and

(c) the number of petrol pumps and dealerships proposed to be awarded by the end of 2004?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) 500 dealerships/ distributorships have been earmarked for the Special Scheme for allotment of retail outlet dealerships/LPG distributorships to the widows/next of kin of Defence personnel killed in action in 'Operation Vijay' (Kargil) on the recommendations of the Director General Resettlement (DGR), Ministry of Defence. So far, recommendations in respect of 475 beneficiaries have been received from the DGR. Allotments are approved by the Government after the recommendations of the Oil Industry on the basis of feasibility studies of the locations opted for by the beneficiaries are received. So far, the Government has approved allotment of 455 dealerships/ distributorships. Out of these, 364 dealerships/ distributorships have been commissioned. In 16 cases, the allottees have expressed their unwillingness to accept the offer for various personal reasons. Out of the remaining 75 cases, the work of commissioning is in progress in some cases and in the other cases, dealerships/distributorships have not been commissioned for various reasons like non-availability of land, requests by the allottees for change of product/ location, etc.

[English]

New Gas Reserve Areas in Orissa and Andhra Pradesh

2269. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK:

SHRIMATI ARCHANA NAYAK:

SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:

SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new gas reserve areas have been discovered off the Orissa and Andhra Pradesh Coasts; and

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken for the production of gas from those new areas?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) During 2003-04, two gas discoveries viz. Dhirubhai-7 & Dhirubhai-8 were made in block KG-DWN-98/3; off the coast of Andhra Pradesh while three gas discoveries viz. Dhirubhai-9, Dhirubhai-10 & Dhirubhai-11 have been made in block NEC-OSN-97/2 off the coast of Orissa by the consortium of Reliance Industries Ltd. (RIL) and Niko Resources Ltd. Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) has also made a gas discovery during 2003-04 at G-4 prospect off the coast of Andhra Pradesh. The above discoveries are under appraisal.

Purchase System in Railway

2270. SHRI SHIVAJI ADHALRAO PATIL:

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that purchase system of railways is full of corruptions and malpractices;

(b) whether the Government is aware of the involvement of mafia in the purchase system;

(c) if so, the number of such cases have come to the notice of the Government; and

(d) the details of action proposed to be taken by the Government to get rid railways purchase system of tender mafia?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) No, Sir. No major incidences of corruption and malpractices or involvement of mafia have come to the notice in the purchase system.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The Ministry of Railways is having well-defined purchase system with a view that purchases are made in a transparent and competitive manner. Generally, purchases are made through open tenders by giving wide publicity in the newspapers/ tender journals/ Railway's websites. However, depending on the urgency and other factors, bulletin tender/ limited tender quotations/single tenders are also invited. A pilot project has been sanctioned for e-procurement using web based technology to improve the transparency and prevent irregularities in purchases. There is a system of carrying out preventive checks and complaint investigation by the Vigilance department to check irregularities in purchases.

Refrigerated Vans for Carrying Vegetables

2271. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has introduced Refrigerated Van for carrying vegetables, fruits and estates from the States;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith States among which these vans would run;

(c) the total amount spent for manufacturing such vans; and

(d) the extent to which people are likely to be benefited therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a), (b) and (d) Yes, Sir. A total of 10 Refrigerated Vans have been introduced so far on Indian Railways for transportation of perishable commodities, including fruits, vegetables, frozen foods etc. As this is a new type of service on the Railways, potential streams of traffic are yet to be established. Refrigerated Vans or any other vehicles/ wagons are not allotted State-wise but utilised to meet the transportation demand wherever generated.

(c) The approximate cost of manufacturing a Refrigerated Van as per 2002-03 price is around Rs. 52 lakh.

Creamy Layer among OBCs

2272. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to refer to Starred Question no. 159 dated December 11, 2003 regarding Revision of Criteria for determining Creamy layer among OBCs and state:

(a) whether National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC) has submitted its report on the revision of the income criteria for determining the creamy layer among Other Backward Classes;

(b) if so, the main recommendations made by the Commission; and

(c) the action taken by the Government on the said report for implementation of its recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JEGADEESAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC) in its report submitted to the Government recommended to raise the income limit from Rs. 1.00 lakh to Rs. 2.50 lakhs for determining the 'Creamy Layer' amongst Other Backward Classes (OBCs). The Government of India has accepted the recommendations made by the Commission and necessary orders in this regard have already been issued by the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Department of Personnel and Training (DOPT) on 09-03-2004.

Employees Working in Railway

2273. SHRI RUPCHAND MURMU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Government employees working in Ministry or on deputation and in each Public Sector Undertaking under the Ministry of Railways, category-wise as on March 31, 2004;

(b) the number of employees belonging to SCs/ STs/OBCs working in the Ministry and in each PSU as on above date, category-wise;

(c) the number of vacant posts for SCs/STs/OBCs in the Ministry and PSUs, category-wise and date from which these are vacant as on 31st March, 2004;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time limit fixed to fill up vacant posts in Ministry and in each PSU, cadre-wise and ex-cadre wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[Translation]

KU Band Transmission

2274. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA': Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government plan to start KU band transmission in the country especially in Uttaranchal;

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be started alongwith State-wise allocations made for this purpose;

(c) whether the Government propose to replace very low power transmitters of Doordarshan by 500 Watt low power transmitters in the country especially in Uttaranchal;

(d) if so, the time by which these transmitters will be replaced; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) Doordarshan proposes to start satellite transmission in Ku-band during 2004.

(b) With the commencement of Ku-band transmission, it would be possible for viewers in the country including Uttaranchal to receive 30 TV channels, free-to-air, with the help of a small sized dish antenna system. There is no state-wise allocation of funds for Ku-band transmission project. In the initial phase, to encourage adoption of this new technology through successful demonstration as a pilot project, covering eight states/ regions including Uttaranchal, public institutions like Anganwadies, Schools, Public Health Centres, Panchayats, Youth Clubs, Co-operative Societies etc. will be provided the Set Top Box and dish antenna for receiving bouquet of 30 channels. The full set containing dish antenna and satellite receiving equipment (excluding TV receiver) would be provided free of cost to these institutions. The total number of STBs proposed to be supplied is ten thousand. Wherever it is not possible to distribute Set Top Boxes and dishes, Cable Headends will be set up by Doordarshan for distribution of channels. About 200 Cable Head Ends will be installed by Doordarshan in these states, for uncovered village/ areas, where population concentration is around 50 TV Households or so.

(c) to (e) There is no scheme to replace VLPTs in Uttaranchal or anywhere-else in the country by 500 Watt LPTs. TV coverage to uncovered areas is now envisaged to be provided through satellite transmission in Ku-band.

[English]

Rural Housing and Habitat Development

2275. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects sanctioned State-wise under Innovative Stream for Rural Housing and Habitat Development, State-wise;

(b) the number of applications are pending with Union Government from various States particularly from Kerala during last year till date;

(c) the total amount expended for this scheme during last three years, State-wise;

(d) the amount proposed for this scheme in 2004-2005;

(e) whether the Government intend to continue this scheme; and

(f) 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) Details of State-wise number of projects sanctioned under Innovative Stream for Rural Housing and Habitat Development are given in the enclosed statement-I.

(b) Under Innovative Stream for Rural Housing and Habitat Development, 76 projects are pending as on date and out of which 5 are from Kerala.

(c) Details of State-wise expenditure under Innovative Stream for Rural Housing and Habitat Development during the last three years are given in the enclosed statement-II.

(d) The Scheme is not allocation based. It is a project based and demand driven scheme.

(e) and (f) Presently, there is no proposal to discontinue the Scheme.

Statement-I

State-wise number of projects sanctioned under Innovative Stream for Rural Housing and Habitat Development since inception to till date

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	Number of projects sanctioned
1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	18
2	Arunachal Pradesh	14
3	Assam	7
4	Bihar	3
5	Chhattisgarh	0
6	Goa	0
7	Gujarat	2
8	Haryana	2
9	Himachal Pradesh	6
10	Jammu and Kashmir	1

1	2	3
11	Jharkhand	0
12	Karnataka	5
13	Kerala	4
14	Madhya Pradesh	5
15	Maharashtra	8
16	Manipur	8
17	Meghalaya	6
18	Mizoram	2
19	Nagaland	7
20	Orissa	1
21	Punjab	1
22	Rajasthan	7
23	Sikkim	0

1	2	3
24	Tamil Nadu	22
25	Tripura	1
26	Uttar Pradesh	34
27	Uttaranchal	1
28	West Bengal	3
29	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0
30	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0
31	Daman and Diu	0
32	Lakshdweep	0
33	Pondicherry	0
34	Reputed Organisations	2
Total		170

Statement-II

State-wise amount released under Innovative Stream for Rural Housing and Habitat Development during last three years i.e. 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl. No.	State/UT	Year-wise Amount Released		
		2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	34.59	38.89	2.74
2	Arunachal Pradesh	167.55	93.70	88.62
3	Assam		65.69	94.18
4	Bihar	16.00	45.38	
5	Chhattisgarh			
6	Goa			
7	Gujarat		4.99	4.99
8	Haryana			25.00
9	Himachal Pradesh	18.70	17.50	19.46
10	Jammu and Kashmir	20.67		
11	Jharkhand			

1	2	3	4	5
12	Karnataka			
13	Kerala		11.24	28.90
14	Madhya Pradesh	46.38	4.66	
15	Maharashtra	96.44	25.71	63.95
16	Manipur	104.85	50.00	50.00
17	Meghalaya	49.75	91.88	74.45
18	Mizoram			50.00
19	Nagaland	50.00	121.00	8.00
20	Orissa	8.00		
21	Punjab			
22	Rajasthan	23.00	75.16	
23	Sikkim			
24	Tamil Nadu	87.26	40.28	88.32
25	Tripura			
26	Uttar Pradesh	165.97	326.50	69.20
27	Uttaranchal			
28	West Bengal	4.92	10.00	
29	Andaman and Nicobar Islands			
30	Dadra and Nagar Haveli			
31	Daman and Diu			
32	Lakshadweep			
33	Pondicherry			
34	Reputed Organisations	70.00		450.00
Total		964.08	1022.57	1117.80

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 12.00 Noon.

11.46 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Twelve of the Clock.

12.00 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Twelve of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

[Translation]

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (Ahmedabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, one Member is missing from the House. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, oath taking by a new Member.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please listen to me.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Let one new Member take the oath.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, a new Member is to take oath. Please take your seats.

...(Interruptions)

12.01 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri Sushil Kumar Modi and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.)

(At this stage Shri Ram Kripal Yadav and some other Hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.)

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2 p.m.

12.01½ hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Fourteen of the Clock.

14.00 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Fourteen of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Papers to be laid on the Table.

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): I beg to lay on the Table -

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and, English versions) of the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses, New Delhi, for the year 2002-2003, along-with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses, New Delhi, for the year 2002-2003.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 357/04]

- (3) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Mishra Dhatu Nigam Limited and the Department of Defence Production, Ministry of Defence, for the year 2004-2005.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 358/04]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): On behalf of Shri Lalu Prasad, I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) A copy of the Railway Protection Force (Amendment) Rules, 2003 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 257 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 31st March, 2003 under sub-section (3) of section 21 of the Railway Protection Force Act, 1957.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 359/04]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE): On behalf of Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions):

- (i) Detailed Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Steel for the year 2004-2005.
- (ii) Detailed Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers for the year 2004-2005.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 361/04]

- (2) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited and the Ministry of Steel for the year 2004-2005.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 362/04]

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): I beg to lay on the Table -

- (1) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Culture for the year 2004-2005.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 363/04]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Mass Communication, New Delhi, for the year 2002-2003, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Mass Communication, New Delhi, for the year 2002-2003.

- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 364/04]

- (4) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Press Council of India, New Delhi, for the year 2002-2003, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (5) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 365/04]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demand for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Rural Development for the year 2004-2005.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 366/04]

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj for the year 2004-2005.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 367/04]

- (2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions):-

- (i) Memorandum of Understanding between the Engineers India Limited and the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for the year 2004-2005.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 368/04]

- (ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL) and the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for the year 2004-2005.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 369/04]

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR): I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) on the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 for the year 2002 under sub-section (4) of section 15A of the said Act.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 370/04]

- (3) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) on the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 for the year 2002 under sub-section (4) of section 21 of the said Act.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 371/04]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE): On behalf of Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev, I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises for the year 2004-2005.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 372/04]

- (2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions):-

- (i) Memorandum of Understanding between the Hindustan Paper Corporation Limited and the Department of Heavy Industry, Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises, for the year 2004-2005.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 373/04]

- (ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Engineering Projects (India) Limited and the Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises for the year 2004-2005.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 374/04]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries for the year 2004-2005.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 375/04]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): Sir, on behalf of Shrimati Suryakanta Patil, I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology, New Delhi, for the year 2001-2002, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology, New Delhi, for the year 2001-2002.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 376/04]

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Item no. 13. Shri S.S. Palanimanickam. - Absent. Shri P. Chidambaram - Absent. They should have been present here.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JEGADEESAN): I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions):-
- (i) Memorandum of Understanding between the National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation and the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment for the year 2004-2005.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 377/04]

- (ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation and the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment for the year 2003-2004.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 378/04]

- (2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619 A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation, Faridabad, for the year 2000-2001.
- (ii) Annual Report of the National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation, Faridabad, for the year 2000-2001, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 379/04]

- (b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the National Safai Karamcharis Finance Development Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 2002-2003.
- (ii) Annual Report of the National Safai Karamcharis Finance Development Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 2002-2003, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (3) Two statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 380/04]

- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya Institute for the Physically Handicapped, New Delhi, for the year 2002-2003, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya Institute for the Physically Handicapped, New Delhi, for the year 2002-2003.

- (5) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 381/04]

- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute for the Visually Handicapped, Dehra Dun, for the year 2002-2003, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute for the Visually Handicapped, Dehra Dun, for the year 2000-2003.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 382/04]

- (7) A copy of the Fortieth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities for the period from July 2001 to June 2002.

- (8) A copy of the Explanatory Note (Hindi and English versions of the Report mentioned at (7) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 383/04]

- (9) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Commission for Backward Classes, New Delhi, for the years 1999-2000 (part) and 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 384/04]

- (ii) A copy of the Memorandum of Action Taken (Hindi and English versions) on the advices tendered by the National Commission for Backward Classes, New Delhi, for the years 1999-2000 (part) and 2000-2001.
- (10) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (9) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 385/04]

- (11) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 64 of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995:-

- (i) Annual Report of the Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities for the year 2001-2002.

- (ii) Action taken Report on the recommendations of the Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities for the year 2001-2002.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 386/04]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Environment and Forests for the year 2004-2005.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 387/04]

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: There is a report of the Business Advisory Committee to be laid on the Table of the House.

...(Interruptions)

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): No, Sir. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You do not want it.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I thought that the hon. Leader of the Opposition would say something.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI (Gandhinagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I again request you to urge hon'ble Prime Minister to make a statement on why a Cabinet Minister has been absconding and has been absent from the House as a consequent thereof. You direct hon. Prime Minister to make a statement. My submission is that until and unless a statement to this effect is made the House should remain adjourned. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members please take your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It seems that the Chair has become Irrelevant in this House. The Speaker has become totally Irrelevant. The hon. Members will themselves decide who will speak, when they will speak and whether they will allow others to speak or not. It seems the Chair has no longer any role and even the Chair is not allowed to speak. I do know

whether the hon. Members feel proud of a House where the Chair cannot speak.

The hon. Leader of the Opposition has made certain observations. In the morning also he did that. Now again he has repeated them. I requested him to make those observations because he met me. Everybody knows, the hon. Leader of the Opposition knows as much as I do, that the Chair cannot compel any hon. Minister far less the hon. Prime Minister to make a statement.

I have said it in the morning also. The hon. Ministers are present here. It is entirely for them how to respond, whether to respond and when to respond. I cannot dictate. Nobody else knows it any better than what the learned Leader of the Opposition does.

Since a request has been made in the House, in deference to his personal request, I adjourn the House to meet again at 11 o'clock tomorrow, 23rd July, 2004.

14.04 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Friday, July 23, 2004/Sravana 1, 1926 (Saka).

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