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Tuesday, August 4, 1987
Sravana 13, 1909 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES **(English Version)**

Eighth Session
(Eighth Lok Sabha)



(Vol. XXIX contains Nos. 51 to 60)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
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LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

*Tuesday, August 4, 1987/Sravana 13, 1909
(Saka)*

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven
of the Clock*

[MR SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[English]

SHRI P KOLANDAIVELU We wish you a speedy recovery

MR SPEAKER If you just help me, then I might get well soon

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: You are wearing a new colour today It is very good Sir

MR SPEAKER If you like it, I am enlightened

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) We also like it, if you intend distributing some.

MR. SPEAKER: Well, we should.

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY. All of a sudden, Mr. Kolandaivelu is talking of a colour!

MR SPEAKER: You are keeping behind him. You can just visualise

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU He is always having a colour blindness

SHRI M RAGHUMA REDDY: Only you have colour blindness, Congress colour blindness.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Creation of All India Judicial Service

* 122. SHRI BIMAL KANTI GHOSH:
SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE
PATIL.

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

(a) whether Union Government are aware of the existing disparities in the service conditions of Judicial Officers in different States,

(b) whether the Law Commission recommended for the creation of All India Judicial Service to reduce these disparities, and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. The recommendations made by the Law Commission in this regard, are engaging the attention of the Government.

SHRI BIMAL KANTI GHOSH: Sir, the answer to part (c) of the question is not clear It was:

“(c) If so, the decision taken by Union Government in this regard?

I would like to know whether the rules and regulations have been framed and when these are going to be implemented.

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: Sir, so far as the subordinate judiciary is concerned, I may remind the Hon'ble Member that the administration and the question of

appointments to the subordinate judiciary is to be done by the High Courts and the State Governments. So, we had discussed this issue in the last conference of Chief Ministers, Law Ministers and Chief Justices. We had requested the State Governments to immediately take steps to improve the service conditions of judges. They have responded to our suggestions and we are examining the same

In the meantime, the Law Commission has furnished a report on All India Judicial Service and the Government is considering the proposals of the Law Commission

[*Translation*]

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government wants to reduce or remove the existing disparities in the service conditions of the Judicial Officers. Do the Government intend to remove these disparities and if so, how much time will it take to do so? Secondly, several posts of High Courts and other judges are lying vacant. I think there are 150 vacancies of judges. What is the Government doing to fill up these vacancies? I also want to know the names of States which provide more facilities and security of service and also of those which provide less facilities? On account of lack of transport facilities, the judges have to stand in queues whereas S.D.Os. are provided with official conveyance. Therefore, what are you thinking in regard to enhancing the prestige of judges?

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to inform the hon. Member that it is wrong to say that there are 150 vacancies of judges in the High Courts. At the most there are 35 to 40 vacancies and efforts are being made to fill up these vacancies at the earliest. Submissions have been made regarding the subordinate judiciary. The whole administration of the subordinate judiciary is under the control of the High Courts and the State Governments. I, however, want to inform the hon. Member about the efforts made by the Central Government in this connec-

tion. He raised a point regarding transport. After the conference held in September 1985, due to the efforts of the Central Government, almost every State has agreed to provide staff cars to look after their domestic problems. We have also persuaded the States to consider the pay-scales of judges. They have agreed to look into the pay-scales of the judges after examining certain issues and also after the receipt of the Fourth Pay Commission's report.

[*English*]

SHRI C.K. KUPPUSWAMY: Will the Minister be pleased to take immediate steps to fill up all the vacancies in the cadre of judicial officers in Tamil Nadu?

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: The hon. Member may kindly address this question to the Tamil Nadu Government because we do not appoint them.

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV: Under Article 312 of the Constitution, there is a provision for the creation of an All India Judicial Service. If two-thirds of the States agree to that and it is approved by the Parliament, then there can be a law on the subject. May I ask the hon. Minister whether he is proceeding under Article 312 or consulting the State Governments so that there may be an All India Judicial Service as contemplated under Article 312?

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: As I submitted earlier, we favour the constitution of an All India Judicial Service. As hon. Members would have appreciated Articles 233 and 234 of the Constitution provide that the District Judges will be appointed by the High Courts in consultation with the State Governor. But in this direction, we have a major report from the Law Commission which has recommended the formation of an All India Judicial Service. We have studied this report, have gone into it and are taking steps for constituting the Service. We have consulted the Chief Justice of India and if the State Governments and the

Chief Justices agree, there would be no problem in constituting such a Service.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: With regard to the constitution of an All India Judicial Service, they had made some recommendations to the Government of India and the Minister has said that the recommendations are under the consideration of the Government of India. For how long have these recommendations been under the consideration of the Government of India?

Secondly, the subordinate judiciary is looked after by the State Government and the Chief Justice of the High Court. Have the Union Government given some directions to the States to fill up the vacancies in the subordinate judiciary in the States?

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: In 1985 in the conference of the Chief Justices, the Chief Justice of India and other Chief Justices of the High Courts did not favour the constitution of this Service, but thereafter we took up again this question with the Chief Justices and as I submitted, the Law Commission, Shri Dhirubhai Mehta, has recommended and given various recommendations in this regard. If the hon. Member wants, I can read them out.

MR. SPEAKER: You may hand this over to him.

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: We are not taking any time; we are proceeding in this matter post haste.

Crude Production at Ankleshwar

*124. SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has taken up a new dimension in crude production with the 'multi layered production' at Ankleshwar Well-219 in the Western region;

(b) if so, whether the production of crude oil has been enhanced; and

(c) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission is adopting a multiple completion technology?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) and (b) ONGC have successfully implemented multi-layered production technique at Well. 219 in Ankleshwar, which resulted in an increased production of about 50 tonnes per day

(c) Multiple completion system is being adopted by ONGC, wherever required.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: We are happy that the Oil and Natural Gas Commission have successfully implemented the multi-layered production technique at Well No 219 in Ankleshwar and they have increased the production by about 50 tonnes per day. At the same time, I would like to know whether we are self-sufficient in crude

Secondly, multiple completion system is being adopted by ONGC there I would like to know whether in any other part of the country this multiple completion system is being adopted or not

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT: As far as first part of the question, i.e. self-sufficiency is concerned, firstly it will depend on the rising demand. The rate of increase in the demand is about seven to eight per cent. Secondly, it will depend on the new reserves that we find in various parts of the country.

As regards increasing production through multiple completion system, this technique can be adopted only in those places where there are different layers in a zone. In Ankleshwar, there are different layers within a zone. Wherever oil is found at different layers with different pressures, this technique is adopted so that the oil can come from all the different layers with different pressures. We have identified such wells only in some places in Ankleshwar

and some places in Gandhar. Nowhere else have we come across such a structure.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: In Tamil Nadu, at a place called Narimanam in Cauvery Basin crude is found and exploration work is being carried out by the ONGC. The work is going on very well. With the successful exploration in the Cauvery Basin and this place being the best of its kind in India, I want to know how much crude is being taken out from the well in Narimanam, and whether we will be self-sufficient within ten or fifteen years.

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT: The area mentioned by the hon. Member is a very good prospective area and we are concentrating our efforts there. In addition to our own efforts by ONGC, we also offered offshore blocks to international companies to explore. But still, it is in the initial stage only and it is very difficult to say how much quantity of oil will be found in that area. I can only say that it is a very good prospective area. If it proves to be another Bombay High, we will become self-sufficient for some time.

[Translation]

Reserved Posts in the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited

*125. **SHRI K.N. PRADHAN:** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of reserved posts for SC/ST candidates in each category lying vacant as on 30 June, 1987 in the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited, Bhopal;

(b) the measures taken to fill them up; and

(c) whether any roster system is being followed by the unit in accordance with the present guidelines?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO): (a) to (c). A Statement is given below.

STATEMENT

(a) The number of unfilled reserved posts in BHEL, Bhopal as on 30.6.87 which have been carried forward, is as follows :-

Category of Posts	No. of Posts	
	SC	ST
A	9	2
B	2	—
C	40	199
D (Excluding Sanitary Workers)	4	130

(b) In order to fill up the posts reserved for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes, BHEL has taken a number of measures, such as giving wide publicity to reserved posts by supplying copies of advertisements to Director General of Employment and Training, SC/ST Associations, local MPs and MLAs, Commission for SC/ST, announcement through local Stations of All India Radio; relaxation in the prescribed minimum standards for SC/ST candidates; holding interviews in separate groups; issue of exclusive advertisements where necessary; association of an officer of SC/ST with the Selection Committee; sending of selection teams in Tribal areas of Madhya Pradesh for selection of SC/ST candidates, etc.

(c) Yes, Sir.

[Translation]

SHRI K.N. PRADHAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, no reply has been given to part (c) of my question in which I have asked whether any roster system is being followed in accordance with the present guidelines. Will the hon. Minister also clarify whether any cell has been established there and if so, the names of the officers deputed there? Secondly, how many complaints were registered last year and how many were redressed? Is it true that in the case of promotions, the guidelines are not being followed in this unit?

[English]

SHRI J. VENGALA RAO: Sir, this is about the BHEL's unit in Bhopal. This unit was established in 1956. The reservation policy came into force in 1970, and we are observing it. The total reservation quota is 14 per cent in Madhya Pradesh.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI Tiwariji and Dandavateji quarrel inside and hug each other outside.

MR. SPEAKER: If they start quarrelling outside also, then how will the dispute be resolved?

SHRI K.N. PRADHAN Mr Speaker, Sir, it is understandable if some posts reserved for Adivasis and Scheduled Tribes remain vacant, but why the posts reserved for Scheduled Caste candidates are not being filled? Has Government resorted to desertation during the last three years?

[English]

SHRI J. VENGALA RAO: Sir, after the reservation policy came into force, 7436 employees were recruited between 28.7.1970 and 30.6.1987. In this, the representation of Scheduled Castes is 15.65 per cent and Scheduled Tribes is 7.46 per cent. We are filling up the posts. In the case of Scheduled Castes, it is only 5 per cent less. In the case of Scheduled Tribes, we are not getting candidates in Madhya Pradesh. That is the trouble.

DR. CHINTA MOHAN: I strongly object to the Minister's statement given right now. The Minister has given a very intelligent answer, instead of giving crude facts here

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Is he guilty of intelligence?

MR. SPEAKER: Should I pull him up for that?

DR. CHINTA MOHAN: Instead of dividing them—in BHEL—in the form of Executives, Supervisors, Artisans, etc., he has devised groups A, B, C and D. But here, in the Executive group as per the 1985-86 statistics of BHEL, there are about 10,914, out of whom there are no Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, the Supervisors are 12,188, and there is no SC or ST, Artisans are 27,953 wherein the Minister has given a statement saying that there are about 40 SC and 199 ST, Supporting staff number about 3,934, out of whom there are no SC and ST.

Coming to clerical staff, as per BHEL's statistics, there are about 6202 persons, and there are no SC and ST, mentioned here. Coming to unskilled staff, there are 11,982 of them, wherein there are only 4 SCs and 130 STs. In respect of the trainees, the number is 1742 out of whom there are no SC and ST. The total is about 74,915 candidates, and there are only about 400 SCs and STs. When you see the figures, it does reach 0.5% in the BHEL organization.

The present Government speaks about socialism and the 20-point programme. I am not able to appreciate what is happening. The Minister has come recently; I am not blaming the Minister. I am blaming the Government. I want to have answers to these questions. (Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER: Order, order. Please hear him. No cross-talking please.

SHRI J. VENGALA RAO: Kindly hear me. This question is about the BHEL unit at Bhopal. He is referring to all the BHEL units. How can I answer such questions?

Oil and Gas in the Malabar Coast

*126. SHRI I. RAMA RAO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ONGC has made any evaluation of finding oil/gas in the Malabar coast;

(b) if so, if any drilling has been done there or is likely to be done in the near future;

(c) whether Government have any plan to lay a pipeline for transport of gas available in the Bombay region to Karnataka and Kerala; and

(d) if so, the time frame within which it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir

(c) Not at present, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

SHRI I RAMA RAI: At the beginning of the 6th Five Year Plan, self-reliance of our country on oil was less than 40%. In 1984-85 as a result of the accelerated development at Bombay High, it went up to 70%. But you must know that India's population is one-seventh of the global population, whereas its oil consumption is one-seventieth of the oil consumption of the whole globe. The demand for petroleum products is going up, and we know that the scene is fast changing now in respect of demand for petrol. Does Government have any major proposal in the country's coastline in general, and Kerala in particular, to go beyond the continental shelf for prospecting for oil?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT: I agree with the first part of the observation made by the hon. Member. We are moving in that direction. We are intensifying the efforts to explore for oil in off-shore and on-shore also. As I said earlier, it will depend on the new finds, and the new successes that we can attain.

About the Kerala-Konkan coastline, on on-shore, the commercial prospects are not in sight. But on off-shore, there are

very good prospects. We are exploring in Cochin, Kasargode and Karwar. We have drilled off-shore at Cochin, Kasargode and Karwar ports during 1978-80. But these wells proved dry, but we hope to find oil, which is based on the interpretation of the data in the last two years. Fourteen locations have been released for drilling, and we have also offered to the international companies some blocks in this area. Besides these, we are exploring thoroughly in the Kaveri basin and the Krishna-Godavari basin. As the hon. Members are aware, we have entered an agreement with the Soviet Union to explore for oil in Bengal on-shore; and we are ourselves doing off-shore Bengal.

In Andaman also we are doing it. We have made some new finds near Bombay High—another structure. So, we are intensifying our efforts to explore oil in all possible ways.

SHRI I. RAMA RAI: Gas reserve in India is much larger than crude reserve. Has the Government got any proposal to market the compressed natural gas to be used as a substitute for petroleum product and for transportation and industry?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT: It is a fact that we have got very good reserves of gas. The hon. Members are aware that we are using that gas through the LPG pipeline which is completed in time. But in Krishna Godavari basin and in Cauvery basin and in Tripura there are very good prospects of gas. Still, it is in the developmental stage. We are making all efforts to develop those resources of natural gas; and LPG, complex LPG is a part of it. Other parts; C1, C2, C3 and C4 also will be utilized.

SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER: Is the Government aware that there is a persistent demand for a pipeline similar to HBJ in the north from the south. In the answer you have said that at present there is no proposal. May I know whether any feasibility study has been made; if so, what is the progress of that?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT: Basically, South will have to be created from Cauvery basin and Goadavari basin and also from Kerala off-shore; that will have to be done. It is very costly to take gas from Bombay High to that area.

[*Translation*]

DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI: Sir, it is true that the Department is very efficient in the exploration and drilling of gas. Yet gas worth crores of rupees is being burnt because we are not able to utilise it. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether any steps have been taken to prevent burning of the gas worth crores of rupees, and if so, the details thereof?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT: Sir, the hon. Minister has asked about the gas being burnt. Two kinds of gas are available here. Firstly, the gas coming out along with oil is called associated gas. It is very essential to drill that out and it is also important to utilise it 60 per cent of it is utilised and the remaining 40 per cent has to be burnt. For this purpose, we are installing a LPG extraction plant at Hajira. The pipeline has reached Bijapur and we are installing a LPG extraction plant and other plants there. Similarly, we are setting up an extraction plant at Auraiya in Uttar Pradesh. As the utilisation of gas goes on increasing, the quantity of gas being burnt will also go on decreasing. Our difficulty is that wherever free gas is available, we store it but wherever associated gas is available, we will have to go on burning it so long as it cannot be fully utilised. However, we expect that within the next 2 or 3 years, only 15 per cent of the work of burning the gas will remain.

SHRIMATI USHA THAKKAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to know from the hon. Minister whether any exploration work has been or is being done in the Kutch area of Gujarat where there is a possibility of finding oil and gas?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT: Sir, enough work is being done. I will provide the

details if he gives either a separate notice or writes to me.

[*English*]

Electoral Reforms

*127. SHRI T. BASHEER:
SHRI D.P. JADEJA:

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

(a) whether Government propose to bring forward a comprehensive legislation on electoral reforms during the current year; and

(b) if so, what are the salient features of the proposed legislation and when it is likely to be introduced in Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b). The proposals for electoral reforms made by the Election Commission are first to be discussed with the political parties. Further action to be taken will be decided thereafter. The question of bringing forward a legislative proposal will arise only then.

SHRI T. BASHEER: The Government, the political parties, the Parliament, all are for electoral reforms. Actually, in 1971, we had reconstituted a Joint Parliamentary Committee and they had submitted their recommendations in 1972 regarding electoral reforms. The present Chief Election Commissioner and the former Chief Election Commissioner have given a series of recommendations regarding this. We had been discussing time and again, many times, this subject in the House. The hon. Minister and his predecessor have been giving the same answer that it is under examination, consultations have to be undergone, discussions to be held and so on.

AN HON. MEMBER: Conceiving but producing nothing.

SHRI T. BASHEER: Conceiving and producing nothing.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you not satisfied with the consistency?

AN HON. MEMBER: He is not worried about conceiving, he is worried about producing.

SHRI T. BASHEER: I am not worried about the conception, but produce something. That is all.

So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he will give a timeframe regarding the electoral reforms including discussions, consultations, everything.

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: It is not correct to say that there has been no progress in the matter of electoral reforms. I may remind the hon. Member that the first major task was to deal with political defections. That has been achieved. The second was to introduce the electronic voting machine in the country. The Government in principle have taken a decision that in the next elections it will be introduced and we are going ahead with it. The law will amended be before the next election to introduce this voting machine.

We have two proposals, two sets of proposals for the Election Commission which are under study and a debate is going on and we are prepared to discuss these proposals with the leaders of the Opposition any time they like.

SHRI T. BASHEER: My second supplementary is regarding the age limit. In almost all the countries including the Soviet Union, the United States and the United Kingdom and many other countries the age limit, that is the limit when a person can vote is 18. In India the legal age for all other purposes is 18, but not to vote.

AN HON. MEMBER: Eighty or eighteen?

(Interruptions)

SHRI T. BASHEER: To join the Army, it is 18, to enter into a contract it is 18, but not to vote. So, I would like to know whether the proposals include lowering of the age limit to 18, and if so, the details.

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: It is not one of the proposals received from the Election Commission.

SHRI T. BASHEER: Will you consider this suggestion?

SHRI D.P. JADEJA: The hon. Minister has just replied to this question where he has not informed us regarding certain questions which can be brought up, regarding delimitation, regarding the number of voters in every constituency and the size of the constituency today. I am sure there would not be any objection from the Opposition also for this. Would the hon. Minister inform us whether such points regarding the size of a constituency or the number of voters in a constituency would be the same for all the constituencies in the country? It may not be possible for the size but as far as the number of voters is concerned, it is possible and I am sure the Opposition will have no objection to it.

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: Delimitation of the constituencies is possible and we are preparing ourselves for that a note to be discussed. It will be discussed with the Opposition.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: It has been recognised on both sides of the House that one of the main reasons for political corruption is the huge expenditure incurred in the elections leading to politician and businessman axis. It is true that the Election Commission has made recommendation to provide for funding of elections so that this evil can, to a certain extent, be controlled? I am aware of the fact that they have lifted the ban on companies donation. But the companies tend to donate only to ruling party. *(Interruptions)* We are also ruling party in some part of the coun-

try. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Election Commission has made recommendations for imposing a tax on companies so that from the central pool by some formula funds can be distributed to various parties.

MR. SPEAKER: How does that help in curbing the evil?

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: I am pleading for proportional distribution.

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: So far as the companies donations are concerned, that law was passed. So far as party in power is concerned, Janata Party Government is there in Karnataka. Some people are famous there in collecting funds. I will tell him how funds are collected in Karnataka.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: The only difference is that we are famous whereas you are infamous.

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: The arrack bottling case is now a well known case in Karnataka. Funds are flowing in Karnataka. There is no difficulty. So far as this is concerned, there is no proposal from the Election Commission that there should be state funding all elections. The Election Commissioner has welcomed this idea and he is prepared to make an indepth study of the problem. We would also like to discuss with the Election Commission. The Commission has suggested that the legitimate expanses of the elections should be borne by the State to a limited extent like giving paper for posters, stationery, petrol and something like that. The whole issue comprehensively has not been recommended.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: The hon. Minister has replied that reduction in the voting age from 21 to 18 is not one of the proposals. But in view of the fact that both the Houses of Parliament have, in a Private Members' resolution, debated this issue and in view of the suggestions made by the Hon. Member, Shri Basheer, will the hon.

Minister assure us that he will examine this proposal of reduction in voting age from 21 to 18?

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: It has been examined but it has not found favour with the Government.

[*Translation*]

Postal Distribution System

*128. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI:
SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether present postal distribution system is capable of meeting the requirements of the people;

(b) if not, whether Government propose to start an alternative system or to improve the present system; and

(c) whether Government have received suggestions for restoration of old distribution system; if so, the reaction of Government thereon?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. However, we continuously monitor the system to explore possibilities for improvement. Whenever new modes of faster transports are introduced like Vayudoot, fast trains etc., we suitably change our system to take full advantage of these new facilities. We also are introducing new services including 'speed post' to cater to new demands.

The Government have a system of monitoring the distribution of all categories of mails on a fixed periodicity and in the results of monitoring and availability of alternate and faster transport services for movement of mails, like introduction of new IAC/Vayudoot service, new super-fast

train service etc., improvements are effected on a continuous basis from time to time.

(c) All suggestions received from time to time are being examined and we accept those which result in distinct improvement over the existing system.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the communication system in this country is going on deteriorating. Letters reach their destination very late. Therefore, it was felt that some system should be evolved whereby the mail reaches the people quickly and easily. Several persons have given suggestions in this regard and the hon. Minister has accepted them or is presently considering them. Before I ask a question, I want to give an example.

I hail from Eastern Uttar Pradesh. Azamgarh is a district headquarter. There is a R.M.S. sorting section in Mau from where all the letters are first sent to Azamgarh and from there letters are again received back in Mau. Thus letters reach Mau *via* Azamgarh. I have given suggestions in this regard in the various meetings and also through a letter as a Member of Parliament, but no importance has been given to these suggestions.

Will the hon. Minister kindly state what kind of suggestions have been given and accepted by him? The suggestions have come from common people, the representatives of the people and intellectuals. I want to know why those suggestions have not been accepted? A letter from pole to post takes 5, 7 or 9 days, I want to know the reasons for the non-acceptance of these suggestions?

[*English*]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Sir, I would like to submit humbly that the system is not deteriorating, it is improving. I may tell the hon. Member that all letters are

treated equally. It is not a poor man's letter or a rich man's letter, letters come to us as letters and we carry them. As regards his suggestion about Azamgarh, recently in the Consultative Committee some hon. Members have suggested that certain RMS sorting sections should be reduced. We have accepted it in principle. A small committee has been formed. They are going into the various aspects of restoring the RMS sorting sections. If a viable procedure is evolved, the Department is open and we are ready to adopt this provided it improves the service. But at this stage we have not committed anything for any area. I will put the area which the hon. Member has suggested, before this Committee to examine and suggest what can be done in that particular area.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: Sir, the hon. Minister has stated in parts (a) and (b) of his reply that—

... (*Interruptions*) ...

Sir, I am sitting in my seat. Some people have raised objections. My division number is 418 and it is a Congress seat which I am occupying at present.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS: I was not saying that.

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: He feels that I am sitting in the seat reserved for the Opposition.

MR. SPEAKER: You are sitting at the proper place.

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: Sir, I am sitting where you want me to sit.

MR. SPEAKER: I have no objection to it.

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: The hon. Minister has mentioned about the speed post service. I want to know whether charges for speed post are different and higher than those for ordinary post and whether

the services of the Indian Airlines and Vayudoot will be utilised for this purpose or some other type of postal service will be evolved imposing higher charges so that the mail is delivered at the earliest? Have you thought about this matter on these lines?

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Sir, Speed Post is a special service. We have introduced it in two phases in fourteen areas and subsequently we introduced it in Agartala also thus making the total number of areas to 15. The tariff for Speed Post is different from the normal tariff. For 500 Kms. you have to pay Rs. ten and then Rs. twenty above 500 Kms. The charges levied for Speed Post are higher than the charges levied for Ordinary Post. At present we are not thinking to introduce any other type of postal service but wherever air service is available, whether Indian Airlines or Vayudoot, we are increasing the Speed Post service. In due course we will increase it to all other areas where Indian Airlines or Vayudoot service is there.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Is the Minister aware that this tariff for Speed Post is beyond the reach of ordinary people? If so, is it also true that much of the trouble arose because of the shortage of personnel. Considering that, is the recruitment going to be made and the new post offices, in village areas which were not being set up for quite some time will be set up in the immediate future?

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Recruitment has not totally been stopped. After the ban those posts which were created because of death, retirement or promotion, are being filled up. Recently, the Planning Commission and the Finance Ministry have agreed to allow opening of new post offices. We have asked each circle to send us the detailed report-as per new guidelines which are the areas specially in the rural areas where post offices are to be opened. Already 220 post offices have been approved by the Finance Minis-

try in separate States. In each State in any area which is not covered within five kilometers and 5000 population, we are going to open post office and in the Seventh Five Year Plan its number is going to be roughly 3000/ In this connection I would like to say, some of the hon. Members have written to us that in the past according to the old guidelines some post offices were due to the Government. We have now started examining it. Wherever possible we shall honour the previous commitments made by the previous Ministers.

[Translation]

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to know whether the hon. Minister is aware that keeping in view the deterioration in the postal distribution system arising out of late receipt of mail, several transport agencies have started private mail distribution system to ensure timely delivery of mail? Through this agency, letters from Indore and Bombay are delivered in Delhi the same day. This system is being run on a parallel basis in the whole country. Has the Government's attention been drawn in this direction, and if so, what action is being taken for the speedy delivery of mail and for improving our postal distribution system?

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: In a Year the Department carries about 1200 crores of letters and 4 crores letters daily. If a few letters are misplaced here and there, naturally there is hue and cry. But generally the bulk of the letters are being distributed properly.

The question which has been raised by the hon. Members has been taken care in the Bills which have been passed in both the Houses of Parliament. But, unfortunately, these have not come up. We cannot take any action right now.

[Translation]

SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH: Mr.

Speaker, Sir, as other hon. Members have drawn the attention of the hon. Minister, I also want to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the telegraph system which is deteriorating. My personal experience is that telegrams are delivered after two days. The people use the telegraph system for emergency purposes but its service is in a very bad shape. Will the hon. Minister take any action in this direction, and if, so the time by which this system will be improved?

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: I fully agree with the hon. Member. The telegraph service needs to be looked after very carefully. We have recently introduced a system of SFTS - Store Forward Telegraph System. About 200 stations in the country have been identified. It is being indigenously produced. In the Seventh Five Year Plan we are going to introduce this system whereby the aim is to deliver telegram within twelve hours from the place of destination to the place of arrival. We are gradually monitoring it. I think with the introduction of this system, this will improve.

Sick Industrial Units

*129. SHRI SHARAD DIGHE:
SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any indepth study about sickness in industrial units has been undertaken;

(b) if so, the outcome of such study; and

(c) the rehabilitation measures being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c). A Statement is given below.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b). The Reserve Bank of India conducted a cause-wise analysis of sickness in respect of 378 large units which had been classified sick as on 31.12.1979. The study revealed that industrial sickness is the cumulative result of a variety of factors, both internal and external to the unit, such as mismanagement, diversion of funds, faulty planning at the initial stage, technological obsolescence, market recession, shortage of power and raw materials, industrial relations, etc. Government have asked the Reserve Bank of India to carry out a fresh study regarding causes of industrial sickness. The fresh study is expected to cover 2000 large and medium sick units.

(c) To meet the problem of industrial sickness in the country, the Government have taken various steps. The Reserve Bank of India have issued guidelines to the banks for strengthening of the monitoring system and for arresting industrial sickness at an incipient stage so that corrective measures are taken in time. The banks have also been directed by the Reserve Bank of India to formulate rehabilitation packages for the revival of potentially viable units on merits of each case. In addition, Government have enacted a comprehensive legislation, namely "The Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985" which provides for setting up of a quasi-judicial body designated as the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) to deal with the problems of sick industrial companies in an effective manner. An important feature of this Act is that it provides for time limits for completion of action of various stages by the BIFR as well as other agencies who are concerned with revival and rehabilitation of sick industrial companies. The BIFR has become operational with effect from 15th May, 1987.

Government have also liberalised recently the Margin Money Scheme with a view to supplement the efforts of the State Governments in reducing the incidence of sickness in small scale units. Moreover, RBI have also issued guidelines separately to the banks for dealing with the problems of small scale units.

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE: Sir, as far as the reply is concerned, it is very casual and I have asked about the indepth study of the

sickness in industry. The hon. Minister has given the cause-wise analysis of sick units as on 31st December 1979 whereas the news widely reported in the newspapers, particularly on the 14th July of Financial Express stated that the Union/Industry Ministry has got the data upto December 1985 and the total number of large sick units in the country is estimated at 637 against which the total outstanding amount is Rs. 2980.24 crores. The total number of small sick units is about 1,17,783 and the amount blocked by them is Rs. 1070.67 crores. There are about 1,186 medium scale sick units having an outstanding amount of Rs. 220.07 crores. So, these figures are available and may I ask the Minister whether these figures are available with the Industry Ministry and whether they are true?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO): Sir, the details regarding the number of sick units and the amounts outstanding against them upto June 1986 are as follows. The number of large scale units in sick is 689 and the amount outstanding against them is Rs. 8238.54 crores. The number of medium industries is 1,230 and the outstanding amount is Rs. 340.37 crores. There are 1,28,687 small scale units and the amount outstanding against them is Rs. 1184.2 crores. The total number of large-scale units is 2585 and the total amount outstanding against them as on date is Rs. 4665.23 crores.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Sir, you please allow a full discussion on this subject. Thousands and thousands of workers are on the road. Mr. Speaker, Sir, kindly allow a full discussion on this subject. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE: My second supplementary is this. Even the approach of the Government in respect of sick units is also very casual. We had passed the Sick Industrial Companies (Special) Provisions Act on 9th September 1985 and the assent was obtained on 8th January 1986, whereas in the answer it is stated that the Board

that is proposed in the said Act has been established as late as on 15th May 1987. I want to know why so much time was taken for establishment of the Board to deal with the sick units, to examine the schemes and make proposals or take action against those defaulting Directors. Why action was not taken against them? Why was the Board not established till May 1987?

SHRI J. VENGALA RAO: The Board was appointed and it came into operation on 15th May, 1987. Now, according to the latest figures, 67 cases are already referred to the BIFR, 87 cases are under examination and the remaining are under the consideration of the Reserve Bank of India.

[*Translation*]

SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as the hon. Minister is aware there are about 97 districts in the country which have been declared as no-industry districts. Some districts of Uttar Pradesh which fall under this category used to get some facilities earlier but now perhaps, these facilities are not provided any more. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether facilities will be restored for setting up industries in the no-industry areas? What is the Government's policy in regard to providing facilities to the no-industry areas?

[*English*]

SHRI J. VENGALA RAO: Sir, this is about sick units. That is about setting up of industries in the backward districts. I want a separate question for that. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: Sir, one of the reasons identified for industrial sickness is the lack of effective monitoring system with the term lending institutions, i.e. commercial banks and public financial institutions. I understand that certain guidelines have been issued to the banks by the Reserve Bank of India. I would like to know, what are these guidelines and whether the guidelines are effectively being followed by these banks? If so,

whether any efforts have been made by these banks to rehabilitate some of the sick units?

SHRI J. VENGALA RAO: Mr. Madhav Reddi has got some experience in industries. In the reply itself, it is mentioned that the Government have asked the Reserve Bank of India to carry out a fresh study regarding the causes of industrial sickness. The fresh study is expected to cover 2,000 large and medium sick units. For revival, how to rehabilitate these sick units also, BIFR is working on the scheme.

SHRI Y.S. MAHAJAN: The report of the Reserve Bank, 1979 says that there are many factors which are responsible for sickness. They are lack of good management, faulty planning, technological obsolescence, lack of market research etc. All these can be part of bad management. I want to know whether the Government has inquired into this fact as to how many sick units have become sick because of bad management. The management usually provides 1/10th of the capital and borrows 9/10th of the capital from the banks. How many sick units are in this condition because major part of capital is borrowed from the banks?

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: The causes of sickness have been analysed by RBI in 1979. According to the RBI report, 197 units out of 378 units studied by R.B.I. i.e. 52% of the sick units have gone sick due to internal causes like mismanagement, management deficiency including diversion of funds, in-fighting, lack of market strategy. 14% of the total sick units have gone sick due to faulty initial planning and other technical drawbacks. 23% of the total units have gone sick due to market recession. 2% of the total sick units have gone sick due to labour trouble. 9% of the total sick units have gone sick due to other reasons like power cuts, shortage of raw materials etc.

Introduction of Paperless Trunk Exchanges in Andhra Pradesh

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*131. DR. T. KALPANA DEVI:
SHRI C. SAMBU:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce paperless trunk exchanges in Andhra Pradesh during 1987;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal, their locations and the amount earmarked for the purpose; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes Sir, but not in 1987. Details are given in the Statement given below.

(b) Details are given in the Statement laid on the table of the House.

(c) Question does not arise in view of reply at (b) above.

STATEMENT

Indigenous computerised equipment at an approximate cost of Rs 68 44 lakhs is proposed to be installed at Vijayawada during 1988. Equipment for the above is to be supplied by M/s Keltron. An imported Computerised Trunk Exchange for Hyderabad is proposed and is likely to be commissioned by February, 1989. NIT (Notice for inviting Tenders) for supply and installation of equipment has been issued and offers will be opened on 15.9.1987. The cost of the imported equipment is not known at present.

DR T. KALPANA DEVI: Sir, we are going in for modern advanced technology like computerised trunk exchanges. But, Sir, till today we are not in a position to provide telecommunication facilities to all the rural areas in our country. Where the telephone facilities are already provided, they are also not functioning effectively.

Their functioning is not only poor but very much neglected.

I would like to know from the hon Minister what is the percentage of rural areas uncovered by these telecommunication facilities. I would also like to know what are the steps taken for the effective servicing of rural telephones and by what time all the remaining rural areas will be covered by telecommunication facilities by the Ministry of Communication.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Out of the total network capacity i.e. 36,75,592 lines in urban areas we have got 31,03,240 and in rural areas, 5,72,352. In rural areas, we have got about 9,000 exchanges and 24,959 public call offices. The whole country has been divided into hexagons of 5 kms and our aim is to cover each of these hexagons with public call offices.

It is true that, at present, out of the existing network, 90% of the network is being enjoyed by the 25% of the people who are in the urban areas. Actually 10% of the network goes to the rural areas. This imbalance is now being corrected and improved, during the 7th Five Year Plan And in the 8th Five Year Plan, further steps will be taken. We are trying it now.

According to new guidelines, in rural areas, if there is a demand for more than 10 lines, we are giving 25 exchange lines and also public call offices.

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI: It was a bad reply

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: How is it that the Cabinet Minister does not speak? *(Interruptions)*.

DR. T. KALPANA DEVI: I would like to know from the hon. Minister what are the steps taken to rectify the menace of cross-connection, wrong numbers and excessive billing?

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: There is a continuous monitoring in each circuit

and each department. Now, we have also introduced quality-circles. All these analyses are being made and corrective steps are being taken

SHRI C SAMBU: We are happy to know that computerised telephone exchange is being introduced in Andhra Pradesh. We convey the good wishes on behalf of the people of Andhra Pradesh. *(Interruptions.)*

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Sir, he is speaking but other are whispering, How can I hear him?

SHRI C SAMBU: I am Repeating.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: It cannot be heard through this Department also. We have got cross-connection. *(Interruptions)* *(Interruptions.)*

SHRI C SAMBU: Sir, the present system of telephone in Andhra Pradesh is in the worst position. Since independence, there was no telephone system in rural areas, and there was no telephone facility.

My question is, the computerised telephone system to be installed in Vijayawada would cover only Krishna district. I would like to know what about the other rural areas. How long it will take to introduce computerised telephone system all over Andhra Pradesh and all over India.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: It does not arise from this question. This is about paperless trunk exchanges. I need a separate notice for this.

[Translation]

Allotment of Gas/Petrol/Kerosene Agencies

*132. SHRI NARSINH MAKWANA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for having suspended the allotment of gas/kerosene agencies and petrol pumps in the last one year;

(b) the number of gas agencies that ought to have been sanctioned but for the said decision regarding suspension of allotment; the time by which such agencies will be sanctioned;

(c) what is the minimum population which entitles a city or town to be eligible for allotment of a gas agency; and

(d) what are the criteria for allotment of a gas agency in a rural area keeping in view the need for rural development?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) and (b). While allotment of dealerships of petroleum products had not been suspended, fresh selections were not taking place after the term of the incumbents of the Oil Selection Boards expired in June, 1986. Till the re-constitution of these Boards between March and July, 1987, action was being taken by the oil marketing companies to award and commission dealerships in cases finalised by the outgoing Boards where no enquiry about the selection or modification of the panel of names appeared necessary. Since all the Boards have now been reconstituted, interviews for-pending selections have been resumed and will be finalised from time to time.

(c) and (d). The oil industry is normally taking up, in a phased manner, locations with a population of 20,000 and above which offer sufficient potential for economically viable marketing of LPG. There is no proposal for marketing of LPG in rural areas as such.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Shortage of Raw Materials for Plastic Units

*121. SHRI SALEEM I. SHERVANI:
SHRI KAMAL NATH:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'Shortage of raw goods hitting plastic units' appearing in the Financial Express of 12 June, 1987; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to meet this shortage for the smooth running of these units?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO): (a) and (b). Yes Sir. The news-item mainly refers to shortage of Polypropylene Homo-polymer. The main reason for shortage is due to the fact that indigenous capacity is not adequate to meet the demand and the situation has become difficult due to adverse demand supply balance in the international market and the rise in international prices.

The situation is likely to ease with the IPCL commissioning an expansion project of Polypropylene Co-polymer with a capacity of 25,000 MTA shortly. We have also planned additional capacity of polypropylene for a capacity of 60,000 MTA in Maharashtra Gas Cracker Complex which will be commissioned in 1989.

With a view to meet immediate gap, efforts to obtain imported raw materials are being encouraged and to ensure reasonable prices, constant review of the international prices is taken. The above steps would augment the domestic availability and meet this shortage for the smooth running of these units.

Shortage of Power

*133. SHRI JAGANNATH PATTNAIK:
SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated shortage of power by the end of Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) the reasons identified in this regard; and

(c) the steps taken or contemplated to make up the shortage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) It is estimated that at the end of the Seventh Plan, there would be a peaking shortage of about 9,400 MW of power.

(b) The main reasons for the Power shortage are the constraint of financial resources and the growth in the demand for power outstripping the increase in supply.

(c) The measures taken to meet the power shortage include expediting the commissioning of on-going power projects, implementing short gestation projects, better utilisation of existing capacity, reduction in transmission and distribution losses, and implementation of demand management and energy conservation measures.

Establishment of Telephone Exchanges in all District Centres

*134. SHRI G. BHOOPATHY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for establishment of telephone exchanges in all the District Centres in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b). Telephone Exchanges are available at 441 out of 443 District Headquarters in the country. Only two District Headquarters i.e. Keylong in Himachal Pradesh and Chandrapur in Assam are not having any Exchange at present. Both these District Headquarters will be provided with Exchanges by 1989-90 i.e. with 7th Plan period.

Filling up of SC/ST Posts in Public Undertakings

*135. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that in some public undertakings located in Visakhapatnam, posts reserved for SC/ST have not been filled up,

(b) whether there is also a heavy backlog of posts meant for SC/ST in the Bharat Heavy Plates and Vessels Limited; and

(c) if so, the corrective measures taken to fill up the vacancies?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J VENGALA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Except in Group 'D', in which the percentage of Scheduled Castes is well above the prescribed percentage, the representation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes employees in all other category of posts in Bharat Heavy Plates and Vessels Limited is below the prescribed percentage reserved for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes.

(c) The public sector undertakings recruit general category candidates against reserved posts only in the event of non-availability of suitable reserved category candidates, after complying with the prescribed formalities which include advertisement in newspapers, notification to Employment Exchanges, intimation of

reserved vacancies to recognised associations and organisations of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, announcement of reserved vacancies on All-India Radio, intimation of reserved vacancies to Directors of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes, Welfare or Social Welfare in States and Union Territories, etc. In addition, some of the Visakhapatnam based undertakings have also taken special measures to improve the representation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in various categories of posts. These measures include introduction of Executive Trainee Scheme by the Dredging Corpn. of India Ltd. whereunder reserved category candidates are trained in various disciplines and are absorbed in the services of the Corporation on successful completion of training, induction of candidates belonging to SC and ST initially as technician apprentice and their absorption later on, etc. Hindustan Shipyard Ltd. is in the process of releasing an advertisement for recruitment of 18 Management Trainees exclusively for SC and ST candidates. The undertaking has also constituted an internal Committee to explore the possibilities of getting SC/ST candidates and to suggest ways and means of augmenting their representation.

Separate High Court for Manipur and Tripura

*136. SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in the matter of a separate High Court for Manipur and Tripura;

(b) whether Union Government are aware of the pressing demand in respect of Manipur in particular, for a separate High Court in view of the grave inconveniences suffered by the litigants in the State and the inadequacy of the Gauhati High Court to meet the requirements of the outlying States where quantum of litigation is high; and

(c) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING, PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) to (c). It has been agreed, in principle, that there should be separate High Courts for each of the States in North-Eastern region; for this purpose, Parliamentary legislation is required.

Till separate High Courts are formed for Manipur, it has been decided to establish permanent Benches of the Gauhati High Court in these States after the necessary, infrastructural facilities have been provided, by issue of Presidential Orders for the convenience of the litigant public.

[Translation]

LPG Agencies in Madhya Pradesh

*137. SHRI KAMMODILAL JATAV: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of gas agencies in Madhya Pradesh at present indicating their location;

(b) whether more gas agencies are proposed to be opened at the level of development blocks in Madhya Pradesh; and

(c) if so, the time by which these are likely to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) As on 30.6.87 there were 171 LPG distributorships operating in Madhya Pradesh at locations given in the Statement below.

(b) and (c). While development blocks do not as such constitute a basis for opening of new LPG distributorships, the oil industry has been normally taking up in a phased manner locations with a population of 20,000 or more offering sufficient potential for an LPG distributorship. New distributorships under the annual marketing plans of the oil industry will continue to be set up in Madhya Pradesh from time to

time after selection of candidates by the Oil Selection Boards and completion of formalities by the selected candidates.

STATEMENT

Towns in Madhya Pradesh where LPG is being marketed:

S. No.	Name of Town	
1.	Bhopal	17
2.	Gwalior	8
3.	Jabalpur	13
4.	Ujjain	5
5.	Indore	17
6.	Raipur	9
7.	Sagar	2
8.	Mhow	2
9.	Damoh	1
10.	Ratlam	4
11.	Bhilai	4
12.	Satna	2
13.	Hoshangabad	1
14.	Bilaspur	5
15.	Nagda	1
16.	Chattarapur	1
17.	Korba	2
18.	Burhanpur	2
19.	Guna	1
20.	Bhind	1
21.	Shivpuri	1
22.	Datia	1
23.	Morena	1

S. No.	Name of Town	
24.	Mandasaur	1
25.	Panna	1
26.	Akaltara (R)	1
27.	Damtari	2
28.	Rajnandgaon	2
29.	Propelpur (R) (Itarsi)	1
30.	Rewa	2
31.	Nayagaon (R)	1
32.	Parasia	1
33.	Dewas	3
34.	Piparia	1
35.	Barwani	1
36.	Dabra	1
37.	Ashoknagar	1
38.	Chirimiri (R)	1
39.	Mahasamund	1
40.	Neemuch	1
41.	Jagadapur	2
42.	Marwa (Sangrauli)	1
		<hr/>
		128
		<hr/>
43.	Kirandul (R)	1
44.	Maihar	1
45.	Mahendragarh	1
46.	Waidhan (R)	1
47.	Churcha (R)	1
48.	Vijaypur (R)	1
49.	Raigarh	2
50.	Sanawad	1

S. No	Name of town	
51.	Sheopur	1
52.	Shajapur	1
53.	Tikamgarh	1
54.	Narsingpur	1
55.	Khargone	1
56.	Raisen	1
57.	Jaora	1
58.	Amia	1
59.	Sidhi	1
60.	Rajhara Jharandalli	1
61.	Kurasia	1
62.	Ambikapur	1
63.	Bacheli	1
64.	Balaghat	1
65.	Betul	1
66.	Bhatapara	1
67.	Bina (Itawa)	1
68.	Chindwara	2
69.	Dhar	1
70.	Durg	1
71.	Itarsi	1
72.	Jhabua	1
73.	Katni	1
74.	Khandwa	1
75.	Manglagaon	1
76.	Malanjkhand	1
77.	Mandla	1
78.	Mungeli	1

S. No.	Name of town	
79.	Nepanagar	1
80.	Rajgarh	1
81.	Sehore	1
82.	Seoni	2
83.	Shadol	1
84.	Vidisha	1
		45
		Total : 171

[English]

Technological Changes in Cement Industry

*138. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have advised the cement industry to make technological changes to ensure minimum energy consumption and reduce manufacturing cost;

(b) if so, the response of cement industry to the advice; and

(c) the results achieved so far?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO): (a) to (c). The Government have been advising the cement industry to make appropriate technological changes to reduce energy consumption and manufacturing costs. As the consumption of energy in a dry process cement plant is much less than that in a wet process cement plant, Government have been encouraging conversion of old wet process plants into dry process plants. In order to encourage such conversion, the Government have decided that a cement unit will be treated as a new unit for pur-

poses of levy obligation if it sets up a new dry process kiln by scrapping the old wet process kiln or by converging its wet process kiln into a dry process kiln, and also increases its production capacity by 100% or more, as a result of such conversion/scrapping. As regards the response from the cement industry, three cement plants have set up dry process kilns with a total capacity of 1.86 million tonnes by scrapping/converting old wet process kiln with a capacity of 1.27 million tonnes during the last four years. Ten more cement plants with existing capacity of 4.26 million tonnes have already undertaken plans to scrap/convert their wet process kilns into dry process kilns.

Allocation of Imported Edible Oils to States for Public Distribution

*139. SHRI H.B PATIL. Will the Minister

of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have allocated imported edible oils under the public distribution system and small packs scheme to States for June, 1987; and

(b) if so, the details regarding the quantities allotted to States during June, 1987, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Statement indicating the allocation of imported edible oils to States under Public Distribution System and under the Scheme of Small Packs for the month of June, 1987, is given below.

STATEMENT

Allocation of Imported Edible Oils made to States/Union Territories under Public Distribution System/Small Packs for the month of June, 1987

(Quantity in Tonnes)

S. No.	Name of State/UT	Imported Edible Oil Allocation		Total
		In PDS	In Small Packs	
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4800	2000	6800
2.	Assam	300	—	300
3.	Bihar	600	100	700
4.	Gujarat	7570	2000	9570
5.	Haryana	600	400	1000
6.	Himachal Pradesh	600	100	700
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	300	100	400
8.	Karnataka	2900	1000	3900
9.	Kerala	1500	1000	2500
10.	Madhya Pradesh	1300	1000	2300

1	2	3	4	5
11.	Maharashtra	5300	6500	11800
12.	Manipur	800	—	800
13.	Meghalaya	400	—	400
14.	Nagaland	500	—	500
15.	Orissa	1100	300	1400
16.	Punjab	850	400	1250
17.	Rajasthan	800	100	900
18.	Sikkim	120	50	170
19.	Tamil Nadu	3000	2000	5000
20.	Tripura	300	—	300
21.	Uttar Pradesh	400	600	1000
22.	West Bengal	8700	1000	9700
23.	A & N Islands	90	—	90
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	50	—	50
25.	Chandigarh	50	50	100
26.	D & N Haveli	50	—	50
27.	Delhi	950	900	1850
28.	Goa, Daman & Diu	300	200	500
29.	Lakshadweep	120	—	120
30.	Mizoram	250	—	250
31.	Pondicherry	500	100	600
TOTAL		45100	19900	65000

Generation of Power from Tidal Waves

*140. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMA-CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether power generation from tidal waves is being planned by the Central Electricity Authority;

(b) whether the economic viability and feasibility reports have been prepared;

(c) whether tidal power would be cheaper in comparison to other power sources; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) and (b). The Central Electricity Authority has undertaken investigations and studies for a tidal power project in the Gulf of Kutch. A techno-economic feasibility report is expected to be completed by March, 1988.

(c) and (d). Generation of tidal power is still in a developmental stage and the cost of this power is not likely to be lower than the cost of power from thermal, hydel and nuclear stations.

Bio-Gas Plants Established in Sixth Five Year Plan

1298. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of bio-gas plants established in each State by the end of Sixth Five Year Plan;

(b) the number out of them which are working satisfactorily till date in each State;

(c) the number of bio-gas plants which have been closed down and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the provision made in the Seventh

Five Year Plan for each State and the number of bio-gas plants likely to be established during the Seventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) The total number of family type bio-gas plants established in different States/UTs during 1981-82 to 1984-85 under the National Project for Bio-gas Development (NPBD) is given in the Statement below.

(b) and (c). The information has been gathered through surveys conducted in 14 States in 1984 by five independent agencies. The reports indicate that on All-India average basis, about 84% of the bio-gas plants installed under NPBD were working at a given time. Of the balance, 7% plants were having structural problems and the remaining 9% plants were having temporary operational problems. Upto-date-State-wise sample surveys are being carried out.

(d) A plan outlay of Rs. 177.00 crores with a plan target of 5.5 lakh plants has been provided for the NPBD for the Seventh Five Year Plan period. State-wise targets for setting up of biogas plants are fixed on annual basis and accordingly funds are released in instalments to different States/UTs and programme implementing agencies as per the approved norms.

STATEMENT

State-wise number of Biogas Plants Installed during 1981-82 to 1984-85 under National Project on Biogas Development

S. No.	State/Union Territory	Total No. of Biogas Plants set up during 1981-82 to 1984-85
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	29662
3.	Assam	925
3.	Bihar	19748
4	Goa	530
5.	Gujarat	22622

1	2	3
6	Haryana	7834
7	Himachal Pradesh	3530
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	1126
9.	Karantaka	19571
10.	Kerala	6300
11.	Madhya Pradesh	14959
12.	Maharashtra	86340
13.	Manipur	21
14.	Meghalaya	71
15.	Nagaland	49
16.	Orissa	55889
17.	Punjab	4969
18.	Rajasthan	13774
19.	Sikkim	31
20	Tamil Nadu	31260
21.	Uttar Pradesh	69203
22.	West Bengal	5910
23.	Andaman & Islands	3
24	Chandigarh	52
25.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	72
26.	Delhi	188
27.	Mizoram	14
28.	Pondicherry	277.
GRAND TOTAL:		343930

Information is based on the figures reconciled by the State Governments and Khadi and Village Industries Commission in the year 1986.

Import of Oil Seeds

1299. SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN RAMJIBHAI MAVANI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering import of oil seeds instead of edible oils;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it would affect savings of foreign exchange and if so, the estimated savings;

(d) how it is proposed to safeguard the interests of public distribution system against possibilities of inferior quality of edible oil and likely exploitation by the crushing industry in the country;

(e) whether any committee has been appointed to examine merits of this proposal and if so, the names of the members of the committee, their scope of its examination;

(f) whether some multi-nationals are also showing interest in such import; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) The proposal for import of oilseeds instead of edible oils has not been accepted by Government.

(b) to (g). Do not arise.

Self Employment Scheme

1300. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken some steps to make improvements in the existing self employment scheme;

(b) if so, the specific steps taken in this regard;

(c) whether voluntary organisations are proposed to be involved for the effective implementation of self employment scheme; and

(d) the role proposed to be played by his Ministry in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). The following improvements have been made in the original scheme for self-employment of educated unemployed youth:

- (i) The ceiling for loans to set up industrial ventures has been raised from Rs. 25,000/- to Rs. 35,000/-;
- (ii) a minimum of 30% of sanctions has been reserved for S.C./S.T beneficiaries;
- (iii) family income limit of Rs. 10,000/- per annum has been prescribed as an eligibility criterion;
- (iv) ITI passed beneficiaries are also eligible to set up industry and service ventures under the scheme.

(c) It is not proposed to involve voluntary agencies in the effective implementation of the Self-Employment Scheme for Educated Unemployed Youth.

(d) The scheme is working successfully through District Industries Centres

Assessment of FCI Godowns

1301. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any fresh assessment has been made to fix the norms of storage losses in the Food Corporation of India

godowns in view of the vast improvements made in the storage technique;

(b) if so, what are the permissible limits per ton in storage; and

(c) how much less it would be applying in improved methods and the quantum of loss that can be avoided and its money value?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) to (c). The Food Corporation of India entrusted National Council of Applied Economic Research with an experimental study on losses during handling, transportation and storage of food-grains. The study makes a fresh assessment to fix the norms of storage losses in the Corporation. Final report is awaited.

Revitalisation of Scooters India Ltd.

1302. SHRI R. M BHOYE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided in principle to revitalise the loss-making Scooters India Limited rather than going in for privatisation as has been proposed earlier;

(b) whether the Scooters India Limited is a perennially losing public sector unit and has not made profits since its inception;

(c) whether the rehabilitation package for the unit has been worked out;

(d) if so, the details thereof, and

(e) the decision taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO): (a) to (e). The Scooters India Limited have been incurring losses

continuously since inception. It will not be in the commercial interest of Scooters India Limited to disclose various options available regarding its future.

Opening of Post Offices in Seventh Plan

1303. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether many Gram Panchayat villages in the country are without a single post office in them;

(b) if so, the number of Gram Panchayat villages in each State, District-wise which do not have a single post office in them;

(c) whether Government would ensure that each Gram Panchayat village has at least one post office by the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(d) if so, the likely expenditure on this score; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and the strategy adopted by the Department of Posts for ensuring a reliable dak system including the facility of posting of letters and receiving the delivery of dak every day at least by the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): According to a recent survey, there are 1,14,364 gram panchayat units in the country which have a post office and 74,687 gram panchayat units which are served by post offices established within the neighbouring gram panchayat units.

(b) The required information Circle-wise is presented in Statement-I below. District-wise figures are being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) The programme of opening the post offices in rural areas followed by the Department is based on norms which are

indicated in Statement-II below. It will be seen therefrom that while villages which are headquarter of gram panchayats are given due priority there are also other factors such as population, distance from nearest post office and minimum anticipated revenue which are to be satisfied. Therefore it is not likely that all gram panchayat units may be provided with post offices by the end of the Seventh Plan or later.

(d) The question does not arise in view of the reply to part (c) of the question.

(e) The number of gram panchayats in relation to the total rural population varies from State to State. Therefore, in order to have a balance development it is necessary to follow other criteria as well, as incorporated in the norms. As regards daily delivery of dak in rural areas, this objectives has more or less been achieved

by the Department as out of 5,79,132 villages in the country, the facility is available in all but 89 villages located in very remote areas.

Rural letter boxes are installed according to the following criteria:

Villages with population of 500 and above will be eligible to be provided with letter box facilities. In villages less than 500 population the facility will be provided strictly on the basis of need and subject to the criteria that (a) the nearest letter box is not more than one kilometer and (b) there is expectation of posting of at least one letter per day.

At present, out of 5,79,132 villages letter box facility is available in 3,57,740 villages. The target provided in the Seventh Plan for additional rural boxes is 5,000.

STATEMENT - I

Sl. No.	Circle	Number of Gram Panchayat Villages	No. of G.P. Villages without Post Offices
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	18,439	5,216
2.	Bihar	21,836	6,232
3.	Delhi	199	79
4.	Gujarat	13,206	5,222
5.	Haryana	5,036	2,314
6.	Himachal Pradesh	2,531	600
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	1,251	405
8.	Karnataka	8,210	—
9.	Kerala	1,441	441
10.	Madhya Pradesh	16,784	7,990
11.	Maharashtra	24,308	14,220
12.	North East	2,226	159

1	2	3	4
13.	Orissa	4,388	459
14.	Punjab and Chandigarh	10,722,	7,481
15.	Rajasthan	7,241	317
16.	Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry	11,280	3,941
17.	Uttar Pradesh	36,461	19,611
18.	West Bengai	3,492	—
		1,89,051	74,687
Total number of villages in the country as per 1981 census.		579132	

STATEMENT-II

Norms for opening of post offices in rural areas introduced with effect from 28.1.1987

Population

A group of villages will be identified for purpose of opening of new post offices. Within this group, a suitable Village will be selected for locating the post offices based on one or more of the following criteria :

- (i) Headquarter of a gram Panchayat;
- (ii) Village with the largest population;
- (iii) Location on an existing mail line;
- (iv) Central location with reference to the group of Villages.
- (v) Village which has a concentration of economic activity/other social facilities (weekly market, transport junction, railhead, primary health centre, educational institutions and others)

The aggregate population of the group of villages should be not less than 5,000 in normal rural areas and not less than 2,500 in hilly, backward and tribal areas; provided further that in normal rural areas no new post office may be opened unless the total population served by the parent post office is in excess of 10,000. As a result of a new post office being

opened, the parent post office should still have a total population of not less than 5,000 in normal rural areas and 2,500 in hilly backward and tribal areas.

Distance

No new post office may be opened in rural areas within the distance of 3 Kms. from an existing post office. In all new proposals, the distance should be got certified by the appropriate authorities of PWD/Highways/Zilla Parishads/district boards where the proposed post office is connected by a regular road and where it is not, by the revenue authorities. No relaxation of the distance condition is permissible under any circumstances.

Permissible limits of loss

The permissible limit of loss is now fixed at 2,400 per annum in normal rural areas and 4,800 per annum in hilly, backward and tribal areas. It is further provided that the anticipated income of a proposed post office should not be less than 50% of its anticipated cost in normal rural areas and 25% of its anticipated cost in hilly, backward and tribal areas. A branch office once opened will be retained on a year to year basis subject to these parameters being satisfied in each annual review.

It will be further ensured that as a result of the opening of a new post office, the loss in respect of the parent post office does not increase beyond the permissible limit nor is

its income reduced below the minimum prescribed.

General

The term 'tribal areas' referred to in this letter will only refer to areas identified as 'tribal' for purposes of implementation of tribal sub-plans/integrated tribal development projects (ITDP). Like-wise, 'hilly' areas would only denote areas identified for hill areas development programme (HADP). Authentic information in this regard should be ascertained from the concerned department of the State Government/Union Territory administration. Similarly, 'backward' areas would mean areas declared as backward by the State Government/Union Territories administration for purposes of accelerated development.

In view of the continuing ban on creation of posts, new post offices under these norms can only be sanctioned with the approval of Ministry of Finance.

Setting up of Wind Mills in the Coastal Districts of Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg in Konkan Region

1304. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme of the Union Government to introduce wind mills in the coastal districts of Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg in the Konkan region of Maharashtra with a view to generating electricity; and

(b) if so, the progress of this pending scheme?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b). The Department of non-Conventional Energy Sources is implementing a programme

involving *inter-alia*, demonstration wind farms in windy regions of the country. Under this programme, a 550 KW wind farm project was commissioned in May 1986 at Deogarh in the coastal district of Sindhudurg in the Konkan region of Maharashtra. Over five lakh units of electricity have already been fed to the State grid since the commissioning of the project. Another project for a 550 KW wind farm has been taken up and a suitable site either at Deogarh itself or at an alternative location in the Konkan region of Maharashtra is being finalized.

Incentive Awards for Bringing Down Transmission and Distribution Losses

1305. SHRI S. PALAKONDRAYUDU: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have instituted an incentive awards scheme to help bring down transmission and distribution losses in State Electricity Boards;

(b) if so, the amount earmarked for those awards during the current financial year;

(c) whether any incentive award has been given to Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board for bringing down the transmission and distribution losses; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) to (d). The Government have decided to institute an Incentive Scheme of awards to the State Electricity Boards, etc., for the reduction of Transmission and Distribution Losses. The scheme is expected to be finalised very shortly.

Financial assistance to States for Public Distribution System

1306. SHRIMATI BIBHA GHOSH GOSWAMI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any financial and other assistance is given to States to strengthen the Public Distribution System so as to bring more items of essential commodities under its fold; and

(b) if so, the details of assistance given during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b). At present, the Central Government has assumed responsibility for procurement and supply to the States/UTs of seven key essential commodities, viz., wheat, rice, levy sugar, imported edible oils, soft coke, kerosene and controlled cloth. There is no proposal under consideration of the Central Government to increase the number of commodities which are being procured and supplied by it. However,

States/UTs are free to include in their Public Distribution System other commodities for which they will have to make their own arrangements for procurement and distribution. The Central Government is not giving any financial assistance specifically for this purpose. However, the Central Government gives assistance to States/UTs to strengthen the existing Public Distribution System. Details of financial assistance given to various States during the last three years under the various schemes operated for the Public Distribution System by the Union Department of Civil Supplies are given in the Statement-I below.

Financial assistance is also provided for the development and rehabilitation of the consumer cooperatives in the country. Assistance provided during the last three years is given in the Statement-II below.

STATEMENT-I

The Union Department of Civil Supplies has provided financial assistance to States/UTs to strengthen the Public Distribution System during the last three financial years under the following schemes:

1. *Assistance to States/UTs in the North-Eastern Region and the States/UTs of Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Sikkim & Nicobar Islands for setting up Civil Supplies Corporations and construction of godowns.*

<i>Financial Year</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>(Rs. Lakhs) Amount-released</i>
1985-86	Himachal Pradesh	14.00
1986-87	—	—
1987-88	—	—

2. *Assistance to States for purchase of vans to be operated as mobile fair price shops.*

<i>Financial Year</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Amount Sanctioned (Rs. Lakhs)</i>	<i>Number of vehicles</i>
1	2	3	4
1985-86	Andhra Pradesh	6.00	3

1	2	3	4
1985-86	Assam	5.29	3
-do-	Bihar	16.73	12
-do-	Madhya Pradesh	37.00	20
-do-	Orissa	22.00	11
-do-	Rajasthan	8.00	4
Total Financial assistance granted during 1985-86		95.02	53
1986-87	Manipur	19.00	9
-do-	Bihar	12.50	5
-do-	Assam	15.68	8
-do-	Uttar Pradesh	20.00	8
-do-	Nagaland	12.50	5
-do-	Rajasthan	15.00	6
Total Financial assistance granted during 1986-87		94.68	41
1987-88	Himachal Pradesh	15.00	6

3. *Assistance to States/UTs in the North-Eastern Region for supply of iodised salt and levy sugar in small packs.*

Financial Year	State	Amount Sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)
1985	—	—
1986-87	Arunachal Pradesh	16.41
-do-	Mizoram	2.23
-do-	Manipur	12.00
Total assistance given during 1986-87		30.64
1987-88	Arunachal Pradesh	5.00

* This Scheme was introduced during the financial year 1986-87.

STATEMENT-II

Statewise Position of Funds Released under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Development of Consumer Cooperatives in Urban Areas during 1984-85 to 1986-87 and during 1987-88 (Upto 31st July, 1987)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	1984-85	1985-86	(Rs. in lakhs)	
				1986-87	1987-88 (upto 31.7.87)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	—	32.88	0.36	—
2.	Assam	1.26	5.20	11.29	1.35
3.	Bihar	0.72	—	1.80	—
4.	Gujarat	—	0.90	4.80	3.85
5.	Haryana	—	—	—	—
6.	Himachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	3.65	6.70	4.50	—
8.	Karnataka	23.20	16.05	9.50	12.06
9.	Kerala	0.90	2.88	2.52	—
10.	Madhya Pradesh	2.71	4.37	—	—
11.	Maharashtra	42.91	52.84	3.44	8.25
12.	Manipur	—	5.00	11.24	2.50
13.	Meghalaya	—	2.16	—	—
14.	Nagaland	18.45	—	0.60	—
15.	Orissa	5.22	5.12	6.43	2.50
16.	Punjab	—	—	—	—
17.	Rajasthan	—	1.98	0.38	2.30
18.	Sikkim	—	—	—	—
19.	Tamil Nadu	22.14	27.88	11.20	—
20.	Tripura	—	—	—	—
21.	Uttar Pradesh	36.69	22.24	12.93	3.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
22.	West Bengal	1.98	2.34	107.22	0.36
23.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	12.63	11.20	—
24.	Mizoram	—	—	12.52	—
		159.83	201.17	211.93	36.37*

* The outlay for the scheme for 1987-88 is Rs. 200 lakhs

N.B.: In addition, under another scheme implemented through the NCDC, the following financial assistance by way of margin money was provided to the Primary Agricultural Credit Societies for enabling them to undertake distribution of consumer articles in rural areas:—

1984-85	Rs. 500.00 lakhs
1985-86	Rs. 300.00 lakhs
1986-87	Rs. 154.56 lakhs
1987-88 (Upto 31.7.87)	Rs. 50.00 lakhs (The outlay for the year is Rs. 240.00 lakhs).

Assessment of the Requirement of LPG Connections

1307. SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOS-SAIN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been made to assess the requirement of LPG connections in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A survey was conducted by National Council of Applied Economic Research on behalf of oil industry to identify the potential users of LPG and quantities likely to be consumed both in domestic and commercial installations in the urban areas from 1985-86 to 1991-92. The demand was

assessed at 2.51 Million Tonnes for 1985-86, and is expected to reach 3.38 Million Tonnes by 1991-92.

Use of Rice Bran Oil in Vanaspati

1308. DR. B. L. SHAILESH: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have fixed any percentage or quantity of rice bran oil which could be used for the manufacture of vanaspati; if so, to what extent:

(b) whether rice bran oil is comparatively cheaper both by way of investment and operating costs; and

(c) if so, the reasons why the vanaspati industry has not resorted to reduction in cost of vanaspati manufactured with the use of rice bran oil?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The prices of rice bran oil are marginally cheaper as compared to other permitted oils used in the manufacture of vanaspati. However, operating cost is higher due to presence of higher percentage of free fatty acids and waxes.

(c) The use of rice bran oil in the manufacture of vanaspati has no visible impact on the prices of vanaspati as its use is limited to 13% of the requirement and the processing cost is higher.

Shortfall in Production of Sugar

1309. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state whether it is a fact that there is shortfall in the production of sugar in the current year, if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): No, Sir. The sugar production during the current 1986-87 sugar season aggregated to 83.82 lakh tonnes as on 15-7-1987 as against 68.99 lakh tonnes on the corresponding date last year.

Demand and Production of Cement

1310. SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total production of cement in 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87;

(b) the demand of cement in the country in 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87;

(c) if it was more than the production, how the demand was met by Government;

(d) how much cement was demanded

supplied to rural and urban sector respectively in last three years;

(e) whether Government are satisfied by the demand/supply position of cement to rural sector; and

(f) if not, the steps proposed by Government to remedy the position?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Cement Production:

Year	Quantity (Million Tonne)
1984-85	30.19
1985-86	33.13
1986-87	36.50

(b) The Working Group on Cement Industry in its report of July, 1984 had assessed the demand as follows:

Year	Quantity (Million Tonne)
1984-85	37.00
1985-86	39.37
1986-87	41.74

(c) With a view to improve the availability of cement, Government authorised import of half a million tonnes of cement through State Trading Corporation against which the year-wise imports were as under:—

Year	Quantity (Lakh tonnes)
1984-85	3.74

1	2
1985-86	3.31
1986-87	1.76
Total:	8.81

However, due to additional capacity materialisation and sluggishness of demand the availability of cement in the country has since improved and no further imports are allowed.

(d) Quarterly allocations are given to States/Union Territories and Central Govt. Departments and they make further sub-allocation .

No separate figures for allotment and supplies to rural and urban areas are available.

(e) and (f). The sub-allocations of levy cement are made by the State Government who consider allotment of levy cement to the rural sector, keeping in view the requirements of eligible consumers and overall availability.

Waiting List for Telephone Connection in Gujarat

1311. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the waiting list of telephone connections at the end of June, 1987 in the towns whose population is more than 25000 in the country and particularly in Gujarat :

(b) the steps being taken to provide new telephone connections during 1987 and 1988 to reduce the waiting list;

(c) whether Government have chalked out any plan to provide better telecommunication services in those towns whose population is more than 25000, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The waiting list of telephone connections in the country in May, 1987 is 11.58 lakhs which mostly pertains to the towns having a population of more than 25,000. The waiting list of the towns in Gujarat whose population is more than 25,000 is 84,615 at the end of June, 1987.

(b) The number of new connections expected to be provided in Gujarat during 1987-88 is 19,000.

(c) Yes, Sir. For improvement of telecommunication services activities have been planned under Mission Better Communication, which are given in the Statement given below.

STATEMENT

A Internal Equipment:

1. Replacement of small capacity central battery exchanges by Cross-bar/Electronic exchanges.
2. Introduction of group dialling for SAXs in rural areas.
3. Replacement of life-expired auto exchanges and expansion of existing exchanges.

External Plant:

Upgradation of external plant will consist of—

1. Replacement of life expired and worn out of instruments, life-expired fault prone underground cables.
2. Locking of DPs. and tidying of DPs. fittings.
3. Pressurisation of junction (Primary and Secondary)

C. Transmission Media:

1. Replacement of overhead trunk alignment by high grade transmission media such as micro wave, UHF and optical fibre system.

2. Introduction of Multi Access Radio Relay scheme (MARR) for long distance public telephones.

D. Customer Satisfaction:

1. Training scheme has been drawn up for staff to provide better services to the customers.
2. Inroduction of computerised Directory Enquiry Service.

Oil and Gas Reserves In West Bengal

1312. SHRI ANIL BASU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state the details of results achieved and other efforts made to find out oil and gas reserves in West Bengal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): The details of exploration work done so far by ONGC in West Bengal are as under :

- (i) Geological Surveys — 8,807 Sq. Kms.
- (ii) Gravity Magnetic Surveys — 45,905 Stations
- (iii) Seismic Surveys — 26,949 LK + SK
- (iv) Exploratory Drilling — 14 Wells

In addition, 3 wells are now under drilling. So far no commercial discovery of hydrocarbons have been made in West Bengal.

Sick Industries

1313. SHRI UTTAM RATHOD: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

- (a) whether one-fifth of the sick industries are located in West Bengal ;
- (b) if so, whether the reasons for the same have been investigated ; and

(c) the steps being taken for making these industries healthy again ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Data on sick industrial units assisted by banks are collected by the Reserve Bank of India as per the definition of sickness adopted by it. The position with regard to the sick industrial units located in West Bengal and the total number of sick industrial units in the country as a whole is as under :

	No. of large scale units	No. of small scale units
West Bengal	132	18,620
All India	637	1,17,783

(b) Industrial sickness is caused by a multiplicity of factors, some of which are faulty planning, management deficiencies, inefficient financial control, diversion of resources, inadequate attention to R&D, obsolescence of technology and machinery, shortage of raw materials and other inputs and infrastructural constraints.

(c) The Reserve Bank of India in consultation with the banks and financial institutions has evolved a mechanism which helps in detecting industrial sickness at the incipient stage. The banks and financial institutions also draw rehabilitation packages in respect of sick industrial units after ascertaining their viability. In addition, Government have enacted a comprehensive piece of legislation, namely "The Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985" which provides for setting up of a quasi-judicial body known as the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) to deal with the problem of sick industrial companies in the country in an effective manner. The BIFR is empowered to consider various aspects of revival and rehabilitation of a sick industrial company, such as change of management, amalga-

mation with healthy company, sale, or lease of a part or whole of the undertaking or such other preventive, ameliorative and remedial measures, as may be considered appropriate. The BIFR has been constituted by the Government in January 1987 and it has become fully operational with effect from 15.5.1987.

LPG Connections and Agencies in West Bengal

1314. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:
SHRI MATILAL HANSDA:

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

(a) the present number of applications pending with Government for LPG connections in West Bengal, District-wise;

(b) the number of gas agencies presently functioning in West Bengal, district-wise;

(c) whether Government intend to sanction more gas agencies in the districts of West Bengal; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) Statement I is given below.

(b) Statement II is given below.

(c) and (d). Under the various Marketing Plans the following LPG distributorships are proposed to be commissioned in West Bengal:

	District	No. of distributorships proposed to be commissioned.
1.	Bankura	—
2.	Burdwan	—
3.	Calcutta	—
4.	Durgapur	—
5.	Hooghly	—
6.	Howrah	—
7.	Midnapur	—
8.	Nadia	—
9.	24 Parganas	—
		41

These will be commissioned from time to time after completion of prescribed formalities and procedures in each case.

STATEMENT-I

Name of the Districts in West Bengal	No of persons on waiting list with IOC (as on 1.7.87)	No. of persons on waiting list with HPC (as on 1.4.87)
1. Kooch Bihar	30	—
2. Jalpaiguri	3067	—
3. Darjeeling	2538	750
4. West Dinajpur	735	—
5. Malda	429	—
6. Murshidabad	1510	—
7. Nadia	2399	113
8. 24 Parganas	26817	2306
9. Calcutta	16882	6176
10. Howrah	9045	5322
11. Hoogli	10859	3747
12. Midnapur	1460	418
13. Bankura	54	—
14. Purulia	226	—
15. Burdwan	4427	1292
16. Birbhum	655	240
Total	81133	20364

(There is no waiting list with BPCL)

STATEMENT-II

Name of the Districts of West Bengal	No. of distributors as on 30.6.1987
1	2
1. Kooch Bihar	—
2. Jalpaiguri	—
3. Darjeeling	—
4. West Dinajpur	—

1	2
5. Malda	— 1
6. Murshidabad	— 4
7. Nadia	— 8
8. 24 Parganas	— 33
9. Calcutta	— 48
10. Howrah	— 15
11. Hoogli	— 11
12. Midnapur	— 12
13. Bankura	— 1
14. Purulia	— 2
15. Burdwan	— 19
16. Birbhum	— 3
Total	175

Investment in Public Sector Industries

1315. SHRI AMAL DATTA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the state-wise investment in the public sector under his Ministry during the last three years;

(b) the share of each State in the total investment (in percentage) during the same period, year-wise; and

(c) the rate of investment in the Central sector industrial projects during the same period, year-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO): (a) and (b). A Statement giving the details relating to Central Public Enterprises under the Industry Ministry is given below.

(c) It is presumed that the Hon'ble Member is referring to the investment of Central Public Enterprises as a whole. The investment of Central Public Enterprises in terms of gross block is available in the Public Enterprises Survey of the respective year which were placed on the Table of the House. The Public Enterprises Survey for 1985-86 has been placed on the Table of the House on 27.2.1987.

STATEMENT

Statewise investment of Central Public Enterprises under the Ministry of Industry in terms of gross block as on 31.3.1986

(Rs. in crores)

S. No.	Name of State	As on 31.3.1986		As on 31.3.1985		As on 31.3.1984	
		Investment Amount	% to total Investment	Investment Amount	% to total Investment	Investment Amount	% to total Investment
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	635.81	14.09	507.64	13.04	441.84	13.89
2.	Assam	520.11	11.53	437.22	11.23	320.91	10.09
3.	Bihar	251.56	5.57	241.42	6.20	238.46	7.49
4.	Gujarat	564.60	12.51	506.10	12.99	463.56	14.58
5.	Haryana	227.77	5.05	128.37	3.29	92.14	2.89
6.	Himachal Pradesh	23.53	0.52	22.99	0.59	22.57	0.71
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	9.18	0.20	7.59	0.19	7.26	0.23
8.	Karnataka	163.12	3.61	147.33	3.78	131.06	4.12
9.	Kerala	248.32	5.50	247.88	6.37	50.12	1.58
10.	Madhya Pradesh	383.21	8.49	336.65	8.65	264.11	8.30
11.	Maharashtra	228.98	5.07	146.57	3.76	147.85	4.65
12.	Manipur	—	—	—	—	—	—

13.	Meghalaya	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
14.	Nagaland	74.09	1.64	72.90	1.87	72.83	2.29		
15.	Orissa	1.68	0.04	1.40	0.04	1.39	0.04		
16.	Punjab	14.99	0.33	13.15	0.34	11.01	0.35		
17.	Rajasthan	31.46	0.69	29.52	0.76	27.82	0.87		
18.	Sikkim	—	—	—	—	—	—		
19.	Tamil Nadu	292.77	6.49	255.07	6.55	232.05	7.29		
20.	Tripura	—	—	—	—	—	—		
21.	Uttar Pradesh	442.24	9.80	413.07	10.61	368.49	11.59		
22.	West Bengal	275.12	6.09	227.32	5.84	191.59	6.02		
23.	Andaman & Nicobar	—	—	—	—	—	—		
24.	Chandigarh	0.04	—	0.04	—	0.03	—		
25.	Delhi	98.76	2.19	86.62	2.22	13.20	0.41		
26.	Goa	2.34	0.05	2.28	0.06	2.24	0.07		
27.	Pondicherry	—	—	—	—	—	—		
28.	Others	22.23	0.49	62.45	1.60	79.62	2.50		
TOTAL		4511.91	100.00	3893.58	100.00	3180.17	100.00		

Applications for removal of Foreign Trade Mark from Trade Mark Register

1316. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) how many applications for removal of Foreign Trade Marks from the Trade Mark Register are pending with the Registrar of Trade Marks; and

(b) the reasons why there is delay in removing the Foreign Trade Marks which have not been used as per the Trade Mark Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). 143 applications for removal of foreign trade marks on the ground of non-use are pending at different stages of proceedings with the Registrar of Trade Marks. The Proceedings before the Registrar are Quasi judicial. The person making the application before the Registrar will have to establish by evidence the allegation of non-use of a trade mark. If such non-use by the Registered Proprietor is shown to have been due to special circumstances in the trade and not to any intention to abandon or not to use the trade mark, the mark does not become liable for removal. Appeals against decision of the Registrar lie to the High Courts.

Construction of Godowns in West Bengal

1317. SHRI MATILAL HANSDA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of godowns of Food Corporation of India in West Bengal;

(b) the number of new godowns constructed during 1986-87;

(c) the total storage capacity thereof;

(d) whether it is proposed to construct

more godowns during the current year; and

(e) if so, the details of places alongwith their capacity?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) The number of storage depots, owned and hired taken together, with the Food Corporation of India in West Bengal is at present 214.

(b) and (c). The Corporation has constructed five storage depots having a total capacity of 54,190 tonnes in West Bengal during 1986-87.

(d) and (e). Yes, Sir. The Corporation propose to take up construction of storage capacity of 10,000 tonnes at Dhankuni in West Bengal during the current year.

Increase in Subsidy to FCI

1318. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether subsidy given to the Food Corporation of India for carrying costs and establishment costs for handling of food-grains was increased from Rs. 1100 crores in 1984-85 to Rs. 2000 crores in 1986-87;

(b) if so, the reasons for such a steep rise in the subsidy provided; and

(c) how do the handling rates of the Food Corporation of India compare with those of the State Trading Corporation which handles similar imported goods?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main reasons for the rise in the subsidy were the increases in operational costs on account of interest, railway freight and introduction of scheme of supply of

wheat and rice at specially subsidised rates under ITDP.

(c) The specific type of service rendered by FCI is unique to this organisation, and hence, its handling charges are not comparable with that of other organisations.

Constitution of Postal Advisory Committee for Bihar

1319. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the date of constitution of the Postal Advisory Committee for the State of Bihar:

(b) the terms of reference of Advisory Committee, and

(c) how frequently the Advisory Committees and expected to meet and the dates of the meetings that have been held so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a). 30.9.85.

(b) The role of Committee is purely advisory. The Head of the Circle takes note of suggestions and recommendations made by the Committees.

(c) The Committee meets ordinarily once in every six months. The meetings have so far been held on 30.10.85 and

29.7.86 and the next meeting has been fixed for 3.8.87.

Action Plan for Telecommunication Services

1320. SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR:
DR B.L. SHAILESH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Telecommunications has introduced an Action Plan under which additional telephone lines are proposed to be connected during 1987-88;

(b) whether the Department of Telecommunications has set targets and goals for the development of services during the above years; and

(c) if so, the number of new telephones connections proposed to be given during 1987-88; the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) It is proposed to provide 2.4 lakh new telephone connections during 1987-88. The details of targets for new telephone connections for Telephone Districts and Telecom. Circles are given in the Statement below.

STATEMENT

S. No.	Unit	Annual Target of Net DELs for 1987-88.
1	2	3
METRO DISTRICTS		
1.	Bombay	40,000
2.	Calcutta	8,000

1	2	3
3.	Delhi	30,000
4.	Madras	10,000
	Total	88,000
MAJOR DISTRICTS		
5.	Ahmedabad	8,000
6.	Bangalore	8,000
7.	Hyderabad	8,000
8.	Kanpur	800
9.	Pune	2,200
	Total	27,000
TELECOM. CIRCLES		
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10,000
2.	Assam	3,000
3.	Bihar	5,000
4.	Gujarat	11,000
5.	Haryana	2,500
6.	Himachal	2,000
7.	J&K	3,000
8.	Karnataka	9,000
9.	Kerala	10,000
10.	Madhya Pradesh	9,000
11.	Maharashtra	13,500
12.	North East	2,000
13.	Orissa	5,000
14.	Punjab	7,000
15.	Rajasthan	7,000
16.	Tamil Nadu	12,000

1	2	3
17.	Uttar Pradesh	10,000
18.	West Bengal	4,000
	Total	1,25,000
	GRAND TOTAL	2,40,000

Applications for setting up industries in Andhra Pradesh

1321. SHRI SHRIHARI RAO: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of applications pending with Union Government for clearance, sent by the Government of Andhra Pradesh to set up major, minor and small scale industries since 1983;

(b) the number of letters of intent issued to Government of Andhra Pradesh since 1983, year-wise details thereof;

(c) the number of applications rejected; and

(d) the reasons for rejecting the applications?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) As on 29.7.87, 63 Industrial Licence applications were received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh under the provisions of Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 for the grant of Letters of Intent for the setting up of Industries since and including the year 1983.

(b) As on 29.7.87, 21 Letters of Intent were issued to the Government of Andhra Pradesh since 1983. The breakup of the details yearwise are:—

1983/5 Letters of Intent

1984/7 Letters of Intent.

1985/5 Letters of Intent.

1986/4 Letters of Intent

(c) and (d). Of these, 36 applications were rejected/disposed of. Various techno-economic factors such as, demand and supply, capacity already licenced, export potential, availability of raw materials, locational constraints and viability of the scheme are taken into account while approving or rejecting an Industrial Licence application. Grounds of rejection vary from case to case and are communicated to the applicants as well as to the State Government concerned.

Development of I.T.I. Units

1322. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the developmental work being undertaken in the four units of the Indian Telephone Industries in the coming years with unit-wise break-up; and

(b) when the work will be completed and the amount being earmarked for this purpose for each of these units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). Following major development projects are at hand at various units of Indian Telephone Industries Limited (I.T.I.)

Name of Project	Project Cost (In crores of Rupees)	Provision in 7th Plan	Estimated completion year
(A) I.T.I. BANGALORE			
(i) Production of 5 lakh electronic telephone instruments a year	10.82	10.66	1989-90
(ii) Production of SPC Telex equipment	4.02	3.12	1987-88
(iii) Production of digital microwave, digital coaxial, digital multiplex & other transmission equipment	31.67	31.67	1989-90
(iv) Production of electronic rural automatic exchanges	23.00	23.00	1989-90
(v) Production of optical fibre cable line equipment	9.00	9.00	1989-90
(B) I.T.I. PALGHAT			
(i) Production of digital trunk automatic exchanges, PABXs & rural exchanges	61.95	59.52	1988-89
(C) I.T.I. MANKAPUR			
(i) Production of digital electronic exchanges	177.02	136.47	1989-90
(D) I.T.I. NAINI			
(i) Production of 5 lakh electronic telephone instruments a year	11.10	10.83	1989-90
(ii) Production of multi access radio relay system	1.26	1.21	1988-89
(iii) Production of digital multiplex & other transmission equipment.	13.33	13.33	1989-90
(E) I.T.I. SRINAGAR			
(i) Expansion of telephone instruments production.	1.00	1.00	1989-90

Anticipated Demand and Production of Power

1323. **PROF. P.J. KURIEN**: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the anticipated demand of power by the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan period;

(b) the anticipated production by that time;

(c) the power potential added during the last three years; and

(d) the steps taken to meet the shortage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) and (b). The estimated demand for power and the expected generation at the end of the Seventh Plan are about 269 billion units and 255 billion units respectively.

(c) The power generation capacities added in the utilities during 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87 was 3080 MW, 4223 MW and 2623 MW respectively.

(d) The measures taken to improve the availability of power include expediting the commissioning of additional capacity, implementing short gestation projects, improving the performance of existing power stations, reducing transmission and distribution losses, and implementation of energy conservation and demand management measures.

STD Facility in Pithoragarh District in Uttar Pradesh

1324. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO:
SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal in the Seventh Five Year Plan to provide STD facility to district Pithoragarh in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the likely time by which the proposal will be implemented; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) STD facility to Pithoragarh is likely to be provided during 1988.

(c) Does not arise.

New Hydro Electric Project in Kerala

1325. SHRI SURESH KURUP: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal for setting up any new hydro-electric project in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) and (b). The following proposals for setting up new hydro-electric projects in Kerala have been received:—

S.No.	Project	Installed Capacity	Estimated (Rs. Crores)
1.	Chalaky II	2x40+2x60=200 MW	130.5
2.	Pallivasal Replacemet	4x60= 240 MW	200.0
3.	Anakkayam Mini Hydel	2x4 = 8 MW	13.29

Cases of irregularities/malpractices in N.C.C.F.

1326. SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 9079 on 5 May, 1987 regarding cases of irregularities/malpractices in NCCF and state:

(a) whether the departmental enquiries instituted by the NCCF against 17 of its employees have since been completed; and

(b) if so, the particulars of employees involved, the alleged irregularities commit-

ted by them and action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF PALIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) NCCF has informed that out of seventeen employees against whom departmental enquiries were instituted, enquiries in the case of eight employees have been completed. Enquiries against the remaining nine employees are in progress.

Particulars of the eight employees against whom the enquiries have been completed are given in the Statement below.

STATEMENT

Particulars of the NCCF employees involved, alleged irregularities and action taken in this regard

S. No.	Name of the employees and designation	Details of cases of alleged irregularities	Action taken on the report
1	2	3	4
1.	Shri Purushottam Mahi, Field Officer	Enquiry regarding shortages and cash credits in the sale of imported levy-free sugar in Delhi.	His explanation was examined and full recovery has been made and a penalty has been imposed.
2.	Shri R.C. Verma, Field Assistant	—do—	—do—
3.	Shri M.C. Jain Sr. Accounts Clerk	—do—	—do—
4.	Shri Y. Jha, R.M.(N)	Supply of old Bardan to a private party at a cheaper rate (Bhiwani Branch)	Enquiry Officer has submitted his report which is under examination.
5.	Shri R.S. Drall, Dy. Manager	—do—	—do—
6.	Shri R.S. Yadav, A.M. II	—do—	—do—
7.	Shri Ramji Dubey, A.M. II	Supply of huge quantity of handloom products to M/S Shahdara Consumer Store.	—do—
8.	Shri N.K. Singh, Manager	Supply of wrong information regarding disqualification and mismanagement in Srinagar Branch.	—do—

**Setting up of low cost power substations
in States designed by Rural
Electrification Corporation**

1327. DR. G.S. RAJHANS: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up low cost power substations in the States which had been designed by the Rural Electrification Corporation about some time back;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the names of States where these stations are to be set up; and

(c) when the work is likely to be commissioned and completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) to (c). The Rural Electrification Corporation has circulated to all the State Electricity Boards the standardised design of a low cost 33/11 KV sub-station for supply of power to rural areas. The new design makes use of certain automatic control equipment and the requirement of land and buildings has also been reduced.

The State Electricity Boards which have initiated action to set up sub-stations with the new design include those in Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and West Bengal. The work of setting up 33/11 KV sub-stations is a continuous process and about 30 sub-stations of the new design are expected to be set up by the State Electricity Boards during the current financial year.

Petrochemical Complex In Gujarat

1328. SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL:
SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN
RAMJIBHAI MAVANI:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Gujarat has been requesting for setting up a petro-

chemical complex in the State for past several years;

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

(c) the time by which the petrochemical complex is likely to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) to (c). Some applications for the setting up of a petrochemical complex in Gujarat have been received. Final decision on those applications will be taken after a number of issues relating to availability of feedstock, tie up of resources etc., are resolved. Details about these applications are not disclosed till a final decision is taken on them.

**Subsidised Foodgrains Supply Scheme
for Tribals**

1329. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of tribals in Orissa covered under the subsidised foodgrain supply scheme by Government;

(b) the total amount spent on the scheme; and

(c) the steps proposed by Government to cover all those tribals residing in non-tribal areas?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) As per the 1981 Census, the estimated number of beneficiaries of the scheme for supply of foodgrains at specially subsidised prices in Integrated Tribal Development Project (I.T.D.P.) areas in Orissa is 72.29 lakhs.

(b) The estimated amounts of subsidy incurred by the Government of India on

distribution in I.T.D.P. areas in Orissa are as under:-

	in Rs. crores
1986-87	— 7.69
1987-88 (Apr. to June, 87)	— 2.25

(c) The scheme is at present restricted to people living in I.T.D.P. areas and the Tribal Majority States viz., Arunachal Pradesh, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Lakshadweep, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Nagaland.

Economic Advisory Council in Performance of Public Enterprises

1330. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN:
SHRI SUBHASH YADAV:
SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government set up a high powered Economic Advisory Council to study the working of Public Sector Enterprises;

(b) if so, whether this Council has submitted its report to Government;

(c) the main recommendations made in the Report; and

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken on these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO): (a) and (b). An Economic Advisory Council has been set up to advise Government on such specific issues relating to economic policy and development as are referred to it by the Prime Minister and also on such issues as the Members of the Council themselves

may bring up for Government's consideration. The Council has submitted a Report to the Prime Minister on "Public Enterprise in India—some current issues".

(c) and (d). The Report contains a number of recommendations for improving the performance of public sector enterprises which would be taken into account in the preparation of the White Paper on Public Enterprises.

Clearance of Tehri Dam

1331. SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have cleared Tehri Dam in UP in spite of strong protests from environmentalists in India and abroad; and

(b) if so, on what grounds Government have taken this decision and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) and (b). A Committee of Experts had studied the environmental, rehabilitational, geological/geomorphological and seismic aspects of the Tehri Project and has concluded that adequate data and studies have been made to arrive at a safe and economic engineering structure and adequate technical expertise is available to deal with the design and construction of the project. The safety aspects of the dam has also been looked into. After considering the report, the Government has cleared the project for implementation.

Leakage of Chlorine Gas in Durgapur Chemicals Ltd.

1332. SHRI SUBHASH YADAV:
SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there had been an incident of chlorine gas leakage in Durgapur Chemicals Ltd. on 10 June, 1987;

(b) if so, the causes of this incident;

(c) the number of persons died and affected as a result of this incident;

(d) whether any enquiry has since been conducted;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) what action Government have taken to avoid such leakage in that plant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to the report received from the Government of West Bengal, the leakage had developed from a leaky bonnet joint of one of the valves in one of the storage tanks which alongwith the valve was subsequently blown out and liquid chlorine started escaping from the opening profusely.

(c) According to the report received from the Government of West Bengal, 28 persons in all had been affected by inhala-

tion of chlorine gas but there had been no loss of life.

(d) to (f). The State Government has appointed a Committee to investigate into the causes and circumstances leading to the accident in the Chlorine Plant of Durgapur Chemicals Ltd. on 10.6.1987, identify the existing defects in the Plant machinery and method of operation, if any, in the Caustic Chlorine Plant, and also to suggest specific steps to be taken to prevent recurrence of such accidents in future.

Production of Khadi

1333. DR. PHULRENU GUHA. Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) how much Khadi was produced in 1985-86 and how many workers were employed; and

(b) the average earning per worker?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). The Khadi industry under the purview of KVIC comprises cotton, muslin, woollen and silk. The requisite information regarding production, employment and wages earned by workers during 1985-86 is given below:

	1985-86			
	Quantity	Value	Employment	Average wages earned per worker
	(Milln. Sq. Mt)	(Rs. in crores)	(Lakh persos)	
Cotton	87.03	126.97	10.20	
Muslin	3.08	7.10	0.29	
Woollen	10.84	36.36	2.32	
Silk	3.99	24.58	0.66	
Total	104.94	195.01	13.47	Rs. 686

Revival of National Tannery Company Limited

1334. SHRI Y.S. MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to revive the National Tannery Company Limited at Calcutta; and

(b) if so, the concrete steps being taken to make the unit viable again?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). The attempts made so far by the financial institutions to rehabilitate the National Tannery Company Limited have failed. The Company is considered as economically non-viable. The Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India has, however, been asked to conduct a fresh study to explore possibilities of revival of the company.

Production and Import of Sugar

1335. SHRI SOMNATH RATH:
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:
SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the sugar production in the country during the year 1986-87 and whether it is sufficient to meet the internal consumption;

(b) how many tonnes of sugar have been imported during 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87 and at what cost; and

(c) whether Government propose to import any further quantity of sugar, if so, the quantity proposed to be imported?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) Sugar production during the current 1986-87 sugar season was 83.82 lakh tonnes up to 15 July, 1987 as against 68.99 lakh tonnes upto the corresponding date last year, thus showing an increase of 14.83 lakh tonnes. With the increased sugar production during the current sugar year together with sufficient availability of sugar to meet the domestic requirement of sugar

(b) As per the information received from the State Trading Corporation of India, the quantity of sugar imported and the C.I.F. value thereof during the financial years 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87 is as under:-

Financial Year	Quantity Imported (Lakh tonnes)	C.I.F. Value (Rs./Crores)
1984-85	4.85	110.99
1985-86	20.22	446.84
1986-87	7.81*	210.48
	(Provisional)	(Provisional)

This includes quantity in transit as on 31.3.1987

(c) The need for further imports would depend upon the sugar production, con-

sumption and over-all availability of sugar in the country

[*Translation*]

Expansion of Khadi and Village Industries in Famine Stricken areas

1336. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN:
Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have prepared a 'Special Areas Programme' for expansion of khadi and village industries in the famine stricken areas;

(b) if so, the names of places where it has been implemented, State-wise;

(c) the reasons for delay in the implementation of this programme in desert areas like Barmer, Jaisalmer and Jodhpur in Rajasthan which have been affected most and where there is large scope for expansion of wool and khadi industry; and

(d) the time by which this programme will be implemented in these desert areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (d). The normal KVI programmes, which are implemented through directly aided institutions and institutions and Co-operative societies under the various State KVI Boards, were given a thrust by taking up intensive development in selected areas during the Sixth Five Year Plan with the active participation of District Rural Development Agencies State KVI Boards, directly aided institutions and also with the assistance of local financial institutions. The programme earlier known as 'Area Development Programme' was taken up as a pilot project in Bijapur District of Karnataka. Department of Rural Development issued guidelines for implementation of this programme as ISB component of IRDP. The experiment was subsequently extended to Chitradurga and Gulbarga Districts (in Karnataka), Sultanpur and Raibareli Districts in U.P., Sholapur District in Maharashtra, Ramnathpuram and

Pasuponmuthuramlingam Districts in Tamil Nadu and now Gurdaspur District of Punjab. A broad criteria for extension of this programme now known as 'Special Area Programme' has been adopted. The selected district should preferably either be a drought prone area, backward area, hilly region, tribal area, less developed area, border area and 'No-Industry District'. The 'Special Area Programme' is not exclusively for famine stricken areas.

In so far as famine stricken areas of Rajasthan are concerned KVIC released as a special case a sum of Rs. 1.5 crores during 1985-86 and Rs. 1.00 crore during 1986-87 under its normal programme of woollen khadi production for assistance in drought hit areas of Rajasthan.

[*English*]

Effect of unseasonal rains on Procurement of Wheat

1337. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU:
SHRI S.M. GURADDI:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether wheat procurement is expected to drop by two million tonnes in the wake of widespread unseasonal rains in the major wheat growing areas in the north this year;

(b) if so, to what extent this has affected the food position in the country; and

(c) the total wheat procured this year?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) and (c). During the current marketing season commencing on 1.4.87, 7.82 million tonnes of wheat have been procured upto 24.7.87 as against 10.48 million tonnes procured in the corresponding period last year. During the whole of the

last season ending 31.3.87, 10.53 million tonnes were procured.

(b) The Government have sufficient stocks of wheat and rice to meet the requirements of the public distribution system and the country's food security needs.

Overdues to National Thermal Power Corporation from Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking and State Electricity Undertakings

1338. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking owes as much as Rs. 511 crores to the National Thermal Power Corporation as reported in the 'Economic Times' of July 4, 1987;

(b) if so, the steps taken to realise this amount;

(c) the dues owed by other Union Terri-

tories and State Electricity Boards; and

(d) the steps taken to end this practice of large overdues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) to (d). A Statement indicating the overdues of the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) against the Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking (DESU), the State Electricity Boards (SEBs) and the Union Territories etc., as on 31.5.1987, is given below.

The NTPC have been actively pursuing the recovery of their dues with the Boards/ Undertakings concerned. The matter is also being followed up at Government level to facilitate early realisation of outstanding amounts. Steps have been taken to recover 80% of undisputed overdues of the SEBs, which are more than two months old from the date of billing, in suitable instalments, from the Central assistance of the concerned States.

STATEMENT

Status of Super Thermal Power Station (NTPC) Power dues as on 31.5.1987

		(Rs. lakhs)
STPS	SEB	AMOUNT
1	2	3
SINGRAULI.	UPSEB	9761
	HSEB	1638
	PSEB	448
	RSEB	2249
	DESU	2314
	UTCHD	1
	HPSEB	406
	J & K	(12)
KORBA	MPEB	663

1	2	3
	MSEB	885
	GEB	261
	GOA	31
RAMAGUNDAM	APSEB	2720
	KEB	1333
	TNEB	378
	KSEB	404
	GOA	29
FARAKKA	WBSEB	261
	DVC	328
	BSEB	368
	OSEB	270
	SIKKIM	—
	TOTAL	24736
BADARPUR TPS	DESU	51104.49
	UPSEB	90.66
	RSEB	642.39
	HSEB	477.11
	HPSEB	148.79
	Salal	0.82
	Total	52464.26

Electricity Generation from Non-conventional sources of Energy

1339. SHRI D.N. REDDY:
SHRI SRIHARI RAO:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what are the long-term targets of electricity generation from non-conventional sources of energy; and

(b) the main projects in which power from non-conventional sources of energy is proposed to be effectively utilised?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) Long term targets of electricity generation from non-conventional energy sources have not yet been finalised. However, the Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources has prepared a paper—Energy 2001—a pers-

pective plan, Non-Conventional Energy Sources, according to which 15000 MW of electric power by the year 2001 could be envisaged from non-conventional sources of energy provided adequate financial allocations are given to this sector.

(b) The projects in which power from non-conventional sources of energy is envisaged to be generated are Biomass, Wind Energy, Solar Thermal, Photovoltaic, Small Hydro Plants and Municipal solid waste.

Allocation of Imported Edible Oils to vanaspati Manufacturers

1340. SHRI S.M. GURADDI:
SHRIMATI BASAVARAJES-
WARI:
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the vanaspati manufacturers have stated that they will have to resort to drastic cuts in production unless Government step up the allocation of imported edible oils to the industry;

(b) whether Government have allowed only 50 per cent of the total requirement of imported edible oils in May and June 1987;

(c) if so, the main reasons for the edible oils shortage; and

(d) whether the shortage has led to the increase in the price of indigenous edible oils?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT):

(a) Representations from vanaspati manufacturers were received for increased allocation of imported oils to vanaspati industry due to high prices and limited availability of indigenous permitted oils.

(b) Yes, Sir. However, 10% additional imported edible oils at commercial rates

were allocated from 1st to 13th May, 1987 to vanaspati units located in Southern and Eastern regions which are mustard/rape-seed deficient.

(c) The main reasons for the edible shortage are the unsatisfactory edible oilseeds crop and severe drought conditions prevailing in oilseeds producing states.

(d) Yes, Sir.

Additional revenue on account of revision of coal prices by Coal India Ltd.

1341. SHRI E. AYYAPPU REDDY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the additional revenue accrued to Coal India Limited from 9 July, 1986 till 9 July, 1987 on account of the revision of coal prices;

(b) the amount of royalty paid by Coal India Ltd. during the period 1 April, 1986 to 31 March, 1987 to the various State; and

(c) the amounts paid by Coal India Ltd. by way of cess on coal production to the various States?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) Coal prices were last revised with effect from 9.1.1986, not 9.7.1986. The actual increase in revenue realised by Coal India Limited in a year is a function of the grades of coal actually marketed which have been changing from one year to another with a noticeable increase in inferior grades. It is estimated that on an output of 142 million tonnes during the calendar year 1986, the increase in revenue of Coal India Limited would have been approximately Rs. 280 crores.

(b) and (c). The amount of royalty and cess paid to different State Governments for the period from 1.4.1986 to 31.3.1987 is as follow:—

(Rs. in crores)

State	Royalty	Cess
Bihar	31.55	335.48
West Bengal	11.16	132.11
Madhya Pradesh	22.19	26.00
Uttar Pradesh	2.04	—
Maharashtra	5.92	0.52
Orissa	3.60	2.84
Assam	0.50	—

[*Translation*][*English*]**Import of modern machinery for Electricity generation**

1342. SHRI BALWANT SINGH
RAMOOWALIA:
DR. CHINTA MOHAN:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a committee was constituted to reconsider the question of importing the modern machinery for electricity generation;

(b) if so, whether committee has submitted its report to Government;

(c) the main recommendations made in the report;

(d) whether Government have studied the recommendations; and

(e) if so, the decision of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO): (a) No, Sir.

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

Increase in Prices of Nylon Cord

1343. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI:
Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the nylon cord manufacturers have ratified a hike in prices by nearly Rs. 19,000 a tonne;

(b) whether the prices have increased third time during the current year;

(c) whether it will hit the automotive tyre manufacturers who are its key consumers; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard:

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) to (d). As per available information, effective price increase of nylon cord has been Rs. 12.50/kg. from 1.6.87. The manufacturers have gradually withdrawn some discounts given earlier. The automotive tyre manufacturers would be affected to the extent of price increase. The Government is aware of the fact that

the major increase is on account of rise in international price of caprolactam which is the main raw material for manufacture of Nylon Cord.

Closure of Sick Public Sector Enterprises

1344. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI:

SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA.

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the closure of sick public sector enterprises has been deferred for three years;

(b) what are the main reasons for taking over all sick public sector units;

(c) whether Government have decided to give further chance to loss making public enterprises to revive their performance;

(d) if so, how many of them have so far improved their performance; and

(e) by what time the decision for closure is likely to be considered?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO): (a) There is no decision at present to close down sick public sector enterprises and as such the question of deferment of such a decision does not arise.

(b) some of the sick units of private sector were taken over and nationalised by the Government mainly to protect employment.

(c) It is the endeavour of the Government to revive taken over sick units by putting in additional inputs, both financial and managerial.

(d) The individual financial performance of 51 taken over sick enterprises for the year 1984-85 and 1985-86 are available in page No. 64, Statement No. 2.7. C in Volume—1 of the Public Enterprises Sur-

vey placed on the Table of the House on 27.2.1987. As per the same, the loss incurred by the sick taken over enterprises has come down from Rs. 358.50 crores in 1984-85 to Rs. 257.42 crores in 1985-86.

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

Procurement of Foodgrains

1345. SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for procurement of foodgrains during the current year;

(b) the procurement made so far and whether the target for the year is expected to be achieved; and

(c) whether enough stocks of foodgrains have been procured to fulfil the needs of the country?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT):

(a) No targets are fixed as paddy and wheat are procured to extend price support to farmers.

(b) During the current rabi and kharif marketing seasons, about 17 million tonnes of foodgrains have been procured by the public procuring agencies.

(c) The Government have sufficient stocks of wheat and rice to meet the requirements of the public distribution system and the country's food security needs.

S.T.D. Facility in Jalpaiguri

1346. SHRI MANIK SANYAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the telephone subscribers in Jalpaiguri district have not yet been provided with the STD facility; and

(b) if so, whether Government have any

proposal to introduce the STD in Jalpaiguri district?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. STD facility is planned to be provided for Alipurduar during this year as soon as the manual exchange is converted into an electronic exchange. STD facility to Jalpaiguri, Birpara and Mal will become feasible in 1989-90 when these exchanges will be converted into automatic exchanges.

[*Translation*]

Increase in Price of Teleprinters

1347. SHRI KUNWAR RAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the news agencies have complained that they are facing financial difficulties due to increase in the prices of teleprinters; and

(b) if so, the extent to which concession is likely to be given to the news agencies in view of the fact that they are the main users of the teleprinter services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Compared to normal business and private subscribers, The Press and News Agencies are enjoying a concession of

paying only 50% charges for the long distance teleprinter circuits.

As a further concession, it is proposed to waive the extra charges that the News Agencies (UNI and PTI) are, at present called upon to pay for sharing their circuits with their subscribing newspapers.

[*English*]

Setting up of Power Projects in States

1348. SHRI LALITESHWAR PRASAD SHAHI:
SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government propose to set up power projects in the States where there is power shortage;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the States which are facing acute power shortage; and

(c) when the proposed power projects will be set up and start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) to (c). The Central Government proposes to set up more power projects to mitigate the power shortages in various States. The details are given in the Statement below. The projects are intended to yield benefits during the Seventh and Eighth Plan periods. During April to June 1987, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Karnataka, Orissa and Uttar Pradesh had power shortages of over 10%.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Likely benefits (MW) during 7th Plan	during 8th Plan
1	2	3	4
NORTHERN REGION			
1.	Salal	345	—

1	2	3	4
2.	Dulhasti	—	390
3.	Chamera-I	180	360
4.	Tanakpur	—	120
5.	Singrauli-II	1000	—
6.	Rihand-I	1000	—
7.	Auriya Gas Turbine	400	200
8.	Anta Gas Turbine	300	130
9.	Narora APP (Nuclear)	470	—
10.	NCTPP (Murad Nagar)	—	840
11.	Tehri	—	1000
12.	RAPP Extn. (Nuclear)	—	470
<i>WESTERN REGION</i>			
1.	Korba STPS Unit-4	500	—
2.	Korba STPS Extn.	1000	—
3.	Vindhyachal	1260	—
4.	Kawas Gas Turbine	400	200
5.	Kakrapara (Nuclear)	—	470
<i>SOUTHERN REGION</i>			
1.	Ramagundam	500	—
2.	Ramagundam Extn.	500	500
3.	Neyveli 2nd Mine Cut	630	—
4.	Neyveli 2nd Mine Cut Extn.	210	620
5.	Kalpakkam Unit-2 (Nuclear)	235	—
6.	Kaiga (Nuclear)	—	470
<i>EASTERN REGION</i>			
1.	Farakka STPS Stage-I	630	—
2.	Farakka STPS Stage-II	—	1000
3.	Kahalgaon	—	840
4.	Talcher STPS	—	1000

1	2	3	4
5.	Ranchet Hill	40	—
6.	Bokaro 'B'	630	—
7.	Gas Turbines (DVC)	90	—
8.	Mejia	—	630
<i>NORTH-EASTERN REGION</i>			
1.	Kopili Units 3&4	100	—
2.	Doyang	—	105
3.	Garo Hills	-	60
4.	Ranganadi	—	405
5.	Kathalguri Gas Turbine	—	270

Import of truck and bus tyres

1349. SHRI MANIK REDDY:
SHRI SUBHASH YADAV:
SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY:
SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH
MALIK:
SHRI YASHWANTRAO
GADAKH PATIL:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a shortage of truck and bus tyres in the country at present;

(b) if so, the reasons for the shortage;

(c) whether Union Government propose to work out any scheme to import truck and bus tyres for meeting the domestic requirements;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the names of the countries from where tyres are to be imported and by what time these will be made available; and

(f) the foreign exchange made available for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). There have been complaints that there is a shortage in the market for truck and bus tyres of certain specifications. According to the Automotive Tyre Manufacturers Association, these temporary shortages were due to the closure of MRF factory at Goa from October 1986 to April 1987 and the shortfalls in production in some other tyre factories on account of labour problems.

(c) Government is carefully watching the situation and may consider import of tyres if the need arises.

(d) to (f). Do not arise.

BHEL's collaboration with foreign Firms

1350. SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) has been seeking collaboration with some foreign firms for its World Bank aided pipeline projects along the HBJ Pipeline;

(b) if so, whether any of the firms have responded to their requests; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO): (a) and (b). BHEL has no World Bank aided project for HBJ Pipeline. However, it is supplying anti-corrosion cathodic protection system for the pipeline as a sub-contractor.

(c) For the anti-corrosion system the technology has been acquired from M/s. HARCO Corporation, USA.

Study on Implementation of Directive Principles

1351. SHRI HAROOBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have undertaken any study on the progress in the matter of implementation of various directive principles enunciated in our Constitution;

(b) if so, the salient features of the report of the study; and

(c) if not, the reasons for not undertaking such study so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (c). One of the terms of reference of the Law Commission constituted by the Government is to examine the existing laws in the light of Directive Principles of State Policy and to suggest ways of improvement and reform and also to suggest such legislation as might be necessary to implement the Directive Principles and to attain the objectives set out in the Preamble to the Constitution. Therefore, the Law Commission, while giving its reports recommending various reforms, bears in mind the Directive Principles contained in the Constitution. For example, the Directive Principles enshrined in article

39A have been fully taken into account by the Law Commission in its 114th Report on Gram Nyayalaya, submitted to the Government on 12th August, 1986, and various suggestions have been given for their implementation.

The Law Commission has recommended the setting up of Gram Nyayalaya to deal with the matters relating to civil disputes, property disputes, family disputes, non-payment of wages and violation of Minimum Wages Act, money suits, disputes arising out of the partnership in cultivation of land, disputes as to the use of forest produce by local inhabitants, etc. This is with a view to ensure that the citizens are not denied opportunities to secure justice by reason of economic or other disabilities.

[*Translation*]

S. T. D. Facility between Delhi and Almora

1352. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi and Almora (U.P.) have been linked through direct dialing service; and

(b) if so, the time by which STD facility will be available between these two places?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). Subscriber Trunk Dialling facility from Almora to New Delhi is already existing.

Delhi-Almora STD service will be commissioned shortly.

[*English*]

Buffer Stock of Wheat and Rice in Assam

1353. PROF. PARAG CHALIHA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Assam made a request to his Ministry to build up a buffer stock of 1.2 lakh MT of wheat and 1.02 lakh MT of rice for the rainy season of 1987 and it was agreed to by his Ministry;

(b) if so, how much of the stock was built up; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) and (c). Yes, Sir. The Government of Assam has made a request to build up a buffer stock of 1.20 lakh MT of wheat and 1 20 MT of rice, but it has not been agreed to. It is our endeavour to reach maximum stocks to the North Eastern region. However, due to problems of logistics, and infrastructure, it has not been possible to create a sizeable buffer stock.

(b) As on 1st July, 1987, the Food Corporation of India had 53.6 thousand tonnes of wheat and 50.0 thousand tonnes of rice in Assam.

[*Translation*]

Judicial Service Commission

1354. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are contemplating seriously to constitute a Judicial Service Commission;

(b) if so, the reasons to constitute this Commission and the time by which this Commission is likely to be constituted; and

(c) the composition and the powers of the said Commission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (c). No, Sir. However, the Law Commission in its 116th Report on creation of All India Judicial Ser-

vice has recommended for constitution of a National Judicial Service Commission. Copies of this Report have already been placed before both the Houses of Parliament.

[*English*]

Separate Telecom Net Work for Business and Industries

1355. SHRI P. M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a separate telecom network for the purpose of business and industries,

(b) if so, the details of the scheme indicating the financial outlay;

(c) whether initiative has already been taken to implement the proposal; and

(d) if so, the approximate time by which such a net work is likely to be created?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). The proposal envisages the setting up of the following networks:

(i) *Satellite based Low Speed Business Data Network.*

This network will provide the telex, message and inter-active data communication facilities at speeds of 300 or 1200 bits per second, using satellite technology. The network is basically designed to provide effective communication facilities from various industrial units and project sites in remote and rural areas to their respective headquarters. The project is estimated to cost about Rs. 15 crores. The network is expected to be functional during the first half of 1989.

(ii) Packet Switched Data Network.

This network will provide the capability of high speed data transmission between computers as well as inter-active access from telex, public switched telephone network and data terminals to such computers. It will also provide for electronic mail. The network will also have access from the satellite based low speed business data network mentioned at (i) above. The project is estimated to cost Rs. 18 crores. The network is likely to be commissioned during 1989.

(iii) Business Subscriber Network for Voice and Data.

This network will consist of a few strategically located switching centres capable of handling both voice and data inter-connected by reliable long distance media. This network is designed to provide voice, data, telex, facsimile, videotex and electronic mail services and to divert the high traffic of business subscribers from the normal network. The questionnaire to assess the requirement of such users has been mailed to the prospective subscribers.

(iv) Cellular Radio Telephone Network.

This network will provide radio based access from mobile/fixed subscriber terminals. While on the one hand, it will provide the capability of mobile service, in fixed service applications, it will eliminate the problems of underground cable network. It is proposed to introduce cellular mobile radio telephone service in all metro and major cities of the country. This service will be first introduced at Bombay. Tenders for installation of cellular mobile radio system in Bombay in two phases, i.e., 1200 lines in first phase and further 3800 lines in the second phase, have already been received. The cost for first phase of 1200 lines will be about Rs. 9.5 crores. The first phase is expected to be commissioned in 1988-89.

Flaring up of Natural Gas

1356. SHRI D.B. PATIL: Will the Minister

of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the places where natural gas was flared up in 1986-87;

(b) the duration of flaring up of gas and price of the gas; and

(c) the reasons for flaring up the gas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) Gas was flared in 1986-87 in Assam, Bombay High, Gujarat and Tamil Nadu.

(b) The total quantity of gas flared was about 3000 MMCM during 1986-87. The price of gas has been fixed at Rs. 1400/1000 M³ for offshore gas at landfall point and onshore gas at Rs. 2250/1000 M³ along HBJ Pipeline. A special concessional price of Rs. 1000/1000 M³ (with a provision for discount of upto Rs. 500/1000 M³ in individual cases) has been fixed for the North Eastern States.

(c) Associated gas has been flared because of failure of regular consumers to lift committed quantities of gas on time, temporary mismatch between production and compression facilities and availability of gas in small isolated pockets.

Introduction of Pay Phones

1357. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT:
SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce pay-phone system in the country by the end of 1987.

(b) if so, the details of the proposed system; and

(c) to what extent those who are not

having telephone facilities will be benefited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) (a) and (b) Yes, Sir About 70 coin operated pay phones are already working in the Metrocities of Delhi and Bombay About 300 more such pay phones are expected to be installed during the year 1988-89

(c) A customer can make calls by insertion of suitable coins In some pay phones STD and even International Subscriber Dialling calls can be made

Allocation of Rice, Sugar, Kerosene and Palmolein Oil to Kerala

1358 PROF K V THOMAS Will the Min-

ister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state

(a) the quantity of Rice, Sugar, Kerosene and Palmolein Oil supplied to Kerala during 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87, and

(b) how much amount is given as subsidy year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H K L BHAGAT) (a) The requisite information is given in the Statement given below

(b) While there is no Central Government subsidy in the case of imported edible oils and levy sugar in the case of kerosene subsidy per litre is as under -

	Rs /per/litre
1.1.84 to 16.3.1985	1 02
17.3.85 to 25.3.1985	1 00
26.3.85 to 31.1.1986	1 07
1.2.86 to 5 2.1986	0 84
6.2.86 to 30.9 1986	0 93
1.10.86 onwards	1 08

Since the subsidy on kerosene per litre varies from time to time during the year, no separate record of yearwise subsidy given to various States has been maintained

In the case of rice, the subsidy in respect of Kerala, during the last three years is as under —

Year	Rs in crores
1984-85	97 73
1985-86	109 38
1986-87	116 34

STATEMENT*Supply of Rice, Sugar, Kerosene & Imported Edible Oil during the last 3 years.***RICE**

('000 tonnes)

Year	Allotment	Offtake
1984-85	1360.00	1300.9
1985-86	1505.00	1429.5
1986-87	1650.00	1605.5

LEVY SUGAR

Monthly levy sugar quota allotted to Kerala in tonnes.

1984-85	}
1985-86	
1986-87	

11,225

Besides a quantity of 1794 tonnes had also been allotted to Kerala Government as festival quota for each of the months of September 1984, June 1985, August 1985 to November 1985, September 1986 and October 1986.

KEROSENE

(Figures in tonnes)

Year	Allotment	Offtake
1984-85	176130	174440
1985-86	186400	184169
1986-87	206165	201822 (prov.)

IMPORTED EDIBLE OIL

(Quantity in metric tonnes)

Oil Year (Nov.-Oct.)	Allotment	Offtake
1984-85	47,100	47,048
1985-86	21,250	11,435
1986-87 (upto June)	9,500	10,422

Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd.

1359. SHRI S. G. GHOLAP: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what has been Government's experience with the working of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited; and

(b) whether Government are consider-

ing to bring the entire Department of Telecommunications under the charge of the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited has been set up with effect from 1.4.1986 and it is too early to judge the results of its working.

(b) No, Sir. There is no such proposal at present under consideration.

Raising of Resources by Public Sector Units Through Bonds

1360. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central public sector undertakings have resorted to public borrowing;

(b) the total amount raised through bonds by public sector units during 1986-87 and 1987-88 so far; and

(c) the amount so far raised by each of the above units and also the quantum of additional resources internally generated by them separately as against the targets fixed?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Rate of Growth of Industrial Production

1361. SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the rate of growth of industrial production during the last six months (January-June, 1987);

(b) whether the target for the Seventh Five Year Plan of annual industrial growth has been achieved; and

(c) the main reasons for the shortfall?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c). The Seventh Five Year Plan aim at achieving an average annual rate of growth of 8% for the industrial sector. According to the C.S.O.'s Quick Index of Industrial Production for January, 1987, a rate of growth of 7.7% was achieved during April-January 1986-87 over April-January 1985-86. The growth rate in 1985-86 was 8.7%. The average for the first two years of the Plan is expected to be around 8%.

[*Translation*]

Manufacture of cheap Cars

1362. SHRI MADAN PANDAY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware that prices of so called small cars have increased to such an extent that these have become out of reach of the middle and common classes of people;

(b) if so, whether Government have under consideration any scheme to manufacture cheap cars; and

(c) if so, the details of this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Presumably, the hon'ble Member is referring to the passenger cars being manufactured by M/s. Maruti Udyog Ltd. Increase in the prices of this car has been due to increase in statutory levies and appreciation of Yen against rupee and US Dollars.

(b) and (c). Every effort is being made by Maruti Udyog Ltd. to contain prices of

Maruti cars consistent with prices of inputs and fiscal levies.

[English]

Rise in price of Edible Oils

1363. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the price of edible oils has gone up considerably in June and July, 1987;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to reverse this trend; and

(c) whether increased quantity of imported palm oil proposed to be made available to the people, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L BHAGAT):

(a) The wholesale price index of edible oils has shown an increase of 11.5% over two months on 11-7-1987.

(b) The following measures have been taken by the Government to contain the rise in the prices of edible oils

- (i) States have been advised repeatedly, even at Chief Ministers level to take stringent action against speculators, hoarders and other anti-social elements.
- (ii) The use of expeller mustard oil in the manufacture of vanaspati which was earlier allowed has been prohibited from 15-5-1987
- (iii) The allocation of imported edible oils under Public Distribution System and to Vanaspati Industry has been increased.
- (iv) Inspection of Vanaspati Units was intensified to ensure that all edible oils are properly used and

adequate vanaspati is despatched for sale.

(c) It is proposed to further increase the allocation of imported edible oils including Palmoil to the States for distribution to consumers. The allocation of imported edible oils to State Governments/Union Territories is made by Central Government from month to month on the basis of the demand of State Governments, prices of indigenous edible oils in the open market, availability with State Trading Corporation, festival season, and pace of lifting by States/Union Territories.

Telecommunication System in Shahjahanpur (U.P.)

1364. SHRI JITENDRA PRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to an unprecedented storm, the entire telecommunication system was disrupted in Shahjahanpur district and adjoining districts in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether even after a month of this storm, Government could not normalise the system; and

(c) if so, the extent of the damage caused and the reasons for delay in restoring the telecommunication system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes Sir. Trunk junction lines of 19 small automatic exchanges and 954 telephones in Shahjahanpur were disrupted due to storm on 9.6.87

(b) 926 telephones of Shahjahanpur and 14 junction lines were restored within a month. Complete restoration was done by 25.7.87.

(c) The extent of damage was very large i.e., 954 telephones and 19 junction lines became faulty, 6 cable distribution points'

poles, 23 local telephone poles, 984 Trunk poles were damaged. About 650 trees had fallen on telephone wires. Electric wires and telephone wires got jumbled

Restoration at many places was only possible when trees and electric wires were removed from the lines by the State Government agencies. Hence the delay was unavoidable.

Profit/Loss by Public Sector Undertakings in Kerala

1365. SHRI A CHARLES: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the profit or loss made by the different central Public Undertakings located in Kerala during the Year 1986-87;

(b) the reasons for the losses, if any; and

(c) the steps taken to avoid loss in future?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J VENGALA RAO): (a) The Annual accounts of 1986-87 of the enterprises are under finalisation and audit and it is likely to take some more time for getting the approved accounts. As such the figures for profit or loss are not available for 1986-87

(b) and (c) In view of reply to part (a) parts (b) and (c) do not arise.

Allocation of Palmolein to Karnataka

1366. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the present monthly quota of palmolein to Karnataka;

(b) whether Karnataka Government has requested for enhanced quota to meet the requirements of the State;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Union Government have enhanced the monthly quota of palmolein to Karnataka, if so, the quantity allotted?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT):

(a) The total allocation of Palmolein to Karnataka under PDS and Small Packs Scheme in July 1987 was 4000 MTs.

(b) and (c). The Government of Karnataka had asked for increase in their allocation to 6000 MTs per month.

(d) The allocation of imported edible oils to States/Union Territories, which is supplementary in nature, is made on month to month basis. The allocation to Karnataka under PDS and small packs scheme was increased from 3500 MTs in May 1987 to 3900 MTs in June 1987 and further increased to 4000 MTs in July, 1987. The allocation for August 1987 has not yet been finalised.

Fall in Production of Power in Andhra Pradesh

1367. SHRI V TULSIRAM: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States where there has been a steep fall in production of power during the last three Years;

(b) the details of low production of power in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years;

(c) the details of financial help sought by Government of Andhra Pradesh for the purpose; and

(d) the extent to which Union Government would provide necessary assistance to the State Government to improve the production of power?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*Translation*]

Setting up of Industries in Garhchiroli, Maharashtra

1368. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have received any request from State Government of Maharashtra to set up industries at Badsa Desai Ganj of Garhchiroli district of Maharashtra; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). An Industrial Licence application was received from M/s. Development Corporation of Vidharbha Limited for the grant of a Letter of Intent under the provisions of industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 for a location in Garhchiroli district of Maharashtra. This application was rejected by Government after due consideration. Various technoeconomic factors such as demand and supply, capacity already licensed, export potential, availability of raw materials, locational constraints and viability of the scheme are taken into account while approving or rejecting an Industrial Licence application. Grounds of rejection vary from case to case and are communicated to the applicants as well as to the State Government concerned.

[*English*]

Statutory Status of Lok Adalats

1369. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to give statutory status to Lok Adalats;

(b) if so, when the legislation on the subject will be introduced in Parliament;

(c) the main features of the proposed legislation; and

(d) whether State Government, the Bar Council of India and other concerned bodies have been consulted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (c). The Government intends to introduce legislation on the subject of legal aid during the current session of the Parliament. This would include a chapter on Lok Adalats which will be given statutory status. The main features of the proposed legislation are being finalised.

(d) The Committee for implementing Legal Aid Schemes constituted by the Government has, from time to time, ascertained the views of the State Governments and others concerned on the subject. The matter was also discussed at a meeting of the State Law Ministers held at New Delhi on 3rd October, 1986.

Non-Conventional Energy Projects in Kerala

1370. SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS:
SHRI SURESH KURUP:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have planned non-conventional energy projects such as

wind-mills, solar and mini-hydro projects in the State of Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether these are included in the Seventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) to (c). The Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources undertake and plan projects including setting up of wind mills, solar thermal photovoltaic systems and devices as well as Mini-Hydro Projects all over the country, including Kerala. The projects are planned and executed in association with the State Government. In Kerala, non-conventional energy projects taken up so far include solar photovoltaic street lights in 10 villages/hamlets; 4 solar pumping systems; 4 water pumping wind mills; 16 solar water heating systems; one solar dryer and 4 solar stills. Additional Projects in the non-conventional energy area are planned to be taken up in Kerala during the Seventh Five Year Plan.

Co-Ordinated Authority of Petroleum Corporations

1371. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI: Will the

Oil Selection Board (North),

Oil Selection Board (East),

Oil Selection Board (West),

Oil Selection Board (South),

Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the various Corporations of petroleum have appointed a Co-ordinated authority to control the selection of their distribution agencies independently;

(b) if so, the name of that authority and the powers assigned to it; and

(c) the location of central office of the said authority?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) Yes, Sir. Four Oil Selection Boards have been constituted for making selection of dealers/distributors for Retail Outlets/LPG distributorships/SKO-LDO agencies.

(b) These are: Oil Selection Board (North), Oil Selection Board (East), Oil Selection Board (West) and Oil Selection Board (South). These Boards have full powers to select and recommend a panel of names in order of merit to the oil marketing company concerned for appointment of a dealer.

(c) These Boards are located at the following places:

A-1/134, Safdarjung Enclave, New Delhi-110029.

1B, Meghdoot, 12, Rowland Road, Calcutta-700020.

Aradhya Co-operative Housing Society, Dr. S. Radhakrishnan Marg, Ahmedabad-380015.

Indian Oil Bhavan, 8th Floor, 139, Nungambakkam High Road, Madras-600034.

Telephone Facilities for Air India Passengers

1372. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to provide telephone facilities for Air India passengers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these facilities would also be extended to the Indian Air-lines passengers;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) (a) to (e) The information will be laid on the table of the House later

[*Translation*]

Demand to Increase Price of Levy Sugar

1373 SHRI C.D. GAMIT Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state

(a) whether the sugar mills organisations have demanded increase in the price of levy sugar due to increase in the production cost of sugarcane and sugar and if so, the details in this regard; and

(b) the reaction of Government thereto and the time by which the price of levy sugar is likely to be increased and the extent to which it will be increased?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b). The South Indian Sugar Mills Association had represented for an

increase in the price of levy sugar fixed for sugar factories of Karnataka Zone for 1986-87 season from Rs. 378.74 to Rs. 410 per quintal. After careful consideration, Government found no justification for any increase in levy sugar price already fixed for Karnataka Zone. At present no proposals for the revision of the price of levy sugar fixed for 1986-87 season are under the consideration of the Government.

Price charged by S.T.C. on imported Oil from Vanaspati Industry

1374. SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity and landed cost of edible oils imported by the State Trading Corporation of India during the last two years;

(b) what is the percentage and month-wise allocation of oils allotted to the vanaspati industry in the country and the prices charged by the State Trading Corporation per tonne from the vanaspati industry during the last two years; and

(c) what are the production charges for manufacturing vanaspati?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) The quantity and landed cost of imported edible oils during the last two years is as under:

	1986-86 (Financial Year)	1986-87
Quantity imported	10.80 lakh MT	13.21 lakh MT (Prov.)
Weighted average landed cost	Rs. 7758 per MT	Rs. 6144 per MT (Prov.)

(b) The percentage usage of oil and the monthwise allocation and the prices charged by the State Trading Corporation are given in the Statement below.

(c) The production charges for manu-

facture of vanaspati varies due to the fluctuations in the prices of indigenous edible oils. However the processing, packing, excise etc. charges are computed at approximately Rs. 3700 per M.T.

STATEMENT

Period	Percentage of imported oil from time to time			Monthwise allocation (in MT)		
	Normal	Commerical	Total	Period	1985-86	1986-87
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.3.85 to 31.5.85	60%	—	60%	April	55,272	44,326
1.6.85 to 30.6.85	55%	—	55%	May	54,986	40,255
1.7.85 to 14.11.85	60%	—	60%	June	51,120	49,580
15.11.85 to 31.12.85	50%	—	50%	July	55,650	67,356
1.1.86 to 7.2.86	40%	—	40%	August	51,148	74,295
8.2.86 to 28.2.86	30%	10%	40%	September	49,987	68,338
March, 1986	30%	10%	40%	October	45,948	70,214
April and May, 1986	40%	10%*	50%*	November	44,153	49,312
June, 1986	50%	10%*	60%*	December	48,536	16,227
July, 1986	60%	10%*	70%*	January	38,827	12,797
August, 1986	60%	20%	80%	February	30,489	31,141
September & Oct., 1986	60%	20%	80%	March	31,038	34,001
November, 1986	30%	25%	55%	Total:	5,57,134	5,57,842
December, 1986	10%	—	10%			
January, 1987	10%	—	10%			

1	2	3	4
February, 1987	30%	—	30%
1st to 15th March, 1987	40%	—	40%
16th to 31st March, 1987	40%	10%*	40% 50%*
April, 1987	30%	10%*	30% 40%*
1st to 13th May, 1987	50%	10%*	50% 60%*
14th to 31st May, 1987	50%	—	50%
June, 1987	50%	—	50%
July, 1987	60%	—	60%

*NOTE : An additional 10% of allocation at commercial rate was released to the units located in Southern/Eastern Zones.

Prices of imported oil (Rs. per MT)

1. Regular (a) Rs. 9,500 from 1st April, 1985 to 14th November, 1985 (b) Rs. 11,500 from 15th November, 1985
2. Commercial Rs. 13,000/- from 1st April, 1985.

**Agreement Between I.T.I. and FACE
Standard of Italy for Telephone
Instruments**

1375. DR. A. K. PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Telephone Industries had entered into an agreement in 1983 with FACE Standard of Italy for a project worth Rs. 18 crores to produce a million telephone instruments every year but not a single telephone has been produced as yet;

(b) the losses suffered due to the huge over-runs in cost and time and the estimated resulting delay in supply of modern telephone instruments to the public;

(c) whether accountability and completion responsibility within the original estimates of cost and time was entrusted to some definite person/authority/agency; if not the reasons thereof and who is accountable for the huge over-runs; and

(d) name of the agent/representative of the Italian firm in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Indian Telephone Industries (I.T.I.) Ltd. had entered into an agreement in 1983 with FACE Standard of Italy to produce 10 lakh rotary dial telephone instruments and 5 lakh additional critical components a year at a capital cost of Rs. 18.33 crores. As part of the Project, some telephone kits were received. Some of these were assembled, but did not meet the specifications.

As a result, the agreement has been re-negotiated. It has now been decided to drop the production of the rotary dial type of telephone instruments and instead to produce electronic telephone instruments. The production capacity will remain the same.

The collaborator has agreed to supply the necessary machinery etc. at no extra cost. They have also agreed to supply the necessary upgraded components etc. to enable the kits already supplied, to meet the specifications.

(b) and (c). No cost over-runs are anticipated in respect of the Project.

(d) Originally, M/s ITT, New Delhi and M/s Josts of Bangalore were the representatives. The present representatives are M/s Mekaster, New Delhi.

[Translation]

**Issue of Licences for LPG/Petrol/Diesel in
Bihar**

1376. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons who have been allotted licences for petrol, diesel and cooking gas cylinders in Bihar and particularly in Darbhanga district under the 20-Point Programme;

(b) whether licences have been given to educated/unemployed Harijans and Adivasis also;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS. (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) There are no policy guidelines for award of dealerships/distributorships of petroleum products under the Twenty Point Programme. However, the number of LPG distributorships and Retail Outlet (Petrol/Diesel) dealerships awarded in Bihar and Darbhanga under the existing

guidelines is as under:

	LPG distributorships	R.O dealerships
Bihar	105	423
Darbhanga	2	9

(b) to (d). While there is no reservation for educated unemployed Harijans and Adivasis as such, the number of LPG distributorships and Retail Outlet (Petrol/Diesel) dealerships awarded under SC/ST category in Bihar is as below:

	LPG/distributorships	R/O (Petrol/Diesel) dealerships
SC	13	31
ST	9	9

[English]

Production of Power in Rajasthan

1377. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL:
PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI
SHAKTAWAT:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States where there has been a steep fall in production of power during the last two years;

(b) the details of production of power in Rajasthan during the last two years;

(c) the details of financial assistance sought by the Government of Rajasthan for the purpose; and

(d) the extent to which Government have agreed to help Rajasthan to boost power production in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) to (d). Information is being

collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Use of Gas for Power Generation by Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking

1378. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state whether the Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking is considering a proposal to use gas for power generation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Setting up of Industries in Phulbani, Orissa

1379. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether some applications were received by his Ministry to set up industry in Phulbani, a no Industry district of Orissa;

(b) if so, the number of letters of intent issued in favour of the applicants; and

(c) the details of the industries going to be set up in Phulbani district, Orissa with central subsidy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Yes, Sir. 4 Industrial Licence applications were received under the provisions of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 for the grant of Letter of Intent for locating industries in Phulbani in the State of Orissa which is a no Industry district.

(b) and (c). 2 Letters of Intent were issued for locating industries in Phulbani district of Orissa State. The details of application which are approved and against which Industrial Licences/Letters of Intent are issued, are regularly published in the

monthly Newsletter published by the Indian Investment Centre. Copies of this publication are available in the Parliament Library.

Raising price of Soft Drinks

1380. SHRI HAFIZ MOHD. SIDDIQ: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the soft drink manufacturers have raised the price of their products much more than the excise duty imposed in the year's budget; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take to protect the interest of the consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is no statutory control on the prices of soft drinks. However, soft drink industry is one of the industries covered by de-licensing scheme introduced by the Government in March 1985 and it is anticipated that with the possible creation of additional capacity, normal market forces will operate to the advantage of the consumer.

Industrial Growth Rate

1382. SHRI CHITTA MAHATA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have under consideration some proposals to give a fresh thrust to industrial production and raise the industrial growth rate to 10 per cent instead of 8 per cent annual growth as targetted in the Seventh Plan; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). Government have taken a number of measures to stimulate industrial production and growth. The Seventh Plan target for annual growth rate of industrial production continues to be 8%.

Improvement Expansion of Telephone Services In Gujarat

1383. SHRI RANJIT SINGH GAEKWAD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the expenses incurred for improvement/expansion of telephone services the cities of Ahmedabad Vadodara, Surat and Rajkot in Gujarat during the Sixth Plan period;

(b) the details of projects undertaken in the above cities during the said period; and

(c) the outlays fixed for the purpose in the above cities of Gujarat for the Seventh Five Year Plan and progress made thereon uptill 31.3.1987?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) The expenses incurred for improvement/expansion of telephones service (installation/expansion of telephone services (installation/expansion of telex, TAX, local and trunk cables, purchase of lands, construction/expansion of exchange buildings, staff quarters etc.) in the four cities (telephone districts) of Gujarat during the Sixth Plan period are as under.

Name of the City

Expenses i
Rs. Crores

Ahmedabad

55

Name of the City	Expenses in Rs. Crores
Vadodara	15
Surat	17
Rajkot	11

(b) The projects undertaken in the above cities for the expansion of telephone

exchanges and telex capacity during the said period are as under :—

Name of City	Exchange Capacity	Telex capacity
1. Ahmedabad	30600 Lines	100 Lines
2. Vadodara	1840 „	100 „
3. Surat	650 „	100 „
4. Rajkot	1200 „	—

(c) The proposed outlay for the above four cities (Telephone Districts) of Gujarat for the Seventh Five Year Plan (85-90) and

the progress made thereon uptill 31.3 1987 is as under :—

Name of Telephone Distt.	Outlays in Rs. Crores	Progress made upto 31.3.87 (w.e.f. 1.4.85)	
		Expenditure in Rs. Crores	Telephone Exchanges Capacity
Ahmedabad	130	52	27900 Lines
Vadodara	48	8	8700 "
Surat	28	5	11300 "
Rajkot	27	9	10400 "

[*Translation*]

(b) if so, the details in this regard ?

Industrial Licence exemption to Computer Industry

1384. SHRIMATI MADHUREE SINGH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether computer industry has been exempted from obtaining licence under the Industries (Development and Regulations) Act, 1951; and

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). In order to simplify the procedure to enable the Computer Software Industry to grow at a faster rate, the Computer Software Industry has been exempted from the licensing provisions of Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951, with effect from 29.6.1987.

Allocation of edible oil to Kerala

1385. SHRI P.A. ANTONY: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state the monthly allocation of edible oils proposed to be made to Kerala during August and September, 1987?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): The allocation of imported edible oils to State Governments/Union Territories is made by Central Government from month to month on the basis of the demand of State Governments/Union Territories, prices of indigenous edible oils in the open market, availability with the STC, festival season and pace of lifting by States/Union Territories. The allocation of edible oils for the months of August and September 1987 have not yet been finalised.

Demand for Increase in Supply of Kerosene to Kerala

1386. SHRI K. KUNJAMBU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a demand for increase the kerosene supply to Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) to (c). Govt. of Kerala had requested for an additional quantity of 1600 tonnes of kerosene for June, 1987 to meet the increased demand due to LPG shortage. This was considered and additional allocation of 570 tonnes was given to the State for June, 1987.

The allocation made for the present monsoon block (July to October, 1987) is at the rate of 18272 tonnes per month as against 15945 tonnes per month given for

July to Sept. 1986 and 17157 tonnes for Oct. 1986.

Bio-Gas Plants in Andhra Pradesh

1387. SHRI C. SAMBU: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the amount sanctioned for community Bio-gas plants/Institutional Bio-gas plants in Andhra Pradesh for the year 1983-84, 1984-85 and 1985-86;

(b) whether there is any proposal to increase the amount for the current financial year;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) The project outlay on CBP/IBP projects sanctioned Andhra Pradesh for the Financial Year: 1983-84, 1984-85 and 1985-86 are Rs. 22.29 lakhs, Rs. 15.70 lakhs and Rs. 5.62 lakhs respectively.

(b) to (d). During the financial year 1986-87 the CBP/IBP activity showed considerable improvement including in the State of Andhra Pradesh where projects valued at Rs. 44.38 lakhs were sanctioned. This outlay can exceed during 1987-88 if sufficient techno-economically viable projects are submitted by the State Government and adequate funds are allocated for non-conventional energy programmes.

Coal Efficiency Improvement Programme for Coal India Ltd.

1388. SHRI R.M. BHOYE: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the medium term coal efficiency improvement programme for Coal India Ltd. has been finalised by Government; and

(b) if so, the details of the proposals considered suitable in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b). To improve its physical and financial performance, Coal India Ltd. has drawn up a Medium Term Coal Efficiency Improvement Programme for the period 1986-90. The salient features of the programme are:

- enumeration of specific priority actions to be implemented in the subsidiary companies to increase coal production, reduce costs and improve productivity;
- evaluation of the effect of such measures in terms of their physical impact on production and productivity as well as their benefits in financial terms;
- assessment of the extent to which the Efficiency Programme will enable Coal India Ltd. to achieve financial viability by the year 1990.

To achieve the above objectives, a wide ranging set of measures covering Manpower planning, equipment utilisation, materials management etc. has been identified.

LPG Agencies in Distt. Headquarters

1389. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM

AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the District Headquarters, State-wise which do not have any LPG agencies;

(b) the dates from which the cases for allotment of these agencies at each of the District Headquarters are pending for allotment and the reasons for delay, including the dates of first advertisement in each case; and

(c) the likely date by which each one of the District headquarters would be sanctioned the required agency?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT):

(a) and (b). A total number of 35 district headquarter towns do not have LPG facilities at present. Out of these, the oil industry has taken steps to cover 16 district headquarter towns till now. The details are given in the Statement below.

(c) As various steps proceed the actual commissioning of LPG distributorships no specific time limit can be indicated. In respect of locations which have not been taken up so far, an assessment of the potential available for economically viable distributorships will be made by the oil industry for taking necessary further action.

STATEMENT

State	District	District HQ. town	Remarks
1	2	3	4
Bihar	1. Madhepura	Madhepura	LOI issued on 5.3.86. Distributor-select is in the process of getting facilities ready.
Himachal Pradesh	2. Kinnaur	Kalpa	LOI issued by IOC on adhoc basis on 10.12.85 to H.P. State Civil Supplies Corporation to be commissioned.
"	3. Una	Una	LOI issued on 7.7.87.
Jammu & Kashmir	4. Kupwara	Kupwara	To be advertised
	5. Pulwama	Pulwama	First advertised on 12.9.84; no suitable candidate found Proposed to be re-advertised.
"	6. Poonch	Poonch	First advertised on 7.7.84. Readvertised on 13.7.85. Proposed to be advertised again.
Nagaland	7. Mon	Mon	LOI issued.
"	8. Wokha	Wokha	LOI issued on 28.4.86
U.P.	9. Gonda	Gonda	Action in hand for appointing U.P. State Civil Supplies Corpn
"	10. Kheri	Lakhimpur	Selection made by Oil Selection Board Stayed by High Court. Matter sub-judice.
Andaman & Nicobar	11. Andaman & Nicobar	Port Blair	LOI issued on 17.4.87.
Arunachal Pradesh	12. Lower Suhansiri	Ziro	To be advertised.
	13. West Siang	Along	LOI issued by IOC on 10.6.85.

1	2	3	4
Lakshadweep	14 Lakshadweep	Kavaretti	LOI issued by IOC on 9 11.83
Mizoram	15. Lunglei	Lunglei	Selection pending with OSB (East)
Pondicherry	16. Yanam	Yanam	To be advertised.

Daily Dak Delivery Facility in Rural Areas

1390. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any villages in the country, which are not covered by daily dak delivery or do not have the facility of a letter box for posting of letters and people have to walk more than a kilometer for this purpose in the rural areas, as on 31 March, 1987; and

(b) if so, whether the Department of Posts would initiate any steps for providing these two facilities in each village in the country by the end of the Seventh Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Barring 89 villages in the very remote areas, the facility of daily delivery of dak is available to all the villages in the country. In so far as rural letter boxes are concerned, out of 5,79,132 villages in the country letter boxes have been placed in 3,57,740 villages. While it is possible that there are villages which do not have a letter box within 1 km; the actual position in this regard is being ascertained and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) In so far as daily delivery is concerned, the position is satisfactory. However, in planning new post offices attention is being given to the remote areas which will also have the effect of further reducing number of villages not having daily delivery.

As regards letter boxes, the following norms initiated in the Sixth Plan are still in force:

- (i) villages with population of 500 and above will be provided with letter box facility.
- (ii) In villages with population of less than 500, the facility will be pro-

vided on the basis of need subject to the criteria that (a) the nearest letter box is not nearer than 1 km and (b) there is expectation of posting at least one letter per day. The further policy of placing of letter boxes in rural areas will be in the light of these norms. Therefore it is not envisaged that a letter box will be placed in every village by the end of the Seventh Plan.

Applications on Waiting List for LPG Connections in State Capitals

1391. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state

(a) the total number of applications on the waiting list for the supply of LPG connections in the State capitals including the metropolitan cities as on 1 April, 1987.

(b) whether any efforts are being made to liquidate the entire waiting list in each of the capitals during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(c) if so, the steps taken in this regard; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) The total No. of applications on waiting list in the State Capitals including the metropolitan cities as on 1.4.87 was approx. 8.18 lakhs;

(b) The existing waiting lists in all these cities are expected to be liquidated by the end of the Seventh Plan, i.e. 1989-90;

(c) Augmentation of bottling capacity for rail movement of LPG and of the distributorship network are the main steps being taken for liquidation of waiting lists;

(d) Does not arise.

Norms for Opening New Post Offices

1392. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the norms and conditions for opening new Branch Post Offices/Extra Departmental Branch Offices in rural areas which were in force since 1978 have been changed, if so, the reasons and whether copy of the amended guidelines will be placed on the Table:

(b) whether departmental authorities were asked to submit their report after conducting thorough survey in the light of new guidelines, if so, whether such reports were submitted and if not, which are the P.M.G. Circles who have not submitted their report;

(c) how many such BPOs/EDBOs have been opened after adoption of new procedure with names of the Circles and new BPOs/EDBOs opened after the new system came into force, circle-wise; and

(d) whether BPOs/EDBOs which were sanctioned but not opened due to imposition of ban on new appointments will be opened soon; if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir. The revised norms are given in the Statement below.

(b) All the Heads of Postal Circles have been asked to carry out surveys and formulate proposals for the opening of Post Offices in rural areas in the light of the revised norms. The proposals from PMG North Eastern Circle are still awaited. Reports from other circles have been received.

(c) Sanction has been accorded to the opening of 222 Post Offices as per the revised norms. The circle-wise position is as follows:

Circle	No. of Post Offices
Punjab	2
Bihar	55
Kerala	31
Rajasthan	17
Maharashtra	4
Madhya Pradesh	113
Total	222

The sanction for the opening of these Post Offices has been issued very recently.

(d) All cases including those which were examined earlier came to be reviewed in the light of the revised norms. While sanction for opening of 222 Post Offices has already been issued, other cases are under examination at the postal directorate.

STATEMENT

Norms for opening of post offices in rural areas introduced with effect from 28.1.1987

Population

A group of villages will be identified for purpose of opening of new post offices. Within this group, a suitable village will be selected for locating the post office based on one or more of the following criteria:

- (i) Headquarter of a gram Panchayat;
- (ii) Village with the largest population;
- (iii) Location on an existing mail line;
- (iv) Central location with reference to the group of Villages.
- (v) Village which has a concentration of economic activity/other social facilities (weekly market, transport junction, railhead, primary health centre, educational institutions and others).

The aggregate population of the group of villages should be not less than 5,000 in normal rural areas and not less than 2,500 in hilly, backward and tribal areas; provided further that in normal rural areas no new post office may be opened unless the total population served by the parent post office is

in excess of 10,000. As a result of a new post office being opened, the parent post office should still have a total population of not less than 5,000 in normal rural areas and 2,500 in hilly backward and tribal areas.

Distance

No new post office may be opened in rural areas within the distance of 3 Kms. from an existing post office. In all new proposal the distance should be got certified by the appropriate authorities of PWD/Highways/Zilla Parishads/district boards where the proposed post office is connected by a regular road and where it is not, by the revenue authorities. No relaxation of the distance condition is permissible under any circumstances.

Permissible limits of loss

The permissible limit of loss is now fixed at 2,400 per annum in normal rural areas and 4,800 per annum in hilly, backward and tribal areas. It is further provided that the anticipated income of a proposed post office should not be less than 50% of its anticipated cost in normal rural areas and 25% of its anticipated cost in hilly, backward and tribal areas. A branch office once opened will be retained on a year to year basis subject to these parameters being satisfied in each annual review.

It will be further ensured that as a result of the opening of a new post office, the loss in respect of the parent post office does not increase beyond the permissible limit nor is its income reduced below the minimum prescribed.

General

The term 'tribal areas' referred to in this letter will only refer to areas identified as 'tribal' for purposes of implementation of tribal sub-plans/integrated tribal development projects (ITDP). Like-wise, 'hilly' areas would only denote areas identified for Hill Area Development Programme (HADP). Authentic information in this regard should be ascertained from the concerned department of the State Government/Union Territory administration. Similarly, backward areas would mean areas declared as backward by the State Government/Union Territories administration for

purposes of accelerated development. (The States and Union Territories of the North Eastern region, Jammu & Kashmir, Sikkim and Himachal Pradesh are not covered under the Hill Areas Development Programme. These are treated as 'special category States'. However, for purpose of norms for opening of post office in rural areas, these States/Union Territories will also be considered as 'hilly areas'.)

In view of the continuing ban on creation of posts, new post offices under these norms can only be sanctioned with the approval of Ministry of Finance

Drilling Operations in North Eastern States

1393. SHRI R.P. DAS: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the places, district-wise in the States of West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa, Tripura and other North Eastern States where the drilling operations for the location of gas or oil have been conducted during the last three years and the places where drilling operations have since been closed down or are continuing at present;

(b) the latest findings of the drilling at the sites already negotiated; and

(c) whether any more sites have since been identified and the names thereof, district-wise for each State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) The names of State, Districts and places where drilling operations have been conducted/are continuing during the last three years, are as under:—

West Bengal:

Howrah Distt: Maju, Domjur,
Nadia dist: Dhananjayur, 24-
Pargana: Deganga, Bedra,
Regunath

Bihar:

West Champaran Distt. Gandak
(Jayapatti) Madhubani dist.
Madhubani

Tripura :

West Tripura dist. *Baramura,*
Rokhia, Gojalia and *Agartala*
Dome

Assam:

- (1) Sibsagar: *Lakwa, Geleki, Domulgaon, Changamaigaon, Napamua, Rudrasagar, Amguri, Bihubar, Luxmijan, Charali*
- (2) Dibrugarh: *Duarmara, Tinali, Shalmari, Bogapani, Rajgarh, Dipling, Hapjan, Borbil, Diroi*
- (3) Jorhat: *Borholla, Borpathar, Kasomarigaon*
- (4) Cachar: *Badarpur, Ademtila, Kanchanpur*

Nagaland

- (1) Wokha distt. *Changpang, Makrang.*
- (2) Mon Dist: *Barsilla*
- (3) Kohima dist: *Chumukadima, Tynyphe.*

Arunachal Pradesh:

Tirup: *Kharsang, Kumchai*
Orissa:

Cuttack dist: *Balitutha, Salipur*
Note: Drilling operations are continuing at the places which are underlined.

(b) Since 1st April, 1986, hydrocarbons have been discovered at the following places:

1. Diroi — Assam

2. Shalmari
3. Rajgarh
4. Hapjan
5. Borbil
6. Namti
7. Kumchai — Arunachal Pradesh
8. Agartala Dome — Tripura

Assam

(c) Following sites have been identified for taking up drilling:-

Assam :

Sibsagar distt: Jhanji, Luxmijan
Jorhat distt: Telihal, Uriamghat
Cachar distt: Pathimara, Masimpur, Bhaimbi

Karimganj distt: Adamtila, Patharia

Lakhimpur distt: Batmarigaon

Dibrugarh distt: Makum, Bazaloni, Borhat, Seper-hati, Rajgarh, Shalmari, Borbil, Diroi, Dipling

Nagaland :

Wokha distt: Hakheji Naga, Schuppan Belt

Mokakchung distt: Schuppan belt

West Bengal :

Burdwan distt : Mainagarh

Howrah distt: Sahanpur

Bihar :

West Champaran Distt: Ganauli

Tripura :

North Tripura distt : Khubai Arun-
achal Pradesh

Tirup distt : Kharsang, Kumchai

Orissa:

Puri distt : Konark

LPG Bottling Plants

1394. SHRI R.P. DAS:
SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOW-
DHARY

Will the Minister of PETRO-
LEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to
state:

(a) the number of LPG bottling plants
functioning in the country till date,

(b) the names of those places where
these plants are established; and

(c) the production capacity and perfor-
mance of each plant during the last three
years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATU-
RAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) 46.

(b) and (c) A Statement is given below.

STATEMENT

(Figs in MT)

PLANT	1984-85		1985-86		1986-87	
	PRODUCTION CAPACITY	ACTUAL BOTTLING	PRODUCTION CAPACITY	ACTUAL BOTTLING	PRODUCTION CAPACITY	ACTUAL BOTTLING
1. Shakurbasti	25000	21293	50000	50151	50000	47537
2. Kanpur (P)	25000	23333	25000	27498	13000	15429
3. Kanpur (G)	—	—	—	—	10000	20424
4. Allahabad	25000	19702	35000	24674	35000	27261
5. Jalandhar	40000	39772	40000	46745	40000	51271
6. Mathura	80000	78475	96000	75829	96000	85442
7. Kalyani	5000	5651	20000	22281	35000	30135
8. Bongaigaon	7000	8908	15000	14029	15000	15027
9. Bangalore	40000	39161	40000	37467	4000	42659
10. Salem	40000	32740	40000	41977	40000	42547
11. Gauhati	5000	5632	5000	6230	5000	6071
12. Barauni	15000	14411	20000	15521	20000	18350
13. Haldia	25000	21735	25000	21864	25000	24123
14. Koyali	80000	80999	100000	87312	100000	98472

15. Sawai-Madhopur	—	—	—	—	10000	8214
16. Durgapur	—	—	—	—	10000	14195
17. Rajkot	—	—	—	37000	37000	35874
18. Madras	70000	39614	100000	68689	100000	81430
19. Cochin	10000	3220	35000	17141	35000	25795
20. Duliajan	25000	16990	30000	27665	30000	27067
21. Bombay	100000	148200	150000	161900	150000	193000
22. Shakurbasti	37500	44000	47700	40000	48000	46400
23. Coimbatore	25000	17100	25000	34200	37500	5300
24. Mangalore	—	—	—	—	18500 (Since Oct.1986)	5300
25. Jaipur	—	—	—	—	6500 (Since Jan. 1987)	1900
26. Bombay	75000	80072	90000	84546	90000	92938
27. Pune	20000	9699	20000	11980	20000	16958
28. Miraj	10000	9305	10000	11225	10000	11903
29. Surat	10000	8453	12000	13227	12000	17240
30. Khapri	34000	23349	34000	27059	34000	31036
31. Manglia	12500	7124	25000	21755	34000	29430

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
32. Bangalore	25000	19706	34000	27128	34000	26810
33. Vijayawada	12000	8483	12000	12839	12000	13823
34. Visakh	25000	17992	25000	19830	32000	33361
35. Cuttack	3000	2927	3000	3754	3000	4220
36. Raipur	3000	1750	3000	2639	3000	2506
37. Calcutta	7000	6506	12000	10119	12000	11928
38. Shakurbasti	15000	12028	15000	16219	15000	78655
39. Jammu	2000	1630	2000	1963	7000	2024
40. Srinagar	2000	1328	2000	1736	2000	1529
41. Ludhiana	3000	2739	3000	4476	3000	6557
42. Jodhpur	10000	2666	10000	11269	18000	14718
43. Hyderabad	12500	7460	25000	24506	34000	31402
44. Mysore	—	—	—	—	12500	6059
45. Goa	—	—	—	—	12500	1493
46. Aurangabad	—	—	—	—	12500	980

(* —Rajkot—Plant was commissioned in October '86)

Profits by Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Company Ltd.

1395. PROF. MADHU DANDEVATE:
Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Company Ltd., a public sector enterprise, is earning profits;

(b) whether the profits are largely due to the trading activity of selling imported colour film after only its conversion involving slitting, perforating and packing; and

(c) if so, the action taken to produce colour film in the country?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The conversion of Jumbo rolls is not a mere trading activity since it involves skilled operation on precision machines and elaborate quality control activities. In 1986-87, the profits from colour film conversion were about 35% of the total profits of HPF.

(c) A letter of Intent has been issued to M/s. Pradeshiya Industrial and Investment Corporation of U.P. for manufacture of photo sensitized goods including cine colour films.

Pending cases in Andhra Pradesh High Court

1396. SHRI S. PALAKONDRAYUDU:
Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pending in High Court of Andhra Pradesh for over five years; and

(b) the steps taken for the early disposal of these cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) As per information

furnished by the Registry of the Andhra Pradesh High Court, 7890 cases were pending before the Court for over 5 years as on 31.12.1986.

(b) A Statement of the steps taken for early disposal of cases is given below.

STATEMENT

Steps taken from time to time to reduce pendency

The following steps have been taken in recent years to reduce pendency in the High Courts:—

1. Elimination of arrears in all the Courts has been discussed in the Conference of Chief Justices, Chief Ministers and Law Ministers of States held on 31st August—1st September, 1985 and the Resolutions of the Conference have been commended to the High Courts and the State Governments.
2. The Code of Civil Procedure was amended in 1976 to abolish Letters Patent Appeals from judgment of Single Judge of the High Court in Second Appeal (*vide* section 100-A).
3. The Code of Criminal Procedure based on the recommendations of the Law Commission was enacted in 1973.
4. The sanctioned strength of the High Court Judges has been increased from 351 in March, 1977 to 440 as on 1st February, 1987.
5. Apart from the above, certain High Courts are taking the following steps for ensuring better disposal of cases:
 - (a) Cases involving common questions are being grouped by several High Courts;
 - (b) Matters fixed for hearing by giving short returnable dates;

- (c) Dispensing with printing of records;
- (d) Expediting and giving priority to matters under certain Acts.
6. The recommendations contained in the 79th Report of the Law Commission have been examined. As action on majority of the recommendations is to be taken by the State Governments and the High Courts, these have been sent to them along with the views of the Union Government, and they have been requested to take necessary action.
7. The Government have entrusted the Law Commission, the study of the judicial system to introduce necessary reforms. The terms of reference are:—
- (a) the need for decentralisation of the system of administration of justice by:—
- (i) establishing, extending and strengthening in rural areas the institution of Nyaya Panchayats or other mechanisms for resolving disputes;
- (ii) setting up a system of participatory justice with defined jurisdiction and powers in suitable areas and centres;
- (iii) establishing other tiers or systems within the judicial hierarchy to reduce the volume of work in the Supreme Court and the High Courts.
- (b) the matters for which Tribunals (excluding Services Tribunals) as envisaged in Part-XIV-A of the Constitution need to be established expeditiously and various aspects related to their establishment and working.
- (c) the procedural laws with a view generally to disposing

of cases expeditiously, eliminating unnecessary litigation, delays in hearing of cases and reforms in procedures and procedural laws and particularly to devising procedures appropriate to the forums envisaged in items (a) (i) and (a) (ii).

- (d) the method of appointments to subordinate courts.
- (e) the training of Judicial Officers.
- (f) the role of the legal profession in strengthening the system of administration of justice.
- (g) the desirability of formulation of the norms which the Government and the Public Sector Undertakings should follow in the settlement of disputes including a review of the present system for conduct of litigation on behalf of the Government and such Undertakings.
- (h) the cost of litigation with a view to lessening the burden on the litigants.
- (i) formation of an All India Judicial Service; and
- (j) such other matters as the Commission considers proper or necessary for the purpose aforesaid or as may be referred to it from time to time by the Government.

Number of Fair Price Shops and Consumer Co-operatives

1397. SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOS-SAIN: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Fair Price Shops

opened during the last three years, State-wise, and central assistance given;

(b) the total number of consumers cooperative stores in the country as on 31st March, 1987 State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to encourage consumers movement?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT):

(a) The number of fair price shops opened in the country during the last 3 years, State-wise is given in Statement-I below. No central assistance is given to the States/UTs specifically for opening of Fair Price Shops.

(b) Available information is given in Statement-II below.

(c) Concern for consumer is included in Item No. 18 of 20 Point Programme, 1986. The policy of the Government is to promote a broad-based responsible and responsive voluntary consumer movement throughout the country. Various measures taken by the Central Government for this purpose include enactment of a comprehensive legislation called the Consumer's Protection Act, 1986, holding of national level and State level seminars, workshops, distribution of literature on consumer protection; use of TV/AIR and other media for creating consumer awareness in both urban and rural areas; coordination with the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations, etc. Moreover, rights have been conferred in the Consumer Protection Act as well as in other important laws, such as Essential Commodities Act, Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, Standards of Weights and Measures Act, etc., to the consumers and consumer organisations to file complaints in the courts.

STATEMENT-I

Number of Fair Price Shops

State/UT.	1985 (as on 1.1.85)	1986 (as on 31.3.86)	1987 (as on 31.3.87)
1	2	3	4
1. Andhra Pradesh.	32448	33688	35193
2. Arunachal Pradesh	654	367	407
3. Assam	21279	22669	23306
4. Bihar	39028	39028	39028
5. Gujarat	10442	10761	11290
6. Haryana	5956	6185	6453
7. Himachal Pradesh	2804	2850	2934
8. Jammu & Kashmir	2264	2303	2345
9. Karnataka	15819	15827	16221
10. Kerala	12366	12625	12783
11. Madhya Pradesh	18756	19276	19980

	1	2	3	4
12. Maharashtra		32109	33005	33389
13. Manipur		1387	1463	1530
14. Meghalaya		2275	2412	2553
15. Mizoram		754	684	723
16. Nagaland		161	180	196
17. Orissa		19603	19555	19371
18. Punjab		10556	10801	10801
19. Rajasthan		13091	13608	13586
20. Sikkim		1065	1057	1128
21. Tamil Nadu		20496	20723	21035
22. Tripura		961	1022	1077
23. Uttar Pradesh		27537	33662	37921
24. West Bengal		19118	19648	19856
25. Andaman & Nicobar Islands		216	224	230
26. Chandigarh		253	283	287
27. Dadra & Nagar Haveli		49	51	53
28. Delhi		3088	3107	3184
29. Goa, Daman & Diu		461	497	526
30. Lakshdweep		25	25	25
31. Pondicherry		269	287	301
TOTAL:		315290	327873	337712

STATEMENT-II

State/U.T.	No. of stores
1	2
1. Andhra Pradesh	1404

	1	2
2.	Assam	328
3.	Bihar	2833
4.	Gujarat	1149
5.	Haryana	92
6.	Himachal Pradesh	165
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	*59
8.	Karnataka	1505
9.	Kerala	386
10.	Madhya Pradesh	1011
11.	Maharashtra	2371
12.	Manipur	132
13.	Meghalaya	
14.	Nagaland	106
15.	Orissa	732
16.	Punjab	16
17.	Rajasthan	673
18.	Sikkim	76
19.	Tamil Nadu	845
20.	Tripura	100
21.	Uttar Pradesh	*1950
22.	West Bengal	2582
	TOTAL (STATES)	18566
23.	Andaman & Nicobar	40
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	72
25.	Chandigarh	18
26.	D.N. Haveli	5
27.	Delhi	733

1	2
28	Goa, Daman & Diu — 80
29	Lakshadweep — 17
30	Mizoram — 40
31.	Pondicherry — 22
<hr/>	
	TOTAL (UNION TERRITORIES) 1027
	<hr/>
	TOTAL (ALL INDIA) 19593

As on 30 6 1986

Exploration in Deep Sea Waters

1398. DR. B.L. SHAILESH:
SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE
PATIL:
SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARA-
SIMHARAJA WADIYAR:

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

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas
Commission (ONGC) has drawn up a plan
to explore for hydrocarbons in deep sea
waters and continental slopes;

(b) if so, the broad outlines of this new
programme and the capital outlay involved
therein;

(c) the country from which the ONGC
have taken the deep water drilling techno-
logy and equipment including rigs, and

(d) the possibilities of discovering oil in
deep waters in the various offshore basins
covered by the exploration programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATU-
RAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a)
Yes, Sir.

(b) About 17000 line Kms. of seismic
data acquisition in deep water of Kerala-
Konkan offshore basin is planned during
next two years at an approximate cost of
Rs. 4.5 crores.

(c) Does not arise at present, as no drill-
ing has been planned.

(d) An area between 200 mts.—3500 mts.
depth from Kutch to Kerala in the western
continental margin and beyond is consi-
dered prospective.

Load Despatching Facilities

1399. DR. B.L. SHAILESH: Will the Min-
ister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether to ensure the smooth inte-
grated operation of the power system at
the national and regional levels, Govern-
ment have any proposal under considera-
tion to revamp the "load despatching
facilities";

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof;

(c) the role assigned to the States
concerned;

(d) whether any time-bound programme
has been drawn up in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MIN-
ISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA
ROHTAGI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Permanent computer-based Regional Load Despatch Centres have already been established in the Northern, Western and Eastern Regions.

A telemetry based Load Despatch Centre is functioning in the Southern Region, and an interim Load Despatch Centre is in operation in the North-Eastern Region. It is proposed to augment the facilities in the Southern and North-Eastern regions to bring them at par with the other Regional Load Despatch Centres.

(c) The States are fully associated in the establishment of the Regional Load Despatch Centres and associated State Load Despatch Centres, so that a mutually compatible and well-knit Load Despatching System is evolved for the region as a whole.

(d) and (e). It is proposed to establish full-fledged Regional and State Load Despatch Centres by the end of the Eighth Plan.

Action Plan for Development of Telecommunication Services in Uttar Pradesh

1400. DR. B.L. SHAILESH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the broad outlines of the Action Plan for development of telecommunication services in Uttar Pradesh during 1987-88;

(b) the number of electronic and digital exchanges proposed to be set up in Uttar Pradesh during this year and those proposed to be upgraded particularly in eastern Uttar Pradesh;

(c) whether in view of the backwardness of eastern Uttar Pradesh Government will consider the desirability of expanding the telecommunication including RAXS in that region; and

(d) if so, the new places to be covered during the next two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The broad outlines of development during the year 1987-88 are capacity addition as detailed below:

- (i) Switching Capacity—about 17000 lines
- (ii) Direct Exchange Lines—about 15000 lines
- (iii) Trunk Automatic exchange (Lines) about 1500 lines
- (iv) Telex capacity about 60 lines
- (v) Long Distance Public Telephones—75 Nos.

(b) During 1987-88, 15 new electronic/digital local exchanges are proposed to be set up in U.P. out of which two have already been set up. In addition, two existing electronic exchanges are proposed to be expanded.

In eastern U.P., 4 new electronic exchanges are proposed to be set up.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) 10 Small Automatic Exchanges in rural areas of Eastern U.P. are proposed to be opened—each during the year 1987-88, '88-89, '89-90 subject to availability of demand. Besides 35 Long Distance Public Telephones (LDPT's) are proposed to be opened in Eastern U.P. during this year (87-88) and about 50 each in year '88-89 and '89-90 subject to availability of demand.

Allocation of Cement to Orissa

1401. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have reduced the quarterly quota of levy cement to Orissa;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor,

(c) the total quantum of levy cement demanded by the State during the last three years (quarter-wise); and

(d) the allocation made during those years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) The quarterly quota of levy cement of the States/ Union Territories, including that of Orissa, has been reduced.

(b) The allocation to the States is made, keeping in view the overall availability of levy cement. Since introduction of partial decontrol of cement from 28.2.1982, it has been Government's policy to reduce the levy obligation in a gradual manner, so that the industry is allowed to sell higher quantities of cement in the open market, which would help them in generating more funds for further investment and for modernisation. In fact, such a reduction in the levy obligation has taken place on five occasions during the past, i.e., on 18.7.1984, 4.6.1985, 15.12.1986, 1.3.1987 and

29.4.1987. As a result of overall reduction in the availability of levy cement, the allocation of all consuming sectors, including State Govt. of Orissa, has been reduced.

(c) The requirements of State Governments for cement are not obtained on a regular basis nor do the State Governments/Union Territories communicate their requirements regularly.

In Feb., 1984, the State Government of Orissa had sought enhancement of their basic allocation (exclusive of allocation for irrigation and power project) to 1,01,800 tonnes against their then quarterly allocation of 61,800 M.T. per quarter. On a review, the State's basic quarterly allocation was increased to 67,800 M.T. per quarter from October-December 1984 onwards. However, due to subsequent reduction of levy obligation as explained above, the allocation of all sectors has been reduced.

(d) The allocation of cement (basic as well as additional for drinking water supply programme) made to Orissa during the last 3 years (quarter-wise) is given below:—

Year	Quarter (In Metric tonnes)				TOTAL
	I	II	III	IV	
1984	62610	62610	62610	68610	256440
1985	68610	68610	68610	68610	274440
1986	68610	68610	60510	60510	258240
1987	60510	49810	43710		

The above figures are exclusive of allocation made for Irrigation & Power Projects for which allocation is made separately on the recommendations of Central Water Commission & Central Electricity Authority.

Allocation of Kerosene to Orissa

1402. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK:

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

(a) the quantity of kerosene demanded by Orissa State in the last three years (quarter-wise); and

(b) the allocation made during those years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) and (b). The requirements of kerosene of various States/Union Territories, including Orissa, are assessed by allowing a 5% growth over the allocations made in the corresponding period of the previous year, on a four-month-block basis and allocations are made accordingly. However, to meet increased demand, allocations of kerosene since November, 1985 i.e. begin-

ning of Winter Block, have been made after allowing a growth of 7.5% for Winter Blocks and 7% both for Summer and Monsoon Blocks. Besides the regular allocations, additional ad hoc releases have also been made on request to meet specific situations like flood, drought, cyclone, shortage of LPG/soft coke, etc.

Kerosene allocations to Orissa during the years 1984-85 to 1986-87, have been as under:—

(Figures in tonnes)

Year	Regular allocation	Ad hoc allocation	Total allocation
1984-85	97570	5130	102700
1985-86	103145	5705	108850
1986-87	107746	16844	124590

New Projects of BHEL

1403. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the plans of the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited about locating its new projects in the ensuing five years;

(b) whether there is any proposal to locate some of such projects in eastern Uttar Pradesh which is backward and where manpower is available in abundance, especially in Jaunpur Parliamentary Constituency; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO): (a) At present, there is no decision to set up a new project.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Profits of Super Bazar

1404. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3919 on March 24, 1987 regarding profits of Super Bazar and state:

(a) the profits earned by Super Bazar for the year 1985-86; and

(b) the percentage of profits as compared to the profits during the previous three years?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L BHAGAT): (a) The profits of the Super Bazar for the year 1985-86 as per their final accounts which are subject to audit, were Rs. 30.19 lakhs.

(b) Percentage of profits to sales during 1985-86 as compared to previous 3 years are as under:

Year	Profit	Percentage of profit to Sales
1982-83	Rs. 36.03 lakhs	1.27
1983-84	Rs. 58.45 lakhs	1.50
1984-85	Rs. 16.50 lakhs	0.37
1985-86	Rs. 30.19 lakhs	0.46

Filling of SC/ST posts in the Instrumentation Ltd., Kota

1406. SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of employees at present working in the Instrumentation Ltd., Kota, category-wise;

(b) the number of SC/ST employees, category-wise;

(c) whether there is any backlog of posts reserved for SC/ST; and

(d) if so, the reasons thereof and the steps being taken by Government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO): (a) The number of employees at present working in the Instrumentation Ltd., Kota, category-wise is given below:

Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D	Total
557	204	2669	610	4040

(b) The number of employees of SC/ST category-wise is given below:—

	Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D	Total
SC:	29	4	319	167	519
ST:	3	—	64	67	134

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The backlog of posts available for SC/ST is due to non-availability of suitable SC/ST persons in the relevant categories. The SC/ST persons who appear for written test and interviews are being considered on relaxed standards by the Management of Instrumentation Ltd., Kota.

H.B.J. Pipeline in Rajasthan

1407. SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bazira-Baijaipur-Jagdishpur gas pipeline passes through Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details of the utilisation of gas obtainable from this project in Rajasthan and the places where it will be utilised;

(c) whether necessary industrial units have been developed for utilising the gas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). It is proposed to supply gas to a Fertilizer Plant at Sawaimadhopur and a Power Plant at Anta, both of which are yet to be constructed.

S.T.D. Service in Gujarat State

1408. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the towns to whom S.T.D. facility has been provided at the end of 1986; and

(b) the names of those towns to whom S.T.D. facility is likely to be provided during the year 1987 in the country and in Gujarat State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The names of the towns to which STD facility has been provided till 31-12-86 are given in Statement - I below.

(b) The names of towns to which STD facility is likely to be provided during the year 1987 in the country and in Gujarat State are given in Statement-II below.

STATEMENT

List of Stations Having STD Facility As On 31-12-86

ANDHRA PRADESH

1. Adilabad
2. Anantpur
3. Anakapalle
4. Gudiwada
5. Guntur

6. Kakinada
7. Khammam
8. Machilipatnam
9. Ongole
10. Palakole
11. Patancheru
12. Rajamundry
13. Secunderabad
14. Tedepalligudem
15. Srikakulam
16. Tirupathy
17. Visakhapatnam
18. Vizianagaram
19. Vijayawada
20. Mahaboobnagar
21. Warangal
22. Komplli
23. Bhimavaram
24. Ranigunta
25. - Prodattur
26. Cuddappah
27. Adoni
28. Chilakaluripet
29. Ibrahimpatnam
30. Chittoor
31. Nellore
32. Guntakal
33. Nandyal
34. Tenali
35. Srikalahasti

36. Gudur
37. Nalgonda
38. Sangareddy
39. Karimnagar
40. Kurnool
41. Parmidi
42. Nandigama
43. Lingampally
44. Tirumalla
45. Tanaku
46. Kazipet
47. Hanamkonda
48. Poranki
49. Duggiralla
50. Eluru
51. Kovvur

ASSAM

1. Guwahati/Dispur
2. Dhubri
3. Dibrugarh
4. Jorhat
5. Tinsukhia

ARUNACHAL PRADESH

1. Arrah
2. Chopra
3. Darbhanga
4. Dhanbad/Jharia
5. Jamshedpur/Talco
Adityapur
6. Muzaffarpur

7. Patna
8. Ranchi/Dhruwa
9. Samastipur
10. Sasaram
11. Bokaro
12. Kathiar
13. Motihari
14. Dalmianagar
15. Forbesganj
16. Hazaribagh
17. Gaya
18. Siwan

GUJARAT

1. Ahmedabad
2. Baroda
3. Gandhinagar
4. Jamnagar
5. Mahsana
6. Nadiad
7. Rajkot
8. Surat
9. Bhavnagar
10. Bulsar
11. Amreli
12. Moorvi
13. Veraval
14. Porbandar
15. Kalol
16. Talod

17. Savarkundla
18. Mahuva
19. Bilimora
20. Gandhidham
21. Junagarh

HARYANA

1. Amhala
2. Bhiwani
3. Faridabad
4. Gurgaon
5. Hissar
6. Karnal
7. Panipat
8. Rohtak
9. Sonapat
10. Yamunanagar
11. Sirsa
12. Rawari

HIMACHAL PRADESH

1. Simla
2. Mandi

JAMMU AND KASHMIR

1. Anantnag
2. Baramula
3. Jammu
4. Sopore
5. Srinagar
6. Udhampur

KARNATAKA

1. Bangalore
2. Belgaum
3. Bellary
4. Gadag
5. Bhadravati
6. Hubli
7. Mangalore
8. Marcara
9. Mysore
10. Shimoga
11. Tumkur
12. Udipi
13. Davanagere
14. Hassan
15. Puttur
16. Harihar
17. Karwar
18. Bogalkot
19. Chitterdurga
20. Raichur
21. Ranibennur
22. Gulbarga

23. Bidar
24. Sirsi
25. Whitefield
26. Ullal
27. Penambur
28. Bantwal
29. Dharwar
30. Kittoor
31. Hospet
32. Chickmanglur

KERALA

1. Alleppey
2. Alwaye
3. Cannanore
4. Chengannur
5. Ernakulam
6. Kottayam
7. Kozhikode
8. Kunnamkulam
9. Narakkal
10. Palghat
11. Quilon
12. Tiruvalla
13. Trichur
14. Trivandrum
15. Neyyattinkara
16. Kottarakara
17. Taliparamb
18. Mavelikara
19. Angamally
20. Chalakudy
21. Palai
22. Chowghat
23. Guruvayur
24. Atingal
25. Shartalai
26. Kalpeta
27. Badegara
28. Vaikom

29. Addor
30. Malepuram
31. Manjeri
32. Kundara
33. Iddikki
34. Irinjalkuda
35. Chingavanam
36. Kothamangalam
37. Muvathupuzha
38. Parumbavoor
39. Punalur
40. Changanacherry
41. Thodupuzha
42. Cheerpu
43. Kolancherry
44. Olavakode
45. Algapanagar
46. Ollur
47. Munnar
48. Vizhinjam

MADHYA PRADESH

1. Bhopal
2. Indore
3. Jabalpur
4. Katni
5. Raipur
6. Sahore
7. Ujjain
8. Gwalior

9. Morar
10. Dawas
11. Bilaspur
12. Khandwa
13. Sagar
14. Burhanpur
15. Durg
16. Mhow
17. Vidisha

MANIPUR

1. Imphal

MEGHALAYA

1. Shillong
2. Jowai
3. Tura

MIZORAM

1. Aizwal

MAHARASHTRA

1. Amravati
2. Bhivandi
3. Bombay
4. Jaisinghpur
5. Jalgaon
6. Kalyan
7. Bolhapur
8. Kolpawadi
9. Kopargaon
10. Miraj
11. Nagpur
12. Nasik

13. Pimpri
14. Poona
15. Puntamba
16. Rahata
17. Sangli
18. Turbhe
19. Yeotmal
20. Wardha
21. Talagaon Dabhade
22. Aurangabad
23. Satara
24. Karad
25. Ahmednagar
26. Sholapur
27. Akola
28. Ambernath
29. Dombivalli
30. Ichalkaranji
31. Ratnagiri
32. Bhusawal
33. Ulhasnagar
34. Chandrepur
35. Kalamboli
36. Madgaon
37. Panvel
38. Vashi

NAGALAND

1. Dimapur
 2. Kohima
- ORISSA**
1. Behrampur
 2. Bhubaneswar

3. Guttack
4. Rourkela
5. Chowdwar
6. Paradip
7. Puri

PUNJAB

1. Abohar
2. Amritsar
3. Bhatinda
4. Chhaharata
5. Hoshiarpur
6. Jalandhar
7. Kapurthala
8. Ludhiana
9. Patiala
10. Phagwara
11. Ferozepur
12. Rajpura
13. Sangrur
14. Pathankot
15. Khanna

RAJASTHAN

1. Alwar
2. Bharatpur
3. Dholpur
4. Jaipur
5. Jodhpur
6. Kota
7. Udaipur

8. Ajmer
9. Beawar

SIKKIM

1. Gangtok

TRIPURA

1. Agartala

TAMIL NADU

1. Attur
2. Chidambaram
3. Chinglapat
4. Coimbatore
5. Dharmapuri
6. Dindigul
7. Erode
8. Hasur
9. Kancheepuram
10. Kodaikanal
11. Kovilpatti
12. Madras
13. Madurai
14. Manargudi
15. Mayuram
16. Mathupalayam
17. Nagepatinam
18. Nagarcoil
19. Ootacamund
20. Rajapalayam
21. Ranipat
22. Pudukottai

23. Sattur
24. Salem
25. Theni
26. Tiruchy
27. Tirupur
28. Tiruvarur.
29. Tiruvellore
30. Trinuvelli
31. Tuticorin
32. Tirumanglam
33. Udamalpat
34. Vellore
35. Villupuram
36. Viradhunagar
37. Ambur
38. Rasipuram
39. Polachi
40. Bhawani
41. Viniyambadi
42. Parmakudi
43. Namakai
44. Karaikudi
45. Trichangode
46. Navdli
47. Karur
48. Kumbakonam
49. Aruopukottai
50. Gopichettipalayam
51. Kangayam

52. Mahabalipuram
53. Palladam
54. Rameshwaram
55. Valparai
56. Somannur
57. Annur
58. Bodinayanur
59. Arkonam
60. Tiruttani
61. Tiruvannamalai
62. Kalpakkam
63. Sankaridurg
64. Perundurair
65. Musiri
66. Vellakoil
67. Malvisharam
68. Arni
69. Tenkashi
70. Shankottah
71. Avinashi
72. Shivakashi
73. Thanjavur

UTTAR PRADESH

1. Agra
2. Aligarh
3. Allahabad
4. Bereilly
5. Bulandsher
6. Dehradun
7. Deoband

8. Faizabad
9. Ghaziabad
10. Gorakhpur
11. Hapur
12. Kanpur
13. Kosikalan
14. Lucknow
15. Meerut
16. Mirzapur
17. Modinagar
18. Moradabad
19. Mussoorie
20. Muzaffarnagar
21. Pilibhit
22. Raebareli
23. Rampur
24. Saharanpur
25. Sahajahanpur
26. Sitapur
27. Unnao
28. Varanasi
29. Nainital
30. Badaun
31. Almorah

WEST BENGAL

1. Andal
2. Asansol
3. Bahula
4. Barkar

5. Burdwan
6. Burnpur
7. Calcutta
8. Durgapur
9. Haldia
10. Jamurihat
11. Kalyani
12. Kalimpong
13. Kharagpur
14. Malda
15. Neyamatpur
16. Raniganj
17. Ropnarainpur
18. Silipuri
19. Coochbehar
20. Darjeeling
21. Krishna Nagar
22. Badagara

23. Bhojpur
24. Chinsura
25. Midnapur
26. Suri
27. Tribeni
28. Purulia

UNION TERRITORIES

1. Chandigarh
2. Delhi
3. Panjim
4. Margao
5. Mapuca
6. Vasco
7. Pondicherry
8. Yamaam
9. Kariamanickam
10. Portblair

STATEMENT-II***Names of stations already provided with
STD facilities so far during 1987***

Nizamabad	Kothagudem	Ravulpalam
Bobili	Kavali	Monghyr
Kundapur	Koppal	Kolar
Bajpe	Nanjangud	Hebbaguddi
Kalady	Cranganore	Pathanamthitta
Quilndy	Mandsaur	Jaora
Dhar	Rawa	Satna
Seoni	Baramati	Kalwa/Raballe
Navsewa	Bikaner	Nagaur

Kanyakumari	Valiyoor	Kujhitturai
Ambasundram	Villalpetha	Shivagangai
Karaikal	Sirkali	Uthukuli
Ponneri	Etah	Mathura
Mainpuri	Pratapgarh	Dharamshala
<i>In Gujarat State</i>		
Billimora	Dholka	Dharangdhara
Visnagar	Surendernagar	Jamkhabalia

Names of stations likely to be provided with STD during the remaining period of 1987.

Samalkot	Tuni	Ramachandrapuram
Sibsagar	Bongai Gaon	Borjhar
Halflong	Naharlagaon	Daltanaganj
Bhagalpur	Kalka	Solan
Parwanoo	Bangerpet	Kokar Goldfiend
Paroor	Haripad	Payyanur
Alathur	Kayamkulam	Raigarh
Morena	Srirampur	Jalna
Dhulia	Lungleh	Bhadrek
Bundi	Nellikuppam	Srivilluputhur
Satyamanglam	Chinnalipatti	Orai
Sainthia	Alipurdwār	Kavarathy
<i>In Gujarat State</i>		
Unjha	Palanpur	Dwarka
Godhra		

Bench of High Court at Guntur, A.P.

1409. SHRI C. SAMBU: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh has sent a proposal to Union Govern-

ment for setting up a High Court Bench at Guntur or any other town in Andhra Pradesh; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Post Offices in Andhra Pradesh

1410. SHRI C. SAMBU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the plans of Government for covering the remaining villages of Andhra Pradesh with post offices during the Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(b) when all the villages of Andhra Pradesh will have post offices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) In Andhra Pradesh there are 27,335 villages and 14,710 rural post offices. Each rural post office serves on average 2 villages in the State. The corresponding all-India index is one post office for 5 villages. This would show that rural coverage in Andhra Pradesh is considerably better than the all-India position.

It is neither practicable nor necessary to open a post office in every village. The policy is to have a viable grouping of villages and to sanction a post office for each

such group. In view of the fact that the rural postal system in Andhra Pradesh is already quite comprehensive, there are no plans at present to sanction more post offices. This is, however, subject to further reviews that may be conducted in future.

(b) The question does not arise in view of reply to part (a) above.

Industrial Licences/Letters of Intent granted to West Bengal

1412. SHRI AMAL DATTA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of industrial licences and letters of intent granted to West Bengal for setting up industries in the backward regions and no industry districts during the last three years, year-wise; and

(b) the names of those regions and districts which have been granted letters of intent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Under the provisions of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, the following numbers of letters of intent and industrial licences have been granted during the years 1984 to 1986 for setting up industries in Centrally declared backward districts and 'no-industry' districts of West Bengal:-

Year	Letter of Intent		Industrial Licences	
	Total issued for backward areas including no-industry districts. (Nos.)	Issued specifically for no-industry districts. (Nos.)	Total issued for backward areas including (Nos.)	Issued specifically for no-industry districts. (Nos.)
1984	14	2	12	—
1985	31	7	15	2
1986	25	5	9	—

(b) Details, such as name and address of the undertaking, location (including the name of district), item(s) of manufacture and capacity etc. in respect of all letters of intent and industrial licences issued are being published regularly by the Indian Investment Centre in their 'Monthly Newsletter'. Copies of this publication are being sent to the Parliament Library regularly

Financial Assistance to States for Development of Consumer Cooperatives

1413. SHRI MATILAL HANSDA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government provide financial assistance to States for development of Consumer Cooperatives; and

(b) if so, the total amount earmarked and actually released during 1986-87 and 1987-88, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Funds are not earmarked State-wise, but are released on a project to project basis. State-wise position of release of funds during 1986-87 and 1987-88 (up to 31st July, 1987) is given in the Statement below.

STATEMENT

State-wise position of funds released under the centrally sponsored scheme for development of consumer cooperatives in urban areas during 1986-87 and 1987-88 (upto 31st July, 1987)

(Rs. in lakhs)

S. No.	States/UTs.	1986-87	1987-88 (upto 31.7.1987)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.36	—
2.	Assam	11.29	1.35
3.	Bihar	1.80	—
4.	Gujarat	4.80	3.85
5.	Jammu and Kashmir	4.50	—
6.	Karnataka	9.50	12.06
7.	Kerala	2.52	—
8.	Maharashtra	3.44	8.25
9.	Manipur	11.24	2.50
10.	Nagaland	0.60	—
11.	Orissa	6.43	2.50

1	2	3	4
12.	Rajasthan,	0.38	2.50
13.	Tamil Nadu	11.20	—
14.	Uttar Pradesh	12.93	3.00
15.	West Bengal	107.22	0.36
16.	Arunachal Pradesh	11.20	—
17.	Mizoram	12.52	—
TOTAL:		211.93	36.37*

In addition, under another scheme implemented through the NCDC, an amount of Rs. 1.55 crores was provided during 1986-87, as margin money assistance to the Primary Agricultural Credit Societies for distribution of consumer goods in rural areas. For 1987-88 an outlay of Rs. 2.40 crores has been provided for the scheme. Out of this amount Rs. 50.00 lakhs have been provided to NCDC, upto 31.7.87.

*The outlay for the scheme for 1987-88 is Rs. 200 lakhs

Import of Foreign Technology

1414. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Food Technology Research Institute is fully competent to cater technology for soft drinks and fruit processing;

(b) whether some multinational companies are in fact using Indian technology for product manufacture using their label for market push; and

(c) if so, the reasons for import of foreign technology?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Central Food Technological Research Institute (CFTRI) have informed that they have technologies for soft drink concentrates, that know-how for cola type beverage has been released to Modern Food Industries Limited, New Delhi for commer-

cialisation and that they have know-how for orange and lime-lemon carbonated beverages which has been released to ten parties through NRDC for commercialisation.

(b) CFTRI are not aware of any such case

(c) Government's policy is that foreign collaboration, financial or technical is not ordinarily necessary for consumer products. However, foreign collaboration for manufacture of consumer products is considered on merits if such collaboration is justified taking into consideration factors such as nature of technology involved, availability of indigenous technology, potential for export earnings and the like.

Strike by Employees of Postal Department

1415. DR. T. KALPANA DEVI:
SHRIMATI N. P. JHANSI
LAKSHMI:
SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the employees of the Postal Department threatened to go on strike for a week from July 14, 1987; and

(b) if so, the demands of the postal employees and the action taken by the Government to remove their grievances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The National Federation of Postal Employees, Federation of National Postal Organisations, Bharatiya Postal Employees Federation and All India Postal Accounts Employees Association had served a notice for going on strike from 14-7-1987 to 20.7.87 for settlement of demands contained in a 13 point Charter of Demands a copy of which is laid on the No. LT-4616/87]. After negotiations with the LT - 4616/87]. After negotiations with the representatives of employees an agreement was reached and 'Terms of Settlement' were signed on 11-7-1987 a copy of which is also laid on the Table of the House [Placed in Library. See No. LT-4616/87]. Consequently, the strike notice was withdrawn by the Federations/Association.

Dues of State Electricity Boards to NTPC

1416. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have directed the State Governments to clear the dues of the State Electricity Boards to the National Thermal Power Corporation or face a cut in assistance to the extent of the dues;

(b) if so, whether National Thermal Power Corporation has taken a policy decision to get the dues of the State level undertakings cleared by the cut in assistance to the State; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) to (c). The National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) have been actively pursuing the recovery of their dues with the State Electricity Boards (SEBs) and Undertakings concerned. The matter has also been followed up at Government level to facilitate early realization of outstanding amounts. The State Governments have been requested to advise their SEBs to open Letters of Credit with the NTPC to the extent of average billing for the last six months. The Union Government informed the State Governments in April, 1987 that 80% of the undisputed overdues, which are more than 2 months old from the date of billing, would be deducted in six equal instalments from the Central assistance due to be released to the State Government concerned from May, 1987 onwards.

Setting up of Industries in Idduki and Pathanamthitta, Kerala

1417 PROF P J KURIEN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kerala Government has submitted any proposal for setting up new industries in Idduki and Pathanamthitta districts; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) 1 Industrial Licence application under the provisions of Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 was received from M/s. Kerala State Industrial Development Corporation Limited for a location in Idduki district of Kerala State for which a Letter of Intent has been issued.

(b) The details of applications which are approved and against which Industrial Licences/Letters of Intent are issued, are

regularly published in the monthly Newsletter published by the Indian Investment Centre. Copies of this publication are available in the Parliament Library.

Modernisation of Sugar Industry

1418. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the amount earmarked for modernisation of sugar industry; and

(b) whether only a few sugar mills have availed of this facility, and if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT):

(a) A provision of Rs. 13 crores has been made in the budget estimates for 1987-88.

(b) After the notification of Sugar Development Fund Rules, an amount of Rs. 6.25 crores has been sanctioned and disbursed to 7 sugar undertakings for the purpose of modernisation/renabilitation. With the announcement of the long term policy for sugar, more sugar undertakings are expected to undertake modernisation/expansion.

Coconut Oil in the Category of Edible Oils

1419. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps are being taken by his Ministry to include coconut oil in the category of edible oils;

(b) if not, the reasons thereof; and

(c) whether Government of Kerala has made any representation to include coconut oil in the category of edible oils; and

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

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT):

(a) Coconut oil is already considered an edible oil.

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

(c) No representation has been received from the Government of Kerala to include coconut oil in the category of edible oils.

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

Lockout in ACC Babcock Limited

1420. DR. SUDHIR ROY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether ACC Babcock Limited, Durgapur is under lockout since October, 1986,

(b) whether Government have taken any steps to reopen the firm;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (d). The Management of ACC Babcock Ltd., has filed a winding up petition in October 1986 the proceedings of which are pending before the Bombay High Court. Industrial Development Bank of India has prepared a rehabilitation package for the revival of the company. No final decision has been taken on the package.

Completion of Power Projects

1421. SHRI BIMAL KANTI GHOSH.
SHRI MULLAPPALLY
RAMACHANDRAN:
SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE
PATIL:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether power projects in various States have not been completed for want of funds;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether State Governments had approached Union Government to give aid to complete these power projects; and.

(d) if so, the action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) Inadequacy of funds with some State Electricity Boards is one of the reasons for delays in the completion of some of the power projects in the State sector.

(b) to (d). Information is being collected and shall be placed on the Table of the House.

Dual Pricing Policy for Cooking Gas

1422. SHRI BIMAL KANTI GHOSH:
SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI
KHAN:

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

(a) whether Government have made recently any critical assessment of the working of the dual pricing policy for cooking gas introduced in March, 1987 to mobilise additional revenue and to check malpractices in its distribution; and

(b) if so, the outcome thereof stating the steps contemplated by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) and (b). The working of the pricing of gas cylinders after withdrawal of subsidy to non-domestic consumers is under constant review by the oil industry and the Government. Several steps were taken to check malpractices even at the time of

introducing the non-domestic price and additional steps have also been taken on a further review. These are:—

- (i) Identification of non-domestic customers
- (ii) Colour banding of cylinders supplied to non-domestic customers
- (iii) Organised inspection of dealers & users to check malpractices.
- (iv) Supply of cylinders of different size for non-domestic use wherever possible.
- (v) Maintenance of separate registers at the dealers' level, in respect of domestic and non-domestic consumers.
- (vi) Reattachment of non-domestic customers from dealers indulging in malpractices to other dealers.
- (vii) Placement of separate indents for domestic and non-domestic cylinders by the dealers.
- (viii) Adequate number of inspections by each Field Officer of non-domestic customers, etc.

[*Translation*]

Postal Delivery in Rural Areas

1423. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in rural areas money orders, parcels, letters and registered letters etc. are delivered on four days only in a month;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by Government for immediate delivery thereof in the rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Only in 7 remote locality villages the delivery is given four days in a month.

(b) and (c). Because of the terrain and insufficient traffic for the areas, the frequency of delivery of postal mail in these areas has to be regulated according to the actual requirements.

Agreement by Scooters India Limited with Tanzania

1424. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Scooters India Limited, Lucknow has signed an agreement to establish scooter industry in Tanzania;

(b) if so, the time by which industry will start functioning in Tanzania; and

(c) the target fixed for the production of scooters and the extent of foreign exchange likely to be earned therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Organising 'Sales Conference' by Scooters India Limited

1425. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether in 1984 the 'Scooters India Limited' had organised a Sales Conference;

(b) if so, the objective of the Conference;

(c) the expenditure incurred on the Conference; and

(d) the achievements of the Conference and the benefits derived for the Scooters India Ltd.?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The objective of the Conference was to determine the Company's course of action to face challenge posed by the new brands of two-wheeler products besides other corporate objectives viz. dealers contacts, defect analysis, product improvement, sales targets and after sales service.

(c) The expenditure incurred by Scooters India Ltd. on sales conference in 1984 was Rs. 24188.42.

(d) Organising such conference is a normal commercial practice to boost sales of products.

[English]

Manufacture of Digital Telephone Exchanges

1426. DR. T. KALPANA DEVI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in the manufacture of digital telephone exchanges, digital transit exchanges, digital long distance transmission equipment and digital junction equipment till March, 1987;

(b) whether the factories for the manufacture of digital junction equipment and digital long distance transmission equipment have started functioning;

(c) if not, when these factories will start functioning; and

(d) the total production of all these items till June, 1987?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c). Manufacture of digital electronic telephone exchange has commenced at the Mankapur Factory of Indian Telephone Industries (ITI).

Manufacture of digital transit exchanges has commenced at the Palghat unit of I.T.I.

Pilot production of digital junction equipment and primary multiplexing equipment has been completed in half a dozen factories. They will commence bulk manufacture in 1987-88.

For long distance digital transmission radio equipment, indigenous design prototype has been completed for the 7 GHz equipment. Collaboration proposals for manufacture of higher frequency equipment under transfer of technology have been finalised. These will go into production at I.T.I. and BEL in 1989.

(d) Total production till June, 1987:

Digital Local Exchanges	...	1,55,000
Digital Transit Exchanges	..	5,000
Digital junction equipment	About	200 systems

Regional Disparity in Telephone Facilities

1427. SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are taking steps to remove the regional disparity in the matter of telephone facilities in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). As far as provision of telephone connections at private premises is concerned, there are by and large no regional disparities. The average waiting periods for provision of telephone connections in same classes of cities and towns and villages are about the same.

In respect of provision of long distance public telephones in rural areas on subsid-

ized basis, some disparities had developed earlier on the basis of opening such telephones on the basis of population of the villages. This is now being corrected by provision of rural public telephones on spatial criteria.

Upgradation of Imphal Unit of FCI

1428. SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the demand for upgradation of the Imphal Unit of the Food Corporation of India to a regional office is pending clearance of Union Government; and

(b) if so, since when and when the upgradation is likely to take place?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) (a) and (b). No, Sir. Food Corporation of India has a District Office in Imphal, which is adequate for handling Food Corporation of India operations in Manipur State.

New Oil Deposits in Tatipaka Wells

1429. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether large deposits of oil and natural gas have been found in Tatipaka second well in East Godavari of Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the estimated availability of natural gas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) Only gas has been discovered in this well.

(b) The extent of gas deposits will be known only after further exploration.

**Natural Gas in different Places in
Andhra Pradesh**

1430. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of natural gas available in wells in Narsapuram, Razole, Tatipaka, Panarlam Pur and Kaza; and

(b) the steps taken to utilise the natural gas fully?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) As on 1.1.87, recoverable reserves of gas in Narsapur, Razole, Tatipaka and Kaza areas have been estimated at 1265 million cubic metres.

There is no gas bearing location by the name of Panarlam Pur.

(b) initially ONGC Plan to produce about 1.5 lakhs cubic metres per day and this is proposed to be supplied to about five industries starting from September 1987.

**Computerisation Programmes of Rural
Electrification Corporation**

1431. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the total allocations made under the Seventh Five Year Plan for promoting computerisation programmes of the Rural Electrification Corporation (REC);

(b) the steps taken and progress made by the REC for introducing programmes for computerisation of rural electrification systems in the various State Electricity Boards; and

(c) whether the Kerala State Electricity Board has introduced the computerisation programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) No specific allocation has been made in the Seventh Five Year Plan for promoting computerisation programme of the Rural Electrification Corporation (REC). However, REC is providing financial assistance to the State Electricity Boards for setting up computers for System Improvement and Distribution planning connected with Rural Electrification programme.

(b) REC has standardised the computer systems and have also finalised the details and data suitable for distribution planning and system improvement. REC has also in association with Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, organised a workshop in 1986 for training distribution planning engineers in the computer based programmes for reducing line losses. REC has so far sanctioned 9 schemes for setting up computers in Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh. Of these states, State Electricity Boards of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu have already set up computer centres.

(c) No, Sir.

Changes in Patents Act

1432. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA:
SHRI N. VENKATARATNAM:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased state:

(a) whether Government are considering changes in the Patents Act to enable flow of high technology in drugs into the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether this would also involve India signing the Paris Convention on intellectual property?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). In the light of the reply given to (a) do not arise.

Glut in Alcohol

1433. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a situation of glut in alcohol on the one hand and severe shortages on the other exists between different States throwing chemical industry into doldrums;

(b) whether inter-state movement of alcohol has been affected by new regulations, and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken to prevent the distilleries and chemical unit using alcohol as raw material from closing down?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) Some States are traditionally surplus in alcohol while others are deficit. Therefore, inter-state allocations are made from surplus to the deficit States. During the current alcohol year (December, 1986—November, 1987), the availability of alcohol is likely to be more than adequate to meet its demand in the country.

(b) The movement of alcohol from surplus to deficit States is reported to have been adversely affected due to hike in the duties imposed on alcohol by some surplus States.

(c) The State Governments have been advised to rationalise the duties on alcohol so as to facilitate its movement to deficit States. Constant vigil to ensure flow of

alcohol to deficit States is being maintained.

Functional autonomy to National Thermal Power Corporation and National Hydro-electric Power Corporation

1434. SHRI D.N. REDDY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to give functional autonomy to the National Thermal Power Corporation and the National Hydro-Electric Power Corporation under the concept of holding company for power projects; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Increase in Mini-Cement Plants Capacity

1435. SHRI S.M. GURADDI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have decided to permit mini-cement plants to raise their capacity, if so to what extent;

(b) whether Government have also considered to allow modernisation and revision of these mini-cement plants; and

(c) if so, to what extent these facilities will help in increasing the cement units production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Yes, Sir. With a view to enabling Mini Cement Plants already in production to improve their economic viability, Government have decided to permit them to expand their capacity upto 600 tonnes per day, subject *inter-alia* to the condition that the unit

should have achieved atleast 80% of its licensed capacity. While production upto 300 TPD or 99,000 tonnes per annum, will be exempted from levy obligation, such plants will be required to provide levy obligation on the incremental production beyond 300 TPD, @ 15% of actual production.

(b) In expanding the capacity upto 600 tonnes per day, the mini cement plants are permitted to install pre-calcinators/balancing equipments or undertake modernisation.

The above facilities have been given for the existing mini cement plants to enable them to improve their economic viability. However, as the concept of the mini cement plant is based on certain socio-economic considerations and as it is possible to set up a VSK mini cement plant with kiln capacity of 100 TPD/200 TPD the existing definition of mini cement plants with a capacity of 200 TPD remains unchanged.

(c) The facilities enumerated above are expected to lead to a significant increase in cement production.

Modernisation Package for Power Generating equipment Industry

1436. SHRI S.M. GURADDI:
SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had set up an expert group to prepare a package for growth and modernisation of the power generating equipment industry;

(b) if so, whether the expert group was also to have a second look at the present policy of liberalised import of power equipment;

(c) the composition of the Group and its terms of reference;

(d) whether the Group has submitted its report;

(e) if so, whether the report has been examined by Government or any other agency and outcome of this examination; and

(f) whether any implementation plan has been drawn up?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO): (a) to (f). An Expert Group on Power Generating Equipment covering turbines, generators and boilers to prepare a package of proposals for modernisation, technology upgradation and accelerated growth of industry was constituted in March, 1987. A copy of the O.M. dated 13th March 1987 giving the terms of reference and the composition of the Expert Group is given in the Statement laid on the table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-4617/87] The Group has submitted its report in April 1987 Steps have been initiated to get the recommendations of the Group processed by the Ministries concerned and Organisations.

Generation of Power from Bio-mass and Sugar based Agricultural Waste

1437. SHRI S.M. GURADDI:
SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a perspective plan has been framed to achieve an annual generation and saving of energy;

(b) if so, the main features of the plan prepared by the Department of Non-conventional Energy Sources; and

(c) the extent of power that will be generated through bio-mass and to what extent it will be generated from sugar-based agricultural waste?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b). The Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources has prepared a Paper entitled 'Energy-2001' perspective plan—Non-

Conventional Energy Sources which envisages potential annual energy generation/saving from new and renewable sources of energy to the extent of 250.17 million tonnes of coal replacement by the turn of the century; this includes generation of 15000 MW of power mainly from bio-mass, wind, solar and micro hydel sources as well as generation/saving of energy from improved chulhas, biogas plants and other renewable sources.

(c). The power capacity from biomass including sugar-based agricultural waste is estimated at 6000 MW by the turn of the century. This is expected to be achieved provided sufficient financial allocations are made.

Additional Telephone Connections after increase in allocation

1438. SHRI S.M. GURADDI:
SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering that the allocation for telecommunication services in the Seventh Plan be raised to 6010 crores.

(b) if so, whether by increased allocation, additional telephone connections will be given and the waiting list will be completed by December, 1987; and

(c) if so, the other steps that are being considered after allocations are increased?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir, about five lakh additional telephone connections. This will, on an average, enable clearance of waiting lists upto 30.9.1986 in Metro and Major Telephone districts and upto 1.4.1987 in other cities and towns at the end of the Seventh Plan.

In addition, it will enable provision of 6,000 additional long distance public telephones in rural areas.

Proposal to Increase Prices of Maruti Cars

1439 SHRI E AYYAPPU REDDY Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Maruti Udyog Ltd. is proposing to raise the prices of Maruti cars; and

(b) if so, what is the present cost structure of the vehicles produced by the Maruti Udyog Ltd.?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO): No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Projects of Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited

1440 SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state

(a) the particulars of different projects which are under construction by the Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited;

(b) the estimated cost of these projects: and

(c) the time by which these projects are to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) to (c). The following major projects of Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited are under implementation:—

S. No.	Name of the Project	Approved cost estimates (Rs./crores)	Completion schedule
1	2	3	4
1.	Polypropylene Co-polymer at Baroda	69.36	July 1987
2.	Bicomponent Acrylic Fibre at Baroda	99.46	November 1987
3.	Xylenes Expansion at Baroda	59.36	September 1988
4.	Captive Power Plant at Baroda	72.51	January 1988
5.	Maharashtra Gas Cracker Complex at Nagothane in Maharashtra.	1167.00	August 1989

Fire in FCI Godowns in Delhi

1441. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a huge fire in the Food Corporation of India godowns broke out in New Delhi on 19 April, 1987;

(b) if so, whether any enquiry has been conducted into the cause of fire and the total loss suffered by the Food Corporation of India;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the remedial measures taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT):

(a) There was a fire in the godowns belonging to the Directorate of Extension, Ministry of Agriculture, New Delhi on 19.4.1987, which spread over to one godown of Food Corporation of India.

(b) and (c). Investigation into the cause of fire was carried out by the Delhi Police and Fire Authorities. The technical/chemical stores of FCI values at Rs. 1.36 lakhs kept in an adjoining shed were destroyed. The fire did not spread to the foodgrain godowns.

(d) Appropriate fire safety measures were taken by the Corporation.

Replacement of Existing Telephone Exchange Equipment at Jalpaiguri

1442. SHRI MANIK SANYAL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the existing telephone exchange equipment at Jalpaiguri is in a most dilapidated condition and obsolete causing great inconvenience to the subscribers; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to replace the same with modern equipment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) As part of the plan to automatise all manual exchanges progressively, it is proposed to replace the manual exchange at Jalpaiguri by an automatic exchange 1990.

Introduction of Push Button Electronic Telephone Instruments

1443. DR. G.S. RAJHANS: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the push button electronic telephone instruments have been introduced by Government;

(b) if so, whether the subscribers can have the push button instruments on demand; and

(c) full details thereof in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Government is introducing push button telephone instruments in the telecommunication network.

(b) and (c). A push button telephone instrument can be provided to a subscriber by the Department on his new telephone connection or in replacement of his existing rotary type of telephone instrument subject to availability of such instruments. A one time charge of Rs. 500 will be levied for the same.

Reduction in the Price of Vehicles

1444. SHRI KUNWAR RAM: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether automobile industry has been given some concessions recently so as to bring about reduction in the prices of the vehicles;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what other measures are being taken to bring down the prices of middle class people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :- (a) and (b) Since December, 1986 Government have extended fiscal reliefs through reduction in custom duties from 50% to 35% and excise duties from 20% to 10% to the manufacturers of fuel efficient light commercial vehicles. These reliefs have been extended with a view to mitigate the severe constraints faced by the manufacturers resulting out of high input cost and low production.

(c) Govt. has been encouraging the manufacturers of new ranges of vehicles of various categories to accelerate the indigenisation programme and achieve economic levels of production in order to contain the prices of the vehicles.

Setting up of Petrochemical Complex at Barauni

1445. SHRI KUNWAR RAM: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the working Group constituted to examine the possibility of setting up of petrochemical complex at Barauni has submitted its report to the Government?

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

(c) if not, the time by which the report is likely to be submitted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY

OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) to (c). The Study Group constituted to examine the possibility of setting up of a Petrochemical Complex at Barauni has not submitted its Report to the Government. The Report is expected to be submitted by October end 1987.

South Asian Food Security System

1446. SHRI MANIK REDDY:
SHRI SUBHASH YADAV:
SHRI M.RAGHUMA REDDY:
SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA:
SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH
MALIK:
CH. RAM PRAKASH:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a South Asian Food Security system is proposed to be set up with a total reserve of 200,000 tonnes of which India will contribute 150,000 tonnes;

(b) if so, the country where this reserve will be kept; and

(c) how far it will be beneficial to India?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L.BHAGAT):

(a) Yes, Sir; there is a proposal to establish a SAARC Food Security Reserve of 200,000 tonnes of foodgrains, of which India's contribution is expected to be 153,200 tonnes.

(b) Under the proposed scheme, each member country will store its share of

contribution to the Reserve within that country.

(c) The Reserve would contribute to food security and collective self-reliance in the region.

Industrial Production

1447. SHRI MANIK REDDY:
SHRI M.RAGHUMA REDDY:
SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA:
SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH
MALIK:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a survey conducted by PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry has revealed recently that due to non-availability of the critical inputs during the quarter January-March, 1987 in the Northern Region, the industrial production has been greatly affected;

(b) whether out of the total requirements of 5,28,141 M.T., the quantity of coal supplied was 59,906 M.T. leaving a wide gap of 468,235 M.T.; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken to ease the situation by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM):

(a) Yes, Sir, a survey was conducted by P.H.D Chamber of Commerce & Industry.

(b) & (c). The following figures of availability of coal to the industries in the Northern States of Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Delhi do not show any decline in the availability of coal.

(Lakh Tonnes)

	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87
Northern States	258.11	299.45	324.1

Poll Fund

1448. SHRI MANIK REDDY:

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY:

SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA:

SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH
MALIK:

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

(a) whether Government propose to create a Poll Fund;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which such a fund is likely to be created?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R.BHARDWAJ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise, at present.

Industrial Production

1449. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether industrial production in northern region has been affected during the last two years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether essential inputs are made available in the required quantity for the industrial production; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M.ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). According to the Bureau of Economics & Statistics of the respective State Governments the growth rates in the States of Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan, and U.P. during 1983-84 and 1984-85 were:

Growth Rates

States	1983-84	1984-85
Haryana	+ 6.6	+ 6.4 (P)
Punjab	+ 1.7	+ 2.0 (P)
Rajasthan	+ 4.7 x	+ 17.9 x
U.P.	+ 3.1	+ 6.5

P: Provisional

X: Pertains to Calendar Years 1983 and 1984 respectively.

(c) and (d). Essential inputs such as iron & steel, ferrous & non-ferrous metals etc. are made available in required quantity by the concerned agencies. Any inputs that are not available indigenously due to short supply are permitted to be imported under OGL or Supplementary Licensing Policy.

[Translation]

Microwave or UHF System in Ranikhet (U.P.)

1450. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the

Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the sub-divisional headquarters linked by microwave or UHF system in the country so far; and

(b) whether benefits of these systems will also be extended to Ranikhet sub-divisional headquarters in Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS

(SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) A Statement indicating the alphabetical list of sub-divisional headquarters linked by Microwave or UHF system in the country is given below.

(b) Efforts will be made to extend such facilities to sub-divisional headquarters in the country including Ranikhet during next Plan.

STATEMENT

List of Sub divisional Headquarters linked by Microwave/UHF media.

1. Alipurduar
2. Berhampur
3. Baramati
4. Badagata
5. Bagalkot
6. Bantwal
7. Champakhowa
8. Chibalapur
9. Dharmaland
10. Diamond Harbour
11. Durgapur
12. Fazilka
13. Gadag
14. Jagraon
15. Kalka
16. Katni
17. Kalimpong
18. Moga
19. Nangal
20. Puttur
21. Pallai

22. Punaloor

23. Rourkela

24. Shertalai

25. Sirsi

26. Udipi.

Setting up of New DET Offices at Almora and Gonda in Uttar Pradesh

1451. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to set up some new D.E.T. offices in Uttar Pradesh during the present plan period;

(b) if so, the names of the places where these are proposed to be opened;

(c) whether Almora and Gonda in Uttar Pradesh have also been included under this scheme; and

(d) if so, time by which these offices are likely to be opened there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) At Almora and Gonda.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) the justification for these posts is being examined to see whether they can be sanctioned in relaxation of the ban on creation of posts.

[English]

Zonal Office of FCI For N.E. Zone at Guwahati

1452. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal from Government of Assam for setting up of a Zonal

Office of the Food Corporation of India for the North Eastern Zone at Guwahati was received by his Ministry; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal has been considered and keeping in view the heavy financial implications involved and the need for economy, the same has not been found to be feasible.

Production of Molasses In Orissa

1454. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the production of molasses in Orissa and especially at Aska;

(b) the names of ancillary industries to which the molasses are supplied and what is their annual demand;

(c) whether there is a shortage of molasses; and

(d) if so, the measures being taken to meet the demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) As per the report received from the Government of Orissa, the production of molasses during current season upto April 1987 in Orissa was 29,483 tonnes and that in Aska Sugar Industry was 8362 tonnes.

(b) and (c). Apart from conversion into alcohol by distilleries for potable and industrial use, molasses are also used for such purposes as manufacture of Citric Acid, cattle feed, poultry feed and fodder, binders in the Foundries, and for mixing in Tobacco etc. As per the information

received from the Government of Orissa, the demand for current alcohol year has been estimated at 50,000 tonnes, as against local availability of 15,000 tonnes, causing a shortage of 35,000 tonnes.

(d) the demand of State is sought to be met through allocation of molasses that may be surplus by another State, as and when such surpluses are declared.

Public Distribution System in Cooperative and Private Sectors In Orissa

1455. SHRI SOMNATH RATH: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of fair price shops in co-operative sector and private sector in Orissa,

(b) whether Government of Orissa has utilised all the Central assistance given during the last three years, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government propose to issue any directives to Government of Orissa to allot fair price shops to co-operatives instead of individuals?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) There were 4802 Fair Price Shops in the Cooperative Sector and 14569 Fair Price Shops in the Private Sector as on 31.3.1987 in Orissa.

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

(c) There is no such proposal. However, guidelines for strengthening the Public Distribution System have been issued to all the States/UT Governments including Orissa, suggesting, *inter-alia*, that where new Fair Price Shops are to be opened, preference be given to the Cooperatives.

Construction of Telecommunication Buildings at Bhanjanagar and Aska in Orissa

1456. SHRI SOMNATH RATH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) how many telecommunication buildings are going to be constructed in Orissa in the coming two years;

(b) whether the telecommunication buildings at Bhanjanagar and Aska are going to be constructed this year,

(c) whether Government are aware of the fact that the land assigned to the Department of Telecommunications by the Revenue Department of Orissa for the construction of telecommunication buildings at Bhanjanagar and Aska will automatically revert to Revenue Department unless the buildings are constructed within three years on the land assigned by Orissa Government; and

(d) if so, what action is going to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Nineteen (19) Telecommunication buildings are proposed to be constructed during the coming two years, depending upon the availability of funds.

(b) No, Sir. The building construction is proposed to be taken up in 1988-89.

(c) State Government of Orissa has made available land for construction of a Telephone Exchange building at Bhanjanagar. No land has yet been made available by the State Government for the purpose at Aska.

While allocating the land at Bhanjanagar, the State Government has not imposed any time limit for the construction of the T.E. Building at Bhanjanagar.

(d) Does not arise.

Generation of Biogas from Biomass

1457. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the research work that is being done at Bombay to generate Bio-gas from Biomass;

(b) whether the Khadi and Village Industries Commission has some specific proposals to make available subsidy for the bio-gas plants run with Gobar gas feed stock;

(c) if so, the details of the scheme, and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) (a) Yes, Sir. R & D work on generation of biogas from different substracts like water hyacinth, sewage and willow dust etc. and construction material is being carried out by different institutions in Bombay under the Biogas R&D programme of Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources

(b) to (d). The National Project on Biogas Development (NPBD) is a Central Sector scheme for which the Central Subsidy is budgeted and disbursed by the Deptt. of Non-Conventional Energy Sources. The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), is a main central agency already implementing the programme, together with many State Nodal Agencies. The KVIC does not provide any additional Central Subsidy for the biogas programme as there is no need for it.

New Drug Factories

1459. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up new drug factories in public sector; and

(b) if so, the locations of these factories?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Stock Import and Export of Sugar

1460. SHRI P.M. SAYEED : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the stock of sugar available at the end of year 1986-87, both indigenous produce and imported, separately;

(b) the quantum of sugar imported during 1985-86 and 1986-87 and produced in India during these two years;

(c) the quantum of sugar exported during 1985-86 and 1986-87; and

(d) the time by which India is likely to become self-sufficient as far as sugar is concerned?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) The Sugar year 1986-87 (October-September) is still in progress and as such the firm figures of stocks of both indigenous and imported sugar at the end of the year are not available. However, it is expected that there would be sufficient stock of sugar including imported sugar at the end of the year to meet the internal requirement during the initial months of the next season.

(b) and (c). The quantum of sugar produced during the sugar year 1985-86 was 70.03 lakh tonnes. During the current 1986-87 season, the sugar production aggregated to 83.82 lakh tonnes upto 15.7.1987.

The quantum of sugar imported/exported by STC during the financial years 1985-86 and 1986-87 was as under:—

(Lakh Tonnes)

Financial Year	Qty. imported	Qty. exported (Prov.)
1985-86	20.33	0.41
1986-87	7.81	0.34

(d) Sugar production depends on various factors including natural factors such as drought conditions, excess rains etc. After achieving record sugar production of 84.38 lakh tonnes in 1981-82 and 82.32 lakh tonnes in 1982-83 season, the production suffered set-back in 1983-84 and 1984-85 season due to drought conditions etc. The sugar production again increased due to various measures initiated by the Government during 1985-86 and 1986-87 season. Given favourable weather conditions, it should be possible to maintain

sugar production at higher level thereby reducing the dependence on import of sugar.

Setting up rice bran oil extraction Plants

1461. SHRI D.B. PATIL : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the demand for edible grade rice bran oil is on the increase in view of the rebate given in the excise duty for the

usage of rice bran oil for production of vanaspati;

(b) if so, whether Union Government have prepared any plan to encourage establishment of rice bran oil extraction plants in small scale sector in rice growing areas in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the number of rice bran oil extraction plants in the country, State and Union Territory-wise?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). No, Sir.

(d) The establishment of solvent extraction plants in small scale sector is not techno-economically viable.

(e) A Statement showing solvent extraction plants, in which rice bran oil can also be extracted is given below.

STATEMENT

Solvent Extraction Plants - State and U.T.— wise as on 30-6-1987

Name of the State/U.T.		No. of Units
1		2
1.	Andhra Pradesh	80
2.	Assam	4
3.	Bihar	8
4.	Gujarat	76
5.	Haryana	22
6.	Karnataka	39
7.	Kerala	5
8.	Madhya Pradesh	55
9.	Maharashtra	42
10.	Orissa	9
11.	Punjab	52
12.	Rajasthan	6
13.	Tamil Nadu	
14.	Uttar Pradesh	38
15.	West Bengal	16
16.	Jammu and Kashmir	2

17. Chandigarh	—	1
18. Pondicherry	—	4
19. Himachal Pradesh	—	1
Total :		492

Flaring up of Natural Gas in Assam

1462. SHRI D.B. PATIL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Assam represented to Union Government in November, 1986, that the natural gas produced in Assam was not being used and it was being flared up on a large scale and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) and (b). Representations have been received from Government of Assam regarding flaring up of natural gas and need for maximum utilisation of the gas in Assam.

Failure of consumers to lift the gas is the primary cause of flaring; therefore, more consumers were identified and gas was over committed. GAIL have prepared a report on linking of ONGC/OIL fields in the North East to form a grid, which would give flexibility in supply of gas and help in reducing flaring and the possibility of constructing such a grid is being explored.

Setting up of Super Thermal Power Stations

1463. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the various sites identified by the National Thermal Power Corporation to set up super thermal power stations;

(b) whether Talcher is one of those places identified by the National Thermal Power Corporation to set up super thermal power station;

(c) if so, the reasons why super thermal power station has not been set up at Talcher so far; and

(d) the steps taken to set up super thermal power station at other places?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) to (d). The National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) are presently executing Super Thermal Power Stations at Singrauli, Korba, Ramagundam, Farakka, Vindhyachal, Rihand, Kahalgaon and Dabri. It is proposed to set up a Super Thermal Power Project at Talcher in Orissa which has been technoeconomically approved and for which a World Bank loan of US \$ 375 million (including US \$ 19.5 million for Satellite-based Data Communication Network) has been negotiated. Action is also in hand to prepare feasibility reports in respect of proposals to set up Super Thermal Power Stations at Manuguru (Andhra Pradesh), Chandrapur (Maharashtra) and North Karanpura (Bihar).

Import of Paraffin Wax

1464. SHRI Y.S. MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the unsold stock of paraffin wax in the country.

(b) whether Government propose to import 5,000 tonnes of the material in the current quarter;

(c) whether the paraffin wax manufactured by the refineries is adequate to meet the internal demand; and

(d) if so, the reasons for importing paraffin wax?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) Paraffin wax stocks as on 1.7.87 in the country were about 2000 MT. In addition to this the stocks of Match wax was about 3,300 MT.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The import of Paraffin wax is being made to bridge the shortfall and build up inventory of the desired grades.

Enactment of law on Energy Conservation

1465. SHRI Y.S. MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to enact a suitable energy conservation law to check wasteful usage of energy by the public as well as private organisations; if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the other steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) No such proposal is under

consideration of the Government at this stage.

(b) The steps taken to promote energy conservation include energy audits, monitoring of energy use, fixation of energy conservation targets, fiscal incentives for energy conservation devices, modification of ISI specifications pertaining to various energy driven appliances, rectification of inefficient agricultural pumping systems, awareness campaign and promotion/adoption of energy efficient technologies.

Manufacture of Passenger Cars

1466. SHRI Y.S. MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether proposals for the manufacture of passenger cars by TELCO in collaboration with Honda and Soviet Unions' popular "LADA" car were under consideration of Union Government since a long time; and

(b) whether any final decision has been taken on these proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

Report of Committee to Review the Working of Postal Department

1467. SHRI Y.S. MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since received the report of the Committee which was appointed to review the working of postal department and post offices;

(b) whether the aforesaid Committee has made some far-reaching recommendations which also include winding up of over twelve thousand branch post offices as

they are uneconomical and working at higher cost;

(c) what is the Government's reaction to the recommendations of this Committee; and

(d) how Government intend to provide postal services in those places where the branch offices already functioning will be wound up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The Government had appointed a Committee to go into the Extra departmental system in the Department of Posts and its report has since been received.

(b) The Committee of Enquiry on the Extra-Departmental System had recommended closure of Branch Post Offices which do not satisfy financial or other norms such as minimum distance of 3 Kms.

(c) and (d). This recommendation in to has not been accepted. It has been decided that all such cases should be reviewed to see to what extent a reduction in expenditure can be achieved without withdrawing the existing postal facilities.

Evaluation of Scheme for Self-employment to Educated Unemployed Youths

1468. SHRI S.G. GHOLAP:
SHRI R.M. BHOYE:

SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of beneficiaries under the Scheme for Self-employment to Educated Unemployed Youths for the years 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87 and amount distributed year-wise;

(b) whether any evaluation has been made about the working of the scheme; if so, the outcome thereof?

(c) the percentage of recovery of the amount distributed under the Scheme during 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87; and

(d) the modifications if any, proposed to be made in the Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) A Statement is given below.

(b) Evaluation in one selected district in each State/UT was carried out in 1985 for the cases sanctioned during 1983-84. The survey revealed that banks have made disbursements in 92% of sanctioned cases, 76% of the units to whom loan was disbursed were found working.

(c) The present data reporting system of banks does not yield separate information regarding the recovery of loans given under the scheme.

(d) No, Sir.

STATEMENT

The number of beneficiaries under Self-Employment Scheme for Educated Unemployed Youth alongwith amounts sanctioned by the Banks during 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87 as reported by State/U.T. Governments is as under:—

	No. of beneficiaries	Loan amount sanctioned by banks. (Rs. in crores)
1984-85	2,28,800	429.73

	No. of beneficiaries	Loan amount sanctioned by banks (Rs. in crores)
1985-86	2,20,724	429.99
1986-87	2,19,308	455.12

Delicensing of major segment of Industrial Sector

1469. SHRI BHATTAM SRI-RAMAMURTY:
SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has suggested delicensing of a major segment of Industrial Sector;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government and the practical implication thereof;

(c) whether any steps are proposed to be taken to further liberalise the Industrial Policy; and

(d) whether Government are considering the question of planning the number of M.R.T.P. companies from 165 to 200/300?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (d). Liberalisation of industrial licensing policy and streamlining of procedures thereof so as to bring about rapid industrial growth in the country within the framework of the Industrial Policy Resolution of 1956, is a continuous process and a number of steps have been taken in pursuance of the policy such as delicensing and broad banding of selected industries, re-endorsement of capacity with reference to minimum economic scales of operation etc. While pursuing this policy, the suggestions received from various quarters are duly taken into account. As no final deci-

sions have been taken by Government on the suggestions received and since they are still being examined, it is not possible at this stage to indicate the details and the reaction of the Government thereon.

Sub-Sea Completion System

1470. SHRI SUBHASH YADAV:
SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHEPATIL:

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

(a) whether the first ever sub-sea completion system in the country has been successfully installed by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission in the Bombay High recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) how far it will save the foreign exchange; and

(d) how far it will be beneficial in bringing on a oil-well to production stage and prove improvement in the production of oil in the Arabian Sea?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The sub-sea completion system in Bombay High South consist of a template from where out of 4 wells planned for drilling, one well has been completed and is flowing oil. The remaining wells are under drilling/completion and are likely to produce oil by end August 1987.

(c) It is an R&D project and as such it is

not possible at this stage to make an assessment of foreign exchange saving.

(d) Sub-sea completion is one of the various methods of producing crude oil from offshore areas, where platform construction is difficult or is not viable. It does not itself contribute to improvement in production of oil.

Supply of Gas through H.B.J. Pipeline

1472. SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of natural gas which is being supplied through the Hazira-Bijaipur-Jagdishpur pipeline or proposed to be supplied through this pipeline;

(b) the quantity of gas to be utilised in the next three years and in which projects; and

(c) whether Government propose to set up LPG (cooking gas) cum-propane extraction plant along the Hazira-Bijaipur-Jagdishpur gas pipeline; if so, the proposed site for the plant and the amount of funds to be spent on this plant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) and (b). The HBJ Pipeline is expected to commence supply of gas this year at about 1.65 MMCMD to Bijaipur Fertilizer Plant. This is expected to increase over the next three years to reach a figure of about 14 MMCMD by 1990. Supply would be made to various fertilizer and power plants being set up along the pipeline, and additional consumers are also being located.

(c) It has been proposed to locate this plant at Bijaipur (M.P.) and its cost has been estimated at about Rs. 185 crores.

Setting up of office of Development Commissioner at Bangalore

1473. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any office of the Development Commissioner for small scale industries at Bangalore; and

(b) if not, whether Government propose to set up such office to serve the small scale industries of Southern Region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). The Small Industries Service Institutes located at Bangalore and Hubli including their Branch Offices are already in the service of small industries in Karnataka. Similarly, Small Industries Development Organisation through its net work of Small Industries Service Institutes, Branch Institutes, Extension Centres, Regional Testing Centres, Field Testing Stations etc located in other States of Southern Region are serving the small scale industries.

Supply of Gum to Post Office

1474. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether gum is being supplied to all post offices in the country;

(b) if so, the total amount spent for the supply of gum per year;

(c) whether there is any proposal to stop supply of gum; and

(d) if so, whether Government would ensure that public is not deprived of this essential facility?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No separate account of expenditure for supply of gum is maintained.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Assistance to States for Legal Aid Scheme

1475. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN:
Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated by Union Government to the States in the years 1986-87 and 1987-88 for providing legal aid to the poor, State-wise;

(b) how much amount had been spent by the States; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to make free legal aid available to the rural people, especially to the landless belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes involving in land eviction cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b). The Government do not allocate funds to State Governments for legal aid. However, the Committee for Implementing Legal Aid Schemes constituted by the Government sanctions grants-in-aid to the State Legal Aid and Advice Boards, among others, for specific Legal Aid Schemes. The particulars of the amounts sanctioned as grants-in-aid by the Committee for Implementing Legal Aid Schemes and the amounts spent by the States are given in Statements I and II, given below.

(c) The State Legal Aid and Advice Boards give free legal aid to the rural people, especially to persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Legal aid is extended in all cases to them, including cases involving land eviction.

STATEMENT—I

Financial Assistance provided by the CILAS during the year 1986-87

S. No.	Name of State Legal Aid and Advice Board	Amount (Rs)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	50,000
2.	Gujarat	1,00,000
3.	Karnataka	1,00,000
4.	Orissa	25,000
5.	Rajasthan	1,05,000
6.	Tamil Nadu	50,000
7.	Delhi	4,50,000
8.	Pondicherry	1,00,000

No financial assistance has been given during the year 1987-88.

STATEMENT—II

**Amount spent by the State Legal Aid and Advice Board on Legal Aid Programme during 1986-87
(Based on the Information available with CILAS as on 29-7-1987)**

S. No.	Name of the State	Amount spent during 1986-87
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Rs. 4,56,816.11
2.	Assam	Rs. 3,44,230.38*
3.	Bihar	Not available
4.	Gujarat	Rs. 6,98,405.00
5.	Haryana	Rs. 3,90,574.00
6.	Himachal Pradesh	Rs. 1,61,179.55
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	Rs. 5,10,000.99 (upto June 1987)
8.	Karnataka	Rs. 31,56,585.00
9.	Kerala	Rs. 11,00,000.00
10.	Madhya Pradesh	Rs. 47,89,884.28
11.	Maharashtra	Not available
12.	Manipur	Rs. 2,00,000.00
13.	Meghalaya	Rs. 10,186.00
14.	Nagaland	Rs. 8,000.00
15.	Orissa	Rs. 7,25,000.00
16.	Punjab	Rs. 7,65,000.00
17.	Rajasthan	Rs. 6,31,999.03
18.	Sikkim	Rs. 1,09,973.00**
19.	Tamil Nadu	Rs. 44,21,966.58
20.	Tripura	Not available
21.	Uttar Pradesh	Rs. 16,79,000.00
22.	West Bengal	Not available
23.	Andaman & Nicobar	(No legal aid programme)
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	Rs. 2,41,472.85***

1	2	3
25.	Delhi	Rs. 5,00,000.00 (tentative)
26.	Goa	Rs. 18,050.00
27.	Mizoram	Rs. 5,20,000.00 (allotted)
28.	Pondicherry	Rs. 2,55,696.58
29.	Chandigarh	Not available
30.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	Not available
31.	Lakshadweep	Not available

N.B.: As the financial year 1987-88 has just commenced, it is too early to provide expenditure figures for the same.

*Total for 84-85, 85-86 & 86-87

**Consolidated for 84-85, 85-86 and 86-87.

***Consolidated for 84-85, 85-86 and 1986-87.

[*Translation*]

Promotion and expansion of Khadi Industry

1476. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN:
Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Khadi industry provides employment to more persons than mills and at the same time small capital is required for investment in the Khadi Industry;

(b) if so, whether Union Government and State Governments are prepared to invest double the amount to promote and expand the Khadi industry; and

(c) if so, by what time and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Yes, Sir. Capital-employment ratio in the khadi industry is significantly lower than that in the mills.

(b) and (c). Within the constraints of resources and taking into account competing claims from other sectors, suitable allocations have been made for the promotion of khadi industry under the Five Year Plans.

[*English*]

Opening of Post Offices, Sub-Post Offices and Post and Telegraph Offices in Rural and Urban Areas of Rajasthan

1477. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN:
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Sub-Post Offices, Post Offices and Post and Telegraph Offices in Rajasthan as on 30th June, 1987;

(b) the number of such offices in the rural, urban, tribal, desert and backward areas separately;

(c) whether no Post and sub-Post Offices have been opened in Rajasthan in the rural and urban areas during the last three years, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the number and details of the post offices proposed to be opened in the Seventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) POSTAL: The total number of post offices in Rajasthan Circles as on 30th June, 1987 were 9608. The total number of departmental and extra-departmental sub post

offices during the said period was 1363 and 115 respectively.

TELECOM: The total number of Posts & Telegraph Offices (combined offices) was 1502.

(b) POSTAL. Category-wise the position of these post offices is as follows:

	Urban	Rural			Total
		Normal	Backward	Tribal	
Departmental Sub Post Offices	696	508	95	64	1363
Extra departmental sub post offices	30	73	10	2	115

Out of the total number of 9608 post offices in Rajasthan Circle, 814 are functioning in urban areas and the remaining 8794 are functioning in rural areas. No separate figures are maintained for the

desert areas.

TELECOM: The number of combined offices in different areas is given below:

(i) Rural backward	—	875
(ii) Urban	—	361
(iii) Tribal	—	109
(iv) Desert	—	157
Total		1502

(c) During 1984-85, 5 post offices were opened in rural areas in Rajasthan Circle. Thereafter no post offices were opened on account of the ban on creation of posts imposed by the Ministry of Finance.

R.S. (5) Bhalgaon, (6) Rebasar, (7) Gardia, (8) Kharia Rathoran, (9) Abhe ka par, (10) Ohundhli Tanda, (11) Kangarh, (12) Jolar, (13) Varwali, (14) Magrada, (15) Siyakhori, (16) Ahmedpura, (17) Chak 7 G.D.

(d) The Circle-wise programme of opening of new post offices is finalised on a year to year basis. Under the current year's Annual Plan (1987-88) 17 new post offices are proposed to be opened in the rural areas of Rajasthan. The villages selected for the purpose are as follows:

Waiting List for Telephone Connection in Rajasthan

1478. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(1) Pananiyan Ka Tala, (2) Chochtan Karnado, (3) Gumanaka Tala, (4) Jaisindhar

(a) whether Union Government have sought report from Rajasthan State re-

garding the waiting list of persons for telephone connections;

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

(c) the plan of Government in this regard upto the year 1990?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS

(SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The total waiting list as on 30.6.87 is 43,202. The details of waiting list of main towns of Rajasthan are given in the Statement below.

(c) The Department has planned to clear the waiting list in the enhanced 7th Plan for Rs. 6000 crores as follows :-

Type and Size of exchange	Date of clearance upto
MAX-I (2000 lines and above)	1.4.87
MAX-II (200 to 2000 lines)	1.4.88
MAX-III and Manual (generally upto 200 lines)	1.4.90

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Name of the Town	Waiting list as on 30.6.87
1	2	3
1.	Bharatpur	200
2.	Dholpur	31
3.	Ajmer	2412
4.	Beawar	243
5.	Barmer	97
6.	Balotra	700
7.	Banswara	124
8.	Alwar	665
9.	Dungarpur	76
10.	Churu	90
11.	Chittorgarh	176
12.	Bundi	161
13.	Bikaner	1352
14.	Bhilwara	875
15.	Sirohi	47

16.	Abu Road	110
17	Sri Ganganagar	763
18.	Hanumangarh Town	82
19.	Udaipur	3976
20	Tonk	120
21	Kota	2665
22.	Sikar	324
23	Sawai Madhopur Town	15
24	Pali	803
25.	Nagore	136
26.	Makrana	234
27	Jaisalmer	46
28	Jodhpur	5543
29	Jhunjhnu	82
30	Jhalawar	35
31	Jalore	9
32	Jaipur	18820
33	Sawai Madhopur Rly Station	42

**Disposal of Cases by Lok Adalats in
Andhra Pradesh**

1479. SHRI V. TULSIRAM: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Lok Adalats held in Andhra Pradesh from 1st January 1986 till 30 June 1987 for the disposal of cases;

(b) the number of cases disposed of by these Lok Adalats;

(c) the number of cases still pending for disposal; and

(d) the steps being taken for expeditious disposal of the cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): As per information available with the Committee for Implementing Legal Aid Schemes:—

(a) 47 Lok Adalats were held in Andhra Pradesh between 1.1.86 to 30.6.87.

(b) 25,929 cases were disposed of by these Lok Adalats.

(c) Lok Adalats are not regularly consti-

tuted courts. Normally, the cases taken up by them are disposed of on the same day.

(d) In order to ensure expeditious disposal of cases, the Committee for Implementing Legal Aid Schemes encourages the State Legal Aid and Advice Boards to organise more Lok Adalats and gives them grant-in-aid for the purpose.

Hydro-Electric Projects in Andhra Pradesh

1480. SHRI V. TULSIRAM: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh have sent a proposal for the consideration of Union Government for setting up hydro-electric projects in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which a decision is likely to be taken thereon; and

(d) the financial assistance expected to be provided to the State Government by Union Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) to (d). Proposals in regard to the setting of Pulichintala, Jalaput, Priyadarshini Jurala hydel projects and Polavaram multipurpose hydel project of Andhra Pradesh are under appraisal in the Central Electricity Authority. The capacities of these projects are 60 MW, 18 MW, 222 MW and 960 MW, and the estimated costs are about Rs. 38 crores, Rs. 8.8 crores, Rs. 137 crores and Rs. 564 crores, respectively. Approval of power projects is contingent on a number of factors such as availability of adequate resources and trying-up necessary inputs. It is not practicable to indicate the specific time-frame for their approval. The above projects are in the State sector and the financial outlays for them will have to be provided by the State authorities.

Export of Industrial Alcohol

1481. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the industrial alcohol manufactured in the country does not find adequate indigenous market;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) whether clearance would be given for the export of substantial quantities of alcohol?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) to (c). Because of higher production of sugar during this season. The production of molasses and consequently that of alcohol is also higher as compared to last year and hence some quantity of alcohol is surplus to the requirement of the country. The proposal to export some quantity of alcohol subject to exports being viable is under consideration.

Establishment of Gas Based Power Plants

1482. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA: SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the places where gas based power plants are proposed to be established during the Seventh Five Year Plan period; and

(b) the progress so far made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) and (b). The requisite information is indicated below:—

Sl. No.	Name of the Projects commissioned/likely to be commissioned during 7th Plan	Capacity in Units	Progress made
NTPC PROJECTS			
1.	Anta Combined Cycle Gas Based Power Project (Rajasthan)	3 x 100 MW	Pre-award discussions are progressing. Order for main plant equipment is expected to be placed shortly.
2.	Auraiya Combined Cycle Gas Based Power Project (U.P.)	4 x 100 MW	-do-
3.	Kawas Combined Cycle Gas Based Power Project (Gujarat)	4 x 100 MW	-do-
RAJASTHAN			
4.	Ramgarh Gas Turbine Project	1 x 3 MW	Global tenders for purchase of main plant equipment were invited by the State. Govt. orders are to be placed by them.
TRIPURA			
5.	Baramura Gas Turbine Units I & II	2 x 5 MW	Already commissioned
6.	Baramura Gas Turbine Project (NEC managed project) Unit 3	1 x 5 MW	Letter of intent for 9 MW alternator has been placed on M/s. BHEL on 31.3.87.
7.	Gas Turbine Project at Rokhia	2 x 5 MW	Civil and infrastructure works have commenced. Letter of intent for main equipment has been issued on M/s. BHEL on 21.3.87.
ASSAM			
8.	Lakwa Gas Turbine Unit 4	1 x 15 MW	Already commissioned.
9.	Lakwa Gas Turbine, Phase-II Project Units 5 to 8	4 x 15 MW	Placement of order for main plant and equipment is being processed by the State Govt.
MAHARASHTRA			
10.	Urban Gas Turbine	4 x 108 MW	Already commissioned.

Per Capita Electricity Consumption

1483. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the per capita electricity consumption in each State in the years 1984-85 and 1985-86;

(b) the per capita electricity consumption in the country during the above period;

(c) whether the per capita consumption of electricity in India is very low as compared to other developed countries; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to increase the production of electricity in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) and (b). The required information is given in the Statement below.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Various steps being taken to improve the availability of power include expediting commissioning of additional capacity, improving the performance of the existing thermal power stations, reducing Transmission and Distribution losses, implementation of energy conservation and demand management measures and implementing short gestation projects.

STATEMENT

Statewise per Capita Consumption of Electricity during the years 1984-85 & 1985-86 (Utilities & non-utilities)

Name of the Region/State	(KWH)	
	1984-85*	1985-86*
1	2	3
NORTHERN REGION		
Haryana	228.98	242.18
Himachal Pradesh	110.65	122.71
Jammu & Kashmir	110.68	115.94
Punjab	354.41	421.94
Rajasthan	131.23	136.13
Uttar Pradesh	108.63	114.36
Chandigarh	415.80	443.55
Delhi	518.32	544.18
Sub-Total	157.35	169.88
WESTERN REGION		
Gujarat	281.80	294.48
Madhya Pradesh	156.57	168.20
Maharashtra	291.58	312.77

1	2	3
Goa, Daman & Diu	296.70	325.63
D & N Haveli	116.84	140.60
Sub-Total	242.34	258.25
SOUTHERN REGION		
Andhra Pradesh	166.79	183.06
Karnataka	189.56	184.11
Kerala	129.06	141.12
Tamil Nadu	228.72	217.44
Pondicherry	229.01	250.35
Lakshadweep	75.95	93.26
Sub-Total	181.38	187.07
EASTERN REGION		
Bihar	87.41	93.43
Orissa	125.70	128.69
West Bengal	128.51	134.38
A & N Islands	69.14	75.70
Sikkim	57.37	54.21
Sub-Total	108.74	114.13
NORTH-EASTERN REGION		
Assam	46.51	50.94
Manipur	26.19	32.35
Meghalaya	60.53	76.38
Nagaland	65.18	68.50
Tripura	24.77	27.99
Arunachal Pradesh	31.57	32.28
Mizoram	24.22	27.86
Sub-Total	44.25	49.12
TOTAL ALL INDIA	167.30	176.32

*Provisional

Public Sector Units Incurring Losses

1484. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL:
DR. A.K. PATEL:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the names of public sector units which have been established in the country and their investment, annual sale, and the net profit/loss incurred by each during the last three years;

(b) whether many public sector units are running in losses;

(c) if so, their names and what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) what steps are being taken to improve them so that they may also earn profit?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO): (a) to (d). The required details are available in the Public Enterprises Survey 1985-86 (Volumes-1&3) placed on the Table of the House on 27th February, 1987. The steps taken to improve performance are available in Page Nos. 182 to 186 (Chapter 10) of Volume I of the above Survey.

Statutory Status for Legal Aid Schemes

1485. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Legal Aid Schemes brought into force by Government are statutory;

(b) if not, whether Government propose to bring any legislation before Parliament for the purpose;

(c) if so, the main features of the same and what date it is likely to be introduced;

(d) whether any process of consultation in the matter of the proposed statute has been initiated; and

(e) if so, the names of the organisations or groups already consulted and/or proposed to be consulted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) A Committee known as "Committee for Implementing Legal Aid Schemes" (CILAS) has been constituted by a Resolution of the Government dated 26.9.1980. This Committee has evolved Legal Aid Schemes which, at present, do not have a statutory basis.

(b) and (c). The Government intends to introduce legislation on Legal Aid during the current Session of Parliament. The proposed legislation would also contain suitable provisions conferring statutory status on Lok Adalats. The details of the proposed legislation are being finalised.

(d) and (e). The Committee for Implementing Legal Aid Schemes constituted by the government has, from time to time, ascertained the views of the State Governments and others concerned on the subject. The matter was also discussed at a meeting of the State Law Ministers held at New Delhi on 3rd October, 1986.

Uniform Civil Code

1486. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have shelved the proposal of introducing a bill on uniform civil code;

(b) if not, whether the Legislation is proposed to be introduced during the current session; and

(c) whether the proposed Legislation has been processed in consultation with concerned organisations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (c). The proposal to frame a uniform civil code is under

study. It will not, therefore, be possible at this stage to indicate as to when the legislation is likely to be introduced in Parliament.

Setting up of Wind Power Generation Farms in Kerala

1487. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources has selected any location in the high velocity wind belt in Kerala for setting up wind power generation farms;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these are being set up by private sector companies or State Electricity Board; and

(d) if these are being set up by private sector companies, whether power generated would be exclusively utilized by the private sector or would be sold to the State Electricity Board?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b). The Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources is considering setting up of a pilot 100 KW wind electric generator unit at Kottamala at Alathur in Palghat district of Kerala, a location proposed by the State Government. Further wind farm projects will be considered on the basis of technical feasibility and availability of financial resources.

(c) The pilot project will be implemented in association with the Kerala State Electricity Board.

(d) Does not arise.

Production of Oil in Eastern Region

1488. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether oil production in the eastern region is likely to go beyond the capacity of the pipelines to carry oil and the refining capacity available in the region in the near future and production may have to be limited to the pipeline capacity; and

(b) if so, the plants of Government to meet the increased requirements for refining and transportation of oil in the eastern region; the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) and (b). The total capacity of the refineries at Guwahati, Bongaigaon and Barauni is 5.5 million tonnes and the capacity of the pipeline feeding these refineries is 5.2 million tonnes. In addition, the Digboi refinery has a capacity of 0.5 million tonnes along with sufficient pipeline transportation facility. This is considered sufficient to take care of the present level of production.

There is a proposal for setting up a new refinery in the private sector in Assam, as agreed to under the Assam Accord. Pipeline capacity would also be suitably augmented to match the refining capacity.

Allocation of Palmolein oil to Orissa

1489. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA:
SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the quota of palmolein oil to some of the States including Orissa has been drastically cut, if so, since when and the reasons thereof;

(b) the quota allotted to each State before March, 1987 and thereafter; and

(c) whether Orissa Government has requested for the release of more palmolein oil to the State, if so, the quantity sought and the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY

AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT):

(a) The allocation of imported edible oils including palmolein to States including Orissa under PDS and Small Packs during the current oil year had been reduced from December 1986 for the flush season of groundnut oil.

(b) Two Statements I and II indicating allocation under PDS in bulk and under

Small Packs from November 1986 to July 1987 are given below.

(c) The State Government has requested for an enhanced monthly allocation of 3000 MTs. The allocation to Orissa in July, 1987 under PDS as also under Small Packs is 1600 MTs. The allocation of imported edible oils is supplementary in nature and is not intended to meet the entire demand of the State.

STATEMENT—I
Allocation of Imported Edible Oils Under Public Distribution System during Oil Year 1986-87
 (November 1986 upto July 1987)

Name of State/UT	(Quantity in Metric Tonnes)											
	Nov. '86	Dec. '86	Jan. '87	Feb. '87	Mar. '87	Apr. '87	May '87	June '87	July '87			
Andhra Pradesh	10,000	5,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,600	5,000		
Assam	200	200	200	100	200	200	200	200	300	300		
Bihar	500	500	600	700	700	700	700	700	600	600		
Gujarat	10,000	5,700	5,000	7,500	7,500	8,500	6,770	7,750	10,000			
Haryana	1,000	600	600	600	600	400	400	600	500			
Himachal Pradesh	700	600	700	700	700	600	700	600	700*			
Jammu & Kashmir	500	300	300	300	300	200	300	300	500			
Karnataka	5,000	3,000	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,900	3,500			
Kerala	2,500	500	500	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,500	1,500	2,000			
Madhya Pradesh	3,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	1,300	1,500			
Maharashtra	10,000	7,000	6,500	6,500	6,500	6,500	3,500	5,300	6,700			
Manipur	800	500	500	500	800	800	800	800	800			
Meghalaya	500	300	300	300	300	300	300	400	400			
Nagaland	1,000	1,000	500	500	500	500	500	500	500			
Orissa	3,000	1,500	1,500	1,000	700	750	950	1,100	1,300			

Name of State/U.T.	Nov. '86	Dec. '86	Jan. '87	Feb. '87	Mar. '87	Apr. '87	May '87	June '87	July '87
Punjab	1,500	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,000	650	650	850	750
Rajasthan	700	350	350	350	500	500	500	800	600
Sikkim	200	100	70	70	70	70	70	120	100
Tamil Nadu	5,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	4,000
Tripura	500	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300
Uttar Pradesh	1,500	900	900	900	900	1,000	400	400	600
West Bengal	10,000	7,700	7,200	7,200	7,200	7,700	7,700	8,700	9,000
A & N Islands	70	70	70	90	90	90	90	90	90
Andhra Pradesh	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	60
Chandigarh	70	70	70	70	70	30	30	50	50
D & N Haveli	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50
Delhi	2,000	950	950	950	950	800	800	950	1,100
Goa, Daman & Diu	500	500	400	400	400	200	200	300	200
Lakshadweep	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	120	—
Mizoram	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	250	200
Pondicherry	800	500	500	500	500	400	400	500	500
TOTAL	71,880	44,680	41,050	43,570	43,620	43,030	39,600	45,100	51,900

STATEMENT—II

Month-wise Allocation of Imported Edible Oils to/by various States/UTs
under the Scheme of Small Packs during the Oil year 1986-87 (Nov.-July '87)

States/UTs	Nov. '86	Dec. '86	Jan '87	Feb. '87	Mar. '87	Apr '87	May '87	June '87	July '87
Maharashtra	3500	4000	4500	4500	4500	5500	7500	6500	6500
Gujarat	800	1000	100	100	1000	—	2000	2000	—
Madhya Pradesh	20	20	20	20	20	—	—	1000	1000
West Bengal	800	1000	1500	1500	1500	1000	1000	1000	1500
Tamil Nadu	1400	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000
Andhra Pradesh	1200	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000
Karnataka	500	500	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	500
Uttar Pradesh	300	700	700	700	700	600	1200	600	1000
Rajasthan	50	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Orissa	50	50	50	50	350	300	300	300	300
Haryana	100	200	200	200	200	400	400	400	400
Delhi	700	750	750	750	750	900	900	900	1000
Chandigarh	10	10	10	10	10	50	50	50	50
Punjab	50	50	50	50	50	400	400	400	400

(Quantity in M. Tonnes)

States/UTs	Nov. '86	Dec. '86	Jan. '87	Feb. '87	Mar. '87	Apr. '87	May '87	June '87	July '87
A & N Islands	20	20	20	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kerala	500	500	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
Sikkim	—	—	30	30	30	50	50	50	50
Himachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	100	100	100	100
Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	—	—	—	100	—	100	100
Goa, Daman & Diu	—	—	—	—	—	200	200	200	300
Pondicherry	—	—	—	—	—	100	100	100	100
Bihar	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	100	100
TOTAL	10000	12800	14930	14910	15210	15800	20300	19900	18500

Guidelines for distribution of Palmolein Oil

1490. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any guidelines have been issued to the State Governments for the distribution of palmolein oil, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the State Governments are not fully implementing those guidelines and most of the quantity of palmolein oil is being sold in black market; and

(c) whether Government have received any complaints in this regard, if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT):

(a) For distribution of imported edible oils including palmolein, instructions are issued by the Central Government from time to time to all States/Union Territories regarding issue price, effective checking of leakage, regular supply to card holders etc.

(b) and (c). While no specific complaint against any State has been received, some reports have appeared in the press about mis-utilisation of PDS oils. Whenever these reports come to the notice of the Central Govt., the concerned State is requested to ascertain the facts and take necessary action as it is the State Government's responsibility to ensure proper distribution of PDS Oils. State Governments send information that the PDS oils are being utilised properly.

Measures for effective Public Distribution System

1492. DR. PHULRENU GUHA:
CH. RAM PRAKASH:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state the special measures Government propose to take to

make the public distribution system in the country more effective during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): The Central Government has from time to time drawn the attention of the States/Union Territories for strengthening and streamlining the Public Distribution System. Detailed guidelines in this regard have already been issued to all States/UTs. The Central Government is also closely monitoring the implementation of the public distribution system through periodic visits of Ministers and senior officers to various States/UTs to make it more effective. In addition, a detailed check list for inspection and enforcement of PDS has also been sent to all the States/UTs. Under the 20-Point programme, targets have also been fixed for each State/UT for opening new Fair Price Shops and issuance of ration cards etc

Allocation of Foodgrains to States for Public Distribution System

1493. DR. PHULRENU GUHA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state the monthly allotment of foodgrains and their offtake by States under the public distribution system during 1985-86 and 1986-87 State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): Statements giving the required information for the years 1985-86 and 1986-87 are laid on the table of the House. (Placed in Library See No. LT-4618/87)

Allocation of Rice, Wheat and Sugar to West Bengal

1494. DR. PHULRENU GUHA:
SHRI SYED MASUDAL
HOSSAIN:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the allocation of rice, wheat and sugar to West Bengal for public distribution during 1986 and 1987 month-wise;

(b) the demand made by West Bengal Government during these years; and

(c) the reasons for less allocation of these items against their demand?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT):
(a) and (b). A Statement indicating the required information is given below.

(c) The allotments of foodgrains to various States and Union Territories including West Bengal are made on a month to month basis, taking into account the overall availability of stocks in the Central Pool, relating needs of the various States, market availability and other related factors. The allocations from the Central Pool are only supplemental to the open market availability.

Monthly levy sugar quotas were revised upward from February, 1987 based on 425 grams per capita monthly availability for the projected population as on 1.10.1986.

STATEMENT

Demand and Allotment of Rice, Wheat and Sugar to West Bengal During the Years 1986 and 1987 (upto August) Month wise.
(In ' 000 tonnes)

Year 1986	RICE		WHEAT		SUGAR		Allotment
	Demand	Allotment	Demand	Allotment	Demand	Allotment	
January	150.0	125.0	130.0	126.0	The allocation of monthly levy sugar quota to State Govts/ UTs is on the basis of uniform norms and not on the basis of demand/request from the State Governments.	24.435	24.435
February	150.0	125.0	130.0	126.0		24.435	24.435
March	150.0	125.0	130.0	126.0		24.435	24.435
April	150.0	125.0	130.0	126.0		24.435	24.435
May	150.0	125.0	130.0	126.0		24.435	24.435
June	150.0	125.0	130.0	126.0	24.435	24.435	24.435
July	150.0	125.0	130.0	126.0	24.435	24.435	24.435
August	150.0	125.0	130.0	126.0	24.435	24.435	24.435
September	150.0	125.0	130.0	126.0			* 28.341
October	150.0	125.0	130.0	126.0			* 28.341
November	150.0	125.0	130.0	126.0			24.435
December	150.0	125.0	150.0	126.0			24.435

Year 1987	RICE		WHEAT		SUGAR	
	Demand	Allotment	Demand	Allotment	Demand	Allotment
January	150.0	125.0	130.0	126.0		24.435
February	150.0	125.0	130.0	126.0		25.888
March	150.0	125.0	130.0	126.0		25.888
April	150.0	125.0	130.0	126.0		25.888
May	150.0	125.0	130.0	126.0		25.888
June	150.0	125.0	130.0	126.0		25.888
July	150.0	125.0	130.0	126.0		25.888
August	150.0	125.0	130.0	126.0		25.888

*Includes Festival Quota of 3906 tonnes.

**Electrification of Rural and Tribal Areas
In Gujarat**

1495 SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Gujarat State Electricity Board had submitted a special scheme to Rural Electrification Corporation for electrification of the remaining rural and tribal areas in Gujarat; and sought funds therefor;

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the number of villages which have not yet been electrified and the number of bastis in rural areas being included for electrification;

(c) when this scheme was received by Rural Electrification Corporation and when approval was accorded or is proposed to be accorded thereto; and

(d) the amount given by Rural Electrification Corporation to Gujarat Electricity Board each year during 1980-87?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) to (c). In Gujarat, out of 18275 villages (1971 Census), 17651 were electrified as on 31.3.1987. Of the remaining 624 unelectrified villages, Gujarat Electricity Board (GEB) has reported that 216 villages are either under submergence or have become depopulated. GEB proposes to electrify all the remaining 408 unelectrified inhabited villages (235 under schemes financed by Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) and 173 under their own programme) during the current year to achieve 100% electrification. REC has already sanctioned coverage of 235 villages, and as such there is no need to sanction any special scheme for this purpose.

REC has also sanctioned so far 22 Harijan Bastis schemes for electrification of 1792 harijan bastis, out of which 1785 have already been electrified as on 31.3.1987. In addition to this, in the schemes sancti-

oned by REC, there is a provision that all Harijan Bastis attached to the villages covered in those projects would be electrified.

Number of unelectrified tribal villages in Gujarat as on 31.3.1987 is 321. All these unelectrified tribal villages are expected to be electrified during the current year.

(d) The amount disbursed by REC to GEB during 1980-87 is as under:—

Year	Amount disbursed (Rs. in lakhs)
1980-81	946
1981-82	867
1982-83	1141
1983-84	1138
1984-85	1018
1985-86	1928
1986-87	1680

[*Translation*]

Telephone Service in Surat

1496. SHRI C.D. GAMIT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a number of complaints regarding unsatisfactory functioning of telephones in Surat Telephone Division during the last three-four years;

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

(c) the total number of telephone connections in Surat Telephone Division and the number of telephones, out of them,

which remained out of order during each of the years from 1984 to 1986 and the number of telephones out of those, which were set in working order;

(d) the reasons for which the telephone service has deteriorated in Surat and the persons who are responsible therefor;

(e) whether some special instructions have been issued or are proposed to be issued to DET or DMT of Surat to tone up the telephone service in Surat; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS

Year	Total No. Telephone connection	Total No. of telephone faulty	Telephone set right
1983-84	23582	190164	all
1984-85	23962	155988	all
1985-86	24880	126708	all
1986-87	26904	100896	all

(d) It will appear from the figures given at 'c' above, that average faults per 100 station per month for the last four years is 67, 54.25, 42.50 and 31.25. This shows that telephone service has improved progressively.

(e) Time to time instructions for improvement of faults and complaints have been issued from Department of Telecom. and General Manager Telecom to DMT and DET Surat.

(f) Steps to be taken to improve the quality of services are as under:—

- (i) Imparting suitable training to staff;
- (ii) Cleaning and locking of distribution points; (D.Ps)
- (iii) Regular monitoring and analysis

(SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Particulars of year-wise complaints are given below:—

Year	No. of Complaints received
1983-84	339580
1984-85	161772
1985-86	139905
1986-87	136403

(c) The information is as under:—

of telephone faults and necessary corrective action.

- (iv) Routine testing of internal equipment and removal of faults.

[English]

Loss in Coal India Limited

1497. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the total investment in M/s. Coal India Ltd.,

(b) whether the loss suffered by it in 1985-86 was five time more than the loss in the preceding year;

(c) if so, the reasons for this massive deterioration in performance; and

(d) what was the planning and the pre-cautionary steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) The investment (loan plus equity) by the Central Government as on 30.6.1987 in Coal India Limited was Rs. 6513.17 crores.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The increase in wage bill mainly resulting from liberalised payment of gratuity and ex-gratia payment in lieu of bonus, increase in consumer price index from average of 572 points in 1984-85 to 603 points in 1985-86 resulting in increase in payment of VDA, other cost escalations, delay in the revision of coal prices and higher proportion of inferior grades of coal in the total production account for steep increase in the losses of Coal India during 1985-86.

(d) The targets of production for Coal India and prices of coal are externally fixed. Coal India also has no control on most of the factors increasing cost of production like increase in the general level of prices in the country. However, Coal India is taking steps to improve its financial performance by better utilisation of manpower/machinery and introduction of better management practices and technology.

Saving of Foodgrains from Menace of Rats

1498. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether rats are damaging about 10 to 15 per cent of the foodgrains produced in the country; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to save foodgrains from the menace of rats?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT):

(a) No systematic/comprehensive studies

have been carried out to estimate the damage to foodgrains caused by rats.

(b) To minimise the damage caused by rats to stored foodgrains, the Indian Grain Storage Institute of the Ministry has been testing different rodenticides and bait preferences for their efficacy. The Institute has also developed certain rodenticide mixtures. Besides, 17 Central Save Grain teams of the Ministry organise demonstrations and training in selected villages in different States so as to propagate rat control measures like trapping, destruction of rat harbourages and use of rodenticides and fumigants. The Food Corporation of India and Central Warehousing Corporation also use rat control measures, whenever necessary.

Disposal of cases by Lok Adalats in Rajasthan

1499. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Lok Adalats held in Rajasthan from 1 January, 1986 to 30 June, 1987;

(b) the number of cases still pending before these Adalats for disposal; and

(d) the time by which these Lok Adalats will be in a position to dispose of the cases the same day on the pattern of "Panchayats"?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): According to the information available with Committee for Implementing Legal Aid Schemes:—

(a) 161 Lok Adalats were held in Rajasthan between 1.1.86 and 30.6.87.

(b) 2, 07, 398 cases were disposed of.

(c) and (d). Lok Adalats are not regularly constituted courts. Normally, the cases

taken up by them are disposed of on the same day.

World Bank Loan for Development of Oil and Gas in Rajasthan

1500. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount earmarked for Rajasthan from the World Bank loan for development of oil and gas resources in the country;

(b) whether Jaisalmer and Barmer areas in Rajasthan are rich in oil and natural gas; and

(c) if so, the time by which the exploration of oil and gas is expected to be undertaken in those districts in Rajasthan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) US \$ 27 millions.

(b) and (c). Jaisalmer Basin has been assessed to be petroliferous basin and is already under exploration. Barmer Basin has at present been assessed as not having good prospects.

Extension of HBJ Pipeline to Delhi and Faridabad

1501. SHRI SRIHARI RAO
SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI.

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

(a) whether there is a proposal to extend Hazira-Bijaipur-Jagdishpur gas pipeline to Delhi and Faridabad;

(b) if so, the time by which this scheme will be completed; and

(c) the main feature of this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) to (c). The possibility of extending the HBJ Pipeline to Delhi is under the consideration of Government.

Performance of Rural Electrification Corporation

1502. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have reviewed the performance of Rural Electricity Corporation in 1986-87 and 1987-88 (till date);

(b) if so, the target set by Rural Electrification Corporation for energisation of pump sets and electrification of villages in 1986-87 (State-wise),

(c) the performance of REC in energisation of pump sets and rural electrification in the above year (State-wise); and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) to (d). The performance of Rural Electrification Corporation is being regularly monitored. A Statement indicating the statewise target and achievement in respect of village electrification and pumpsets energisation under REC financed schemes during 1986-87 is given below.

STATEMENT

Statewise target and achievement of village electrification and pumpsets energisation under REC Schemes during the Year 1986-87

S. No.	State	Village electrification		Pumpsets energisation	
		Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement
1.	Andhra Pradesh	700	905	63000	94208
2.	Assam	1150	1468	484	—
3.	Bihar	2676	3200	20000	16183
4.	Gujarat	750	595	20000	17194
5.	Haryana	*	—	9110	16746
6.	Himachal Pradesh	500	825	60	180
7.	J and K (@)	100	117	60	59
8.	Karnataka	442	1060	38780	45115
9.	Kerala	*	—	15000	13095
10.	Madhya Pradesh	2700	3709	35000	43345
11.	Maharashtra	450	502	40500	51839
12.	Manipur	77	77	—	2
13.	Meghalaya	212	76	—	—
14.	Nagaland	31	85	—	—
15.	Orisa	1359	1370	4723	2067
16.	Punjab	*	—	20000	50504
17.	Rajasthan	872	1137	9400	10428
18.	Sikkim	22	26	—	—
19.	Tamil Nadu	*	4	27750	32633
20.	Tripura	141	159	90	91
21.	Uttar Pradesh	3610	3850	27000	27000
22.	West Bengal	2304	131	17000	4000
Total:		18100	20496	347957	424699

* All the Villages have been electrified.

@ Revised Target

Pending cases in Orissa High Court

1503. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pending in the Orissa High Court for more than 3, 5 and 10 years; and

Pending Over 3 Years	Pending Over 5 Years	Pending Over 10 Years
12988	6437	514

(b) A Statement of steps taken for early disposal of cases is given below.

STATEMENT*Steps taken from time to time to reduce pendency*

The following steps have been taken in recent years to reduce pendency in the High Courts:—

1. Elimination of arrears in all the Courts has been discussed in the Conference of Chief Justices, Chief Ministers and Law Ministers of States held on 31st August—1st September 1985 and the Resolutions of the Conference have been commended to the High Courts and the State Governments.
2. The Code of Civil Procedure was amended in 1976 to abolish Letters Patent Appeals from judgment of Single Judge of the High Court in Second Appeal (*vide* Section 100-A).
3. The Code of Criminal Procedure based on the recommendations of the Law Commission was enacted in 1973.
4. The Sanctioned strength of the High Court Judges has been

(b) the steps taken for early disposal of the cases and thereby giving speedy justice to the people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) As per information furnished by the Registry of the Orissa High Court, the number of cases pending before the court for more than 3, 5 and 10 years as on 30.6.1987 was as under:

increased from 351 in March 1977 to 440 as on 1st February 1987.

5. Apart from the above, certain High Courts are taking the following steps for ensuring better disposal of cases:—
 - (a) Cases involving common questions are being grouped by several High Courts;
 - (b) Matters fixed for hearing by giving short returnable dates;
 - (c) Dispensing with printing of records;
 - (d) Expediting and giving priority to matters under certain Acts.
6. The recommendations contained in the 79th Report of the Law Commission have been examined. As action on majority of the recommendations is to be taken by the State Governments and the High Courts, these have been sent to them along with the views of the Union Government, and they have been requested to take necessary action.
7. The Government have entrusted the Law Commission, the study of the

judicial system to introduce necessary reforms. The terms of reference are:—

- (a) the need for decentralisation of the system of administration of justice by:
 - (i) establishing, extending and strengthening in rural areas the institution of Nyaya Panchayats or other mechanisms for resolving disputes;
 - (ii) setting up a system of participatory justice with defined jurisdiction and powers to suitable areas and centres;
 - (iii) establishing other tiers or systems within the judicial hierarchy to reduce the volume of work in the Supreme Court and the High Courts.
- (b) the matters for which Tribunals (excluding Services Tribunals) as envisaged in Part-XIV-A of the Constitution need to be established expeditiously and various aspects related to their establishment and working.
- (c) the procedural laws with a view generally to disposing of cases expeditiously, eliminating unnecessary litigation, delays in hearing of cases and reforms in procedures and procedural laws and particularly to devising procedures appropriate to the forums envisaged in items (a) (i) and (a) (ii).
- (d) the method of appointments to subordinate courts, subordinate judiciary
- (e) the training of Judicial Officers
- (f) the role of the legal profession in strengthening the

system of administration of justice.

- (g) the desirability of formulation of the norms which the Government and the Public Sector Undertakings should follow in the settlement of disputes including a review of the present system for conduct of litigation on behalf of the Government and such Undertakings.
- (h) the case of litigation with a view to lessening the burden on the litigants.
- (i) formation of an All India Judicial Service; and
- (j) such other matters as the Commission considers proper or necessary for the purposes aforesaid or as may be referred to it from time to time by the Government.

Creation of Secondary Switching Areas in Himachal Pradesh

1504. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the basis for the creation of Secondary Switching areas in the country;
- (b) the exact work-load and other consideration for each of the six Secondary Switching Areas created in Himachal Pradesh;
- (c) whether any realignment within the existing Secondary Switching Areas is also under consideration; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The basis of creation of Secondary Switching Areas in the country is to match the network and pattern and the management

structure. The Secondary Switching area forms the basic management unit of the Circle

(c) At present no realignment of the existing Secondary Switching Areas in Himachal Pradesh is under consideration.

(b) The work-load for each of the six Secondary Switching Areas in Himachal Pradesh is given below in the Statement.

(d) Does not arise.

STATEMENT

Work Load of Secondary Switching Areas in Himachal Pradesh

Sl. No.	Name of Secondary Switching Centre	Revenue Districts covered	Work Load in SIO (SIU)
1.	Dharamsala	Kangra/Hamirpur/Una/Bilaspur	7714
2.	Mandi	Mandi	2746
3.	Simla	Simla/Solan/Kinnaur	12196
4.	Nahan	Sirmaur	1105
5.	Chamba	Chamba	1555
6.	Kulu	Kulu/Lahul Spiti	1398

Recommendations of Savor Committee

1505. SHRI CHITTA MAHATA:
SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision on the recommendations of the Savor Committee;

(b) the details of the action on those recommendations which have been accepted by Government; and

(c) the reason for not accepting the remaining recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir. Decisions have been taken on the majority of the recommendations of the

Committees of enquiry on Extra-Departmental System. (Savor Committee).

(b) and (c). The overall position containing all the recommendations of the Committee, acceptance or otherwise of each of the recommendations, with reasons for non-acceptance and action taken on accepted recommendations is under compilation and will be laid on the table of the House.

Retail Outlets for LPG/Petrol/Diesel Agencies at Vadodara District, Gujarat

1506. SHRI RANJITSINGH GAEKWAD:
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of retail outlets for distribution of petrol/diesel and LPG cylinders in Vadodara district of Gujarat;

(b) whether the outlets are sufficient to

meet the needs of the people and the farmers;

(c) whether Government are aware that owing to lack of adequate authorised outlets for petrol and diesel as well as LPG, unauthorised business of these commodities is being carried out in the rural areas with exorbitantly high prices and adulteration on wide scale;

(d) if so the norms for release of distributorship for petrol/diesel/LPG in a particular district; and

(e) the steps taken to make available petrol/diesel and LPG in the remote parts of the district and prevent black marketing as well as adulteration in the above essential commodities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) (a) 32 LPG distributorships and 53 Retail outlet

1. Combined MS/HSD:

Anticipated potential of 50 Kls. of HSD and 5 Kls. of MS per month in the second year of operation.

2. Lone HSD Retail Outlet:

Anticipated potential of 50 Kls. of HSD per month in the second year of operation

3. Low cost Retail Outlets:

('E' class Market) in order to meet the agricultural requirements of the farmers in far flung areas not connected with NH/SH.

Anticipated potential of 25 Kls. of HSD per month in the second year of operation.

As regards LPG distributorships, the oil industry is covering, in a phased manner, towns with a population of 20,000 and above and with potential for economically viable LPG distributorships;

(e) Subject to considerations of economic viability, the number of LPG distributorships and retail outlets is being augmented.

Communication facilities in remote areas of Andhra Pradesh

1507. SHRI C. SAMBU: Will the Minister

dealerships are now operating in Vadodara District of Gujarat. In addition to these, Letters of Intent have been issued in respect of 4 retail outlets.

(b) The existing retail outlets and the proposed ones are considered sufficient to meet the needs of the revenue district; while the existing LPG distributorships are sufficient to serve the present customer population, action has also been initiated for creating one more distributorship in the district. Such distributorships are generally opened on the basis of demand potential and economic viability.

(c) No such instances have come to the notice of the Government. However, the possibility of unscrupulous elements indulging in malpractices cannot be ruled out;

(d) The existing norms for establishing Retail Outlets are as under:

of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of inadequate communication facility in the remote interior and tribal areas of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether Government have conducted any survey to provide communication facilities to those areas; and

(c) if so, the number of post offices, telegraph offices and telephone exchanges

proposed to be opened in those areas and when these are likely to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) *TELECOM*. Yes, Sir.

POSTAL. Postal facilities in the remote interior and tribal areas of Andhra Pradesh are not inadequate. There are 767 Post Offices functioning in the tribal areas of the State out of which 36 are provided with telegraph facilities.

(b) *TELECOM*: Yes, Sir. *POSTAL*: Yes, Sir.

(c) *TELECOM*. Twenty Long Distance Public Telephones are proposed to be opened in Tribal areas during the 7th Five Year Plan. Public Telephones which are opened in Post Offices, will work as Telegraph Offices also.

Twelve Telephone Exchanges are proposed to be opened in the identified tribal areas during the 7th Five Year Plan subject to availability of equipment and minimum demand for telephone connections of 10/23/46 forthcoming for installing 25/50/100 lines exchange respectively.

POSTAL. There is at present no proposal to open Post Offices in these areas as no villages other than those provided with Post Offices satisfy the prescribed norms.

Car Telephones in Metropolitan Cities

1508. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will

the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of car telephones licensed/installed as on 31 March, 1987 in each of the metropolitan cities;

(b) the names of licences;

(c) the licence fee prescribed for such connections;

(d) whether the equipment is imported or is of domestic manufacture; and

(e) the estimated cost of the introduction of the system in foreign exchange?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) A mobile radio telephone system with a capacity of 100 telephones has been introduced on an experimental basis in Delhi only which can be used from a moving car. 68 subscribers have been provided the car telephones as on 31.3.87.

(b) The names of the subscribers are given in the Statement below.

(c) A rent of Rs. 2000/- per month besides the call charges is charged. A security deposit of Rs. 40,000/- is taken from a subscriber at the time of provision of the facility.

(d) and (e). The equipment for the system was imported for an experimental project. The estimated cost of the entire project is about US \$ 9,00,000.

STATEMENT

List of Mobile Telephones as on 31.3.87.

S. No.	Mobile Telephone No.	Name and Address of the Subscriber
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614-301

Chairman,
M/S Rambagh Place Hotel,
302 Asha Deep Building,
9 Hailey Road, New Delhi-1

S. No.	Mobile Telephone No.	Name and Address of the Subscriber
2.	614-302	Shri Rakesh Diwan, 9997, Dewan Bhavan, Sarjevshlla, New Rohtak Road, New Delhi-5
3.	614-303	M/S D.C.M. LTD First Floor, Kanchanjunga Building, 18 Barakhamba Road, New Delhi-1.
4.	614-304	Shri Hari Kishan Rafhi, 29, Sadhana Enclave, New Delhi-17.
5.	614-305	M/S K. L. Rathi, Steels Ltd 206, Surya Kiran Building, 19, K. G Marg, New Delhi.
6.	614-306	M/S Glob Detective Agency (P) Ltd. 601, 603, Eros Apartment, 56, Nehru Place, New Delhi-19.
7.	614-307	Asia Trade Development (P) Ltd. 272, Ashok Hotel, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi.
8.	614-308	M/S K. G. Properties, B-7, Anand Niketan, New Delhi-4
9.	614-309	M/S Escorts Ltd. 18/4 Mathura Road, Faridabad-7
10.	614-310	M/S East India Hotels Ltd. 7, Sham Nath Marg, Delhi-54.
11.	614-311	M/S Rawal Apartments (P) Ltd. 119, Completent House, F-14, Connaught Place, , New Delhi.
12.	614-312	M/S DLF Universals Ltd. 21, 22, Narendra Place Sansad Marg, New Delhi-1
13.	614-313	M/S Barmalt India (P) Ltd. 410, New Delhi House, 27, Barakhamba Road, New Delhi.
14.	614-314	M/S Anand Constructions (Delhi) Pvt. Ltd. Skipper Bhavan, 22

S. No.	Mobile Telephone No.	Name and Address of the Subscriber.
		Barakhamba Road, New Delhi
15.	614-315	M/S DLF Universal Ltd. 22-23, Narindra Place, Sansad Marg, New Delhi-1.
16.	614-316	M/S The Sinbhavli Sugar Mills Ltd. P. O. Dimbaoli, GBD (U.P.)
17.	614-317	M/S Modipon Ltd. Modi Nagar, U.P.
18.	614-318	M/S Modipon Ltd. Modi Nagar, U.P.
19.	614-319	M/S Modipon Ltd. Modi Nagar, U.P.
20.	614-320	M/S Mohan Export India (P) Ltd. No. 7, Community Centre, Zamrudpur Kailash Colony Extn, New Delhi-48
21.	614-321	Shri Anand Prakash Gupta, R-289, Greater Kailash-I New Delhi.
22.	614-322	M/S Escorts Heat Institute and Research Centre, Okhla Road, Opp, Holy Family Hospital, New Delhi-25
23.	614-323	M/S Escorts Ltd. 18/4, Mathura Road, Faridabad - 121007
24.	614-324	M/S Laminators (P) Ltd. M-107, Greater Kailash-II New Delhi.
25.	614-325	Shri Shatish Gupta, C/229, Sunder Vihar, New Delhi-41.
26.	614-326	M/s. M.M. Bhagat and Co. South Wing Claridges, 12, Aurangzeb Road, New Delhi-11.
27.	614-327	Shri M.C. Belwal, 16, Duplex Obroi Apartments, 2 Sham Nath Marg, Delhi-54.

S. No.	Mobile Telephone No.	Name and Address of the Subscriber
28.	614-328	M/s. Vishnu Cable Co. B-42, Mayapuri Industrial Area, Phase-II New Delhi.
29.	614-329	M/s. Tripathi Texnit Ltd. 12, New Colony Model Basti, New Delhi-15
30.	614-330	M/s East India Hotels Ltd 7, Sham Nath Marg, Delhi-54.
31.	614-331	M/s Raj Rishi Exports Ltd B-319, Okhla Industrial Area, Phase-I, New Delhi-20.
32.	614-332	M/s Goyal Gases Pvt Ltd 3, Bharati Colony, Shakurpur, Delhi-92.
33.	614-333	M/s H B Exports, 914, New Delhi House, 27, Barakhamba Road, New Delhi.
34	614-335	Shri Vinod Chandra, P. B. No 8, Chandra Bldg. Kalkaji Temple, New Delhi-19
35.	614-336	M/s Avishkar Estates (P) Ltd 7, Sagar Apartments, 6, Tilak Marg, New Delhi
36.	614-337	M/s Narain Jewellers Shop No 2 New Delhi House, 27 Barakhamba Road, New Delhi.
37.	614-338	M/s Philips Carbon Flack Ltd Hemkunt Towers, 1215, Floor, 98 Nehruplace, New Delhi-19
38.	614-339	M/s Unisystems (P) Ltd 25, Comm. Centre, East of Kailash, New Delhi.
39.	614-340	M/s Jain Exports (P) Ltd D-20 Cannaught Place, New Delhi-1.

S. No.	Mobile Telephone No.	Name and Address of the Subscriber
40.	614-341	M/s. Juff Exports Pvt. Ltd. 7, Sagar Apartments, 6, Tilak Marg, New Delhi-1.
41.	614-342	M/s. D C. M. Ltd. Kanchanjunga, 5th Floor, Barakhamba Road, New Delhi-1
42.	614-344	M/s. Tony Electronic P. Ltd A 289, Okhla Indn. Area Phase-I New Delhi-20
43.	614-346	M/s. Pratap Steel Rolling Mills, Ltd. A-4, Kalints, New Delhi-65
44.	614-347	M/s. Western Electronics, 43-A, Okhla Industrial Area, Phase-I, New Delhi-20
45.	614-348	Shri Nirmal Singh, A-111, Vishal Enclave, Rajouri Garden, New Delhi.
46.	614-349	M/s. Rajshree Exports Ltd B-319, Okhla Indn. Area, Phase-I New Delhi.
47.	614-350	M/s. Mitsubishi Corpn Chanderlok, 36, Janpath New Delhi.
48.	614-353	Aditya Property, 1106, Ashoka Estate, 24, Barakhamba Road, New Delhi-1.
49.	614-210	Secretary, NDMC, Sansad Marg, New Delhi-1.
50.	614-211	The Commissioner, MCD, Delhi.
51.	614-212	The Chief Fire Officer, Delhi Fire Service, New Delhi.
52.	614-213	The Deputy Commissioner (Water) WS and SD Undertaking, Link House, Bahadurshah Zafar Marg, New Delhi.
53.	614-214	Shri M. N S. Murthy, The Asstt. Director (ADMN) Intelligence Bureau, North Block, New Delhi

S. No.	Mobile Telephone No.	Name and Address of the Subscriber
54.	614-216	The Lt. Governor, Secretariat, Raj Niwas, Delhi-54.
55.	614-216	The Deputy Director, Subsidiary Intelligence Bureau, 5, Motilal Nehru Place, New Delhi.
56.	614-220	The Under Secretary (Cash) MHA, North Block, New Delhi.
57.	614-221	The Dy. Chief of Army Staff, 2, Signals Directorate, Army H. Q. New Delhi.
58.	614-222	-do-
59.	614-223	-do-
60.	614-224	Air Force Signal Centre
61.	614-225	The Dy. Chief of Army Staff, 2 Signals Directorate, Army H. Q., New Delhi.
62.	614-226	Asstt. Director (Admn) 9, Tuglak Road, New Delhi.
63.	614-228	Shri J. P. Singh, Medical Suptd. Dr R. M. L. Hospital, New Delhi.
64.	614-230	Dy Secretary (Admn) Parliamentary Affairs 92, Parliament House, New Delhi-1
65.	614-231	Under Secretary (Admn) Delhi Admn 5, Sham Nath Marg, Delhi-54.
66.	614-232	The Commissioner of Police Delhi M. S. O. Bldg. 2nd floor, I P Estate, New Delhi-2
67.	614-233	Air Force Signals Centre, New Delhi.
68.	614-234	Under Secretary, Cabinet Secretariat, Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi.

Transmission and Distribution Losses

1509. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are efforts underway to reduce transmission and distribution losses throughout the country and if so, the progress made in this regard; and

(b) whether part of the losses are due to conductor wires and due to drop in voltage and if so, corrective measures being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) and (b). Some energy is inevitably lost in transmitting it through the conductor wires, which also causes drop in voltage. The State Electricity Boards have been advised to identify the elements responsible for excessive losses and to prepare schemes for strengthening of transmission and distribution systems, re-location of sub-stations closer to the load centres, etc.

To detect theft of energy, Electricity Boards have set up vigilance squads to conduct surprise raids. The Indian Electricity Act, 1910 has been amended to make the theft of energy a cognizable offence.

The Government have also decided to introduce an incentive scheme for reduction of losses.

Production of line in ESS-II unit of I.T.I., Bangalore

1510. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to start ESS-II production line in Indian Telephone Industries, Bangalore; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and when it is likely to start?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government has decided to set up a Factory to produce 5 lakh lines a year of digital electronic exchanges at Bangalore Complex of Indian Telephone Industries in replacement of the existing production of Strowger and Crossbar Exchanges.

Initially, Indian Telephone Industries (I.T.I.) is setting up production of 1 lakh lines a year of 128-Port rural automatic exchanges of C-DOT design. The production is likely to commence in April, 1988.

This is further to be expanded to produce 1 lakh lines a year of 512-Port rural automatic exchanges of C-DOT design. The production is likely to commence by early 1989.

For further expansion to 5 lakh lines a year, a decision on the choice of technology has not yet been taken.

Industrially backward areas in Tamil Nadu

1511. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the places in Tamil Nadu classified as industrially backward;

(b) whether Government have examined the progress regarding industrialisation of these areas after their classification as such;

(c) whether any special programme is proposed to be implemented for the industrialisation of the areas which remain backward for years even after their classification as backward; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) The districts of Dharmapuri, Kanya Kumari,

Madurai, North Arcot, Ramanathapuram, South Arcot, Thanjavur, Tiruchirapalli and Pudukkottai in Tamil Nadu have been identified as industrially backward districts.

(b) to (d). Industrialisation of specific areas is the responsibility of the State Government concerned. However, the Central Government supplements their efforts by providing Central incentives/

concessions etc. The details of these incentives are given in the Booklet on "Incentives for industries in backward areas" (updated upto 20th October, 1986), copies of which are available in the Parliament Library. It may, however, be mentioned that the following number of Letters of Intent (LOIs), Industrial Licences (IL) and DGTD Registrations have been issued to backward areas in Tamil Nadu during the last 3 Years:

Year	LOI	IL	DGTD Regns.
1985	47	68	61
1986	48	23	42
1987 (upto May)	25	10	7

Nationalisation of Bengal Potteries Ltd.

1512. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering the nationalisation of Bengal Potteries Limited; and

(b) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). It has not been possible for the Government to take a decision with regard to the future disposition of M/s. Bengal Potteries Limited as certain important issues are involved. Meanwhile, the period of take over has been extended upto and inclusive of 30.9.1987.

Cases of pilferage in Super Bazar

1513. SHRIMATI GEETA
MUKHERJEE:
SHRI KAMLA
PRASAD SINGH:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether some cases of pilferages of items from different branches of Super

Bazar, Delhi has been detected recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken against the employees and other staff involved in such cases?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Some employees of the Super Bazar, namely, Supervisor Incharges, Store Assistants, Pharmacists, Assistant Managers, Security Officer, Sales Assistants, packers and helpers were involved in various types of pilferages, both in stocks and cash, by way of short deposit of cash, removal of empty gunny bags, issue of duplicate control vouchers, unauthorised transfer of stock of medicines, mis-appropriation of empties and black-marketing of Palmolein Oil.

(c) Appropriate action like lodging of FIRs with the Police, suspension of some employees has been taken and departmental proceedings against all those employees alleged to be involved, have been initiated.

No Industry Districts

1514. SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted by Government for industrialisation of 'No Industry Districts';

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of 'No Industry Districts' in various States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c). The names of 'No Industry Districts' in various States and the nature of incentives being provided for their development are given in the booklet on Incentives for Industries in Backward Areas (updated upto 20th October, 1986) copies of which are available in the Parliament-Library. However, conducting of survey for industrialisation of specific backward areas is the responsibility of the State Government concerned.

Use of Alcohol in Petrol

1515. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been shortages and surpluses of alcohol at different times;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to take steps to prevent the situation of surpluses; and

(c) whether Government are considering to introduce use of alcohol in petrol instead of lead additive as in the U.S.A. and several other countries including Sweden?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH): (a) and (b). In our country, alcohol is primarily obtained by fermentation of molasses which is a by-

product of sugar the production of which fluctuates considerably. Government has encouraged the setting up of adequate storage capacity so that the surplus of any one year could be utilised in the next year.

(c) No Sir. Alcohol is an important raw material for a number of chemicals like Acetic Acid, Acetic Anhydride, Ethyl Acetate etc.

The prospects of use of alcohol as an additive to petrol were gone into by a Committee of Technical Experts on Alcohol-based industries, which submitted its report in 1980. and the conclusions of the Committee were as follows:

- (i) Our present methods of producing alcohol from molasses required more energy than it provides when used as an automobile fuel in admixture with gasoline.
- (ii) Our per capita consumption of gasoline is relatively small in relation to the need for heavier petroleum products like Kerosene, diesel and fuel oil. The demand of these heavier petroleum products from past and present indications will grow at a higher rate than that of gasoline. Present availability of naphtha and gasoline is larger than the demand.
- (iii) The economic advantage will be higher if alcohol is preferentially used for making higher value added chemical products not only to meet their increasing demand but also for exports.
- (iv) The present capacity for producing absolute alcohol is only 800 KL per year distributed between two units.

Loans Granted to Companies of Reliance Industries

1516. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether none of the companies involved in the bank loans to Reliance Industries Limited are under the MRTP Act.

(b) if so, on what basis these companies were referred to as Reliance Companies;

(c) the reasons for not taking any action so far to get the companies registered under the MRTP Act; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take to see that registrations under the MRTP Act truly reflect the composition of a Monopoly House and chances of mal-practices are reduced?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO): (a) to (d). It is presumed that Hon'ble Member is referring to the companies to which advances were made by banks against the security of shares/debentures of Reliance Industries Ltd. The Committee set up by the Reserve Bank of India on the Advances made by banks to certain borrowers against the security of shares/debentures of the Reliance Industries Ltd. has referred to 43 companies as connected with Reliance Industries Ltd. as "promoter associates" or "trade associates". None of these companies are registered under the MRTP Act.

The above referred companies would be registrable under the MRTP Act, being associates of Reliance Industries Ltd., only if they are intrerconnected with this company in terms of section 2(g) of the MRTP Act.

[*Translation*]

Delivery of Scooters by Scooters India Ltd. to agents of Bombay and Dadra and Nagar Haveli

1517. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether in 1983 the Scooters India Limited had made the delivery of Vijay

Super Scooters to some agents of Bombay and Dadra and Nagar Haveli without taking guarantee;

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

(c) the amount outstanding against these firms?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO): (a) and (b). In 1983, Scooters India Limited had two dealers in Bombay but no dealer was specifically appointed for Dadra and Nagar Haveli. As per the normal commercial practice, Vijai Super Scooters were delivered to Bombay dealers against the security deposits made by them at the time of their appointment.

(c) The current outstanding against one of the dealers is Rs. 4.38 lakh. The other dealer has ceased to be a dealer after settling his accounts.

[*English*]

Strength of Employees in National Thermal Power Corporation Ramagundam

1518. SHRI G. BHOOPATHY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the sanctioned strength of employees of National Thermal Power Corporation at Ramagundam, category-wise; and

(b) the number of employees taken into service (category-wise) so far and the balance to be recruited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) and (b). The staff position, category-wise, at the Ramagundam Super Thermal Power Project of the National Thermal Power Corporation, is given below:—

	Sanctioned	Filled
Executives	533	421
Supervisory Staff	356	276
Workmen & Ministerial Staff	1382	1079

Expansion of M/s Graphite India Limited, Calcutta

1520. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Graphite India Limited, Calcutta applied for expansion of their Durgapur Plant from 5,400 MTs to 12,500 MTs on 18 January, 1986;

(b) whether it is a fact that their application for expansion was duly recommended by Government of West Bengal;

(c) whether it is also a fact that ignoring their claim, Messers Hindustan Electrographite, Bhopal had been granted expansion of their capacity though they applied much later for the same products;

(d) whether the Calcutta High Court has, on a writ petition filed by the Graphite India Limited, directed that their application be disposed of quickly; and

(e) if so, the action proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). Yes Sir.

(c) Will M/s. Graphite India Limited have applied for expansion under Section 21 of the MRTP Act, no clearance to M/s. Hindustan Electrographite Limited has been given under the MRTP Act.

(d) and (e). In a writ petition filed by M/s. Graphite India Limited, the Calcutta High Court has passed final orders recently. Necessary action in the matter will be taken on receipt of a certified copy of the judgement of the Calcutta High Court.

Alleged Pilferage of Bitumen from Mathura and Baroda Refineries

1521. SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Chemical Manufacturers association in a communication to the Minister of State for petroleum has represented that about two lakh tonnes of bitumen worth Rs. 60 crores is being annually finding its way illegally to private trade from the Mathura and Baroda refineries of Indian Oil Corporation;

(b) if so, whether the matter has been enquired into;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) the remedial steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) to (d). A Statement is given below.

STATEMENT

No thefts of bitumen have been reported from the refineries of the Oil Companies. However, a representation from Indian Chemical Manufacturers Association has

been received by this Ministry regarding theft of bitumen from the tank lorries at the refineries and from hotmix plants at the road construction sites.

There is a procedure to load tank lorries with specific weight to deliver this at the customers premises with proper documentation at the refinery end. Hence the possibility of theft of bitumen within refinery premises is remote.

In regard to the theft of bitumen at hot-mix plants at road sites it is pertinent to point out that the customer is the owner and is in possession of the material at this point.

Since the Bitumen produced by the refineries is mainly used by Departments and Organisations of State Govts./Union Territories, this Ministry has suggested, among other things, that the following steps be taken by the State Governments/UTs to improve the situation:

(a) Government Departments/Quasi Government bodies and public sector enterprises should purchase their requirements of bitumen only from the oil companies. Contractors working for the aforesaid category of organisations should be supplied the required quantities of bitumen by PWD or other appropriate department and procurement by the contractors on their own should not be one of the conditions of the contract.

(b) The relevant Enforcement Wings and vigilance Cells should be activated to check pilferage from Government storage etc.

(c) The Director of Industries should be advised to register units which require bitumen as raw material only after the applicants give satisfactory evidence that an authoritative purchase arrangement for bitumen has been made from one or the other of the oil companies.

(d) All industrial units requiring bitumen (80/100 or 60/70 or 30/40) as raw material for production of Blown Bitumen grades, paints, inks, briquettes, etc., should be advised by the Directorate of Industries to purchase their bitumen requirements directly from the oil companies.

(e) The Directorate of Industries and the Sales Tax Department should arrange for

joint scrutiny of the records of the manufacturing units in order to ascertain whether bitumen has been obtained by the units from the oil companies or from unauthorised sources.

Subsidy on essential commodities to the drought affected areas of Gujarat

1522. SHRI RANJITSINGH GAEKWAD:
Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the essential commodities on which central subsidy is being given for public distribution system in Gujarat and the amount given for each commodity during 1985-86 and 1986-87;

(b) whether Government propose to give more subsidy on coarse grain for distribution amongst the drought affected people during 1987-88 as the State is threatened of third consequent drought due to failure of the monsoon; and

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

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) Necessary information is given in the Statement given below.

(b) and (c). As no coarse grains are being issued in Gujarat from the Central Pool, there is no such proposal under consideration of the Government.

STATEMENT

<i>Year</i>	<i>(Central Subsidy) (Rs. in crores)</i>
WHEAT	
1985-86	45.24
1986-87	57.75 (Provisional)

(Central Subsidy)
(Rs. in crores)

RICE

1985-86 10.19

1986-87 29.85
(Provisional)

CONTROLLED CLOTH

The following amount of subsidy on controlled cloth has been paid to NTC (Gujarat) during the last two years:

(Amount Rs. in crores)

1985-86 3.54

1986-87 1.88

KEROSENE:

Since subsidy on kerosene per litre varies frequently at different times of the year, no separate data on year-wise subsidy given to various States is maintained. The subsidy is part of the price build up of kerosene and currently it is of the order of Rs. 1.08 per litre.

LEVY SUGAR AND IMPORTED EDIBLE OILS:

In the case of levy sugar and imported edible oils, there is no Government subsidy.

SOFT COKE:

No subsidy is being given for public distribution of soft coke. However, the price is subsidised at the level of ex-pit-head price.

**New Power Generation Companies and
Boards for Construction of Hydro
Electric Power Projects**

1523. SHRIMATI BASAVARA-
JESWARI:
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up new power generation companies and

boards with a view to speedily constructing some of the major hydro electric power projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the broad composition etc.;

(c) the normal average period required for completion of hydel projects; and

(d) how the proposed companies will curtail or reduce the period of construction of a hydel project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) and (b) It is proposed to set up two Corporations as joint ventures with the Governments of Uttar Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh for implementing the Tehri Hydro Power Complex and Nathpa Jhakri Hydroelectric projects in Uttar Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh respectively. The board composition has not been finalised.

(c) The period of construction of hydro-electric project varies from project to project depending, *inter-alia*, upon its location, terrain, size and design features.

(d) The proposed Corporations would strive to construct the hydro-electric projects in a minimum time frame through proper management, better construction technology and close monitoring.

**Nomination of Members of Parliament
on Government bodies**

1524. SHRI MANIK REDDY: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria followed for nomination of Members of Parliament by Government on various Government bodies;

(b) the criteria followed to apportion such nomination between the Ruling Party and the Opposition Parties;

(c) the number of Members of Parliament belonging to Ruling and Opposition Parties nominated to the General Council of the National Institute of Rural Development, Hyderabad; and

(d) if no member has been nominated from the Opposition Parties on the said General Council, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT):

(a) While nominating Members of Parliament on various Government bodies, the field of interest of the Member, his/her past experience and his/her other assignment at the given time are kept in view.

(b) It is ensured that as far as possible nomination on various Government bodies reflect the relative strengths of the Parties in both the Houses of Parliament, subject, however, to the criteria stated at (a) above.

(c) Congress (I)-2 Opposition-Nil

(d) The allocation of Membership on the various Government Councils, Committees, Boards etc. is made, taking the total number of Members to be nominated on all the Committees, Councils, Boards etc. and not on each body separately.

Survey Committee on Messers Hindustan Pilkington Glass Ltd.

1525. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) Messers Hindustan Pilkington Glass Ltd., Asansol, West Bengal is under lock-out w.e.f. 25 August, 1980;

(b) whether Government appointed a "Survey Committee" to consider the viability or otherwise of the plant;

(c) if so, whether the Survey Committee has given its report;

(d) whether Government of West Bengal and all operating unions have requested for nationalisation of the Glass Factory, considering its importance in economy, investment being made by different financial institutions and also employment of about 1400 employees; and

(e) the action Government propose to take for reopening the factory after nationalising the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a)

Lockout at the factory of Messers Hindustan Pilkington Glass Works (HPG) was declared in May 1980. The lockout was lifted on 1.9.82 and production resumed from November, 1982. However, after sometime, operation came to a halt.

(b) and (c). A working group had been set up consisting of representatives of IRBI, banks and Government of West Bengal to look into the possibility of formulating a rehabilitation plan for the company and also for locating suitable entrepreneur. Various parties have been contacted for the take over of the unit but so far no firm offer has been received.

(d) In May, 1987, Hindustan Pilkington Glass Works Ltd. Workmens' Union addressed a letter requesting for reopening of the factory.

(e) The unit has got huge accumulated losses of the order of Rs. 16.00 crores against the paid up capital of Rs. 2.12 crores and reserves of Rs. 0.51 crores. The outstandings of Banks and Financial Institutions are of the order Rs. 10.00 crores. The lead bank has instituted legal proceedings and an official liquidator has been appointed.

Having regard to all the circumstances, Government do not consider it appropriate to intervene in these proceedings.

LPG Outlets

1526. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal for having at least one LPG outlet in every town and block; and

(b) the average population covered per outlet in the cities above a population of 1,00,000?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) The oil industry is covering in a phased manner towns with a population of 20,000 and above and with potential for economically viable LPG distributorships.

(b) The average number of LPG consumers being served in towns having a population of above 1 lakh and upto 10 lakhs is about 6,000.

Annual Grant to Coir Workers Welfare Fund

1527. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Kerala have requested the Union Government to give annual grant to the Coir Workers Welfare Fund; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) No such proposal has been received.

(b) Does not arise.

Strike by the workers of Public Sector Undertakings

1528. SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY:
SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN
RAMJIBHAI MAVANI:
SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL:
DR. DATTA SAMANT:
SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY:
SHRI Y.S. MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the workers of public sector undertakings all over the country had decided to go on strike from 21 July, 1987;

(b) whether the strike was postponed; and

(c) if so, what are their demands and the steps taken by Government to resolve the dispute?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir. A notice to this effect was received by various public sector enterprises from their respective local unions.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Their demands are given in the Statement below. These demands are being discussed with the Trade Union leaders.

STATEMENT*Charter of Demands*

1. Immediate payment of Interim Relief to all the workers equivalent to 20% of the total wage w.e.f. 1.1.86.
2. Early settlement of the charter of demands submitted by the unions.
3. Full neutralisation of the rise in prices at all levels.

[*Translation*]

Purchase of Wet Wheat by Government

1529. SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether in Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh, the Government agencies have not purchased wet wheat;

(b) if so, whether farmers are paid less price than that fixed by Government;

(c) whether Government are considering to procure the entire wet wheat with a view to compensate the farmers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT):

(a) Rain damaged wheat was not purchased by the public procuring agencies as it did not conform to prescribed specifications.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Installation of a Steel Forging Plant

1530. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA:
DR. CHINTA MOHAN:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state: .

(a) whether there is a great need for a steel forging plant in the country;

(b) if so, whether a decision has been taken to import the plant;

(c) if so, the country-wise names of the companies contacted in the matter;

(d) whether Government have made any efforts to manufacture the plant indigenously; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) The question does not specify the steel forging plant which is being referred to. If the question relates to steel forgings in general, the position is as follows:

Steel forgings are basic inputs for various engineering industries like automobiles, industrial machinery etc. These are required in various sizes, shapes and types depending upon the end use. There are 3 types of basic forging equipments viz. Forging Hammer, Forging Press and Upsetter. There is some demand for the basic forging equipments which are not produced indigenously.

(b) Depending upon the specifications of the forging equipments, import of certain items such as (1) Drop Forging Double Acting Pneumatic Hammer about 5 T capacity, (2) Counter blow hammer, (3) Transverse Roller Forging Machines, (4) Mechanical Presses upto 100 T capacity (5) Hydraulic Presses upto 100 T capacity (6) Electro Pneumatic Hammer upto 1 T top weight (7) Friction Drop Hammers belt type upto 1 T top weight (8) Horizontal upset forging machines above 25 mm bar capacity; are under OGL.

(c) The country of import is decided by the entrepreneur himself depending upon his requirements such as, U.S.A., U.S.S.R., W. Germany, Italy.

(d) and (e). In the Public Sector, HMT is manufacturing certain range of forging presses. No other public sector unit is manufacturing any other type of forging equipments. However, in the private sector following units are manufacturing Hammers:—

(i) M/s. New Standard Engg.,
Bombay

- (ii) M/s. Niranjan Singh Kartar Singh, Ludhiana.

Presses:

- (i) M/s. Godrej & Boyce, Bombay.
 (ii) M/s. Ameteeep, Faridabad.
 (iii) M/s. ISGEC, Yamunanagar.
 (iv) M/s. BEMCO Hydraulics Belgaon.
 (v) M/s. Hindustan Hydraulics, Jalandhar.

[*English*]

Lifting export obligations on industrial units

1531. SHRI P.R.S. VENKATESAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to lift mandatory export obligations imposed on all industrial units involved in regular outgo of foreign exchange; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the objectives therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) There is no such proposal under consideration of the Ministry of Industry.

(b) Does not arise.

12.00 hrs.

[*English*]

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Shantaram Naik.

PROF. K.K. TEWARY (Barmer): My motion under Rule 193 is pending with you regarding CIA activities in India to destabilise the country. I want your ruling on it.

MR. SPEAKER: I have under consideration your motion. It is with me. Now I have called Shri Shantaram Naik

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: What are you doing? I have said that I have under consideration your motion. I have allowed Shri Shantaram Naik.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji): We have demanded discussion on CIA's role to destabilise India.

MR. SPEAKER: I will consider it.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Idukki): Are you allowing it?

MR. SPEAKER: I said I will consider it.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat): Today 2,30,000 university teachers are on strike all over the country.

MR. SPEAKER: We will discuss it in some form.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: I am drawing your attention to the fact that 120 universities are closed.

MR. SPEAKER: I will give it my consideration. We will discuss it.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Government should meet their representatives and come to a settlement. The entire college and university life in the country is disturbed.

MR. SPEAKER: In some form we will discuss it.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI (Guwahati): The flood situation in Assam is serious.

MR. SPEAKER: We will discuss the subjects one by one. We will take up one subject at a time.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): We are going to discuss the drought situation.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I do not know why you cannot understand a simple thing that we can discuss one subject at one time. I have not barred a single subject from discussion. First let us finish one and then we will take up another, then another and so on. No problem in discussing any subject. No problem at all. Leave it to me. You fix the priorities. We have the Business Advisory Committee. They will fix the time.

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): Through you I want to make a request to the hon. Home Minister that there has been a constant demand for a judicial inquiry into the killings of youth at Hoshiarpur by PAC on 22nd May. Dr. Subramaniam Swamy has started fast unto death over this demand from today. Let the Home Minister make a Statement.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: What are you doing?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: What is wrong with you?

[English]

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY (Midnapore): The strike by the Junior Engineers of the CPWD is continuing for 22 days. It needs discussion. 2 lakhs of university and college teachers have started strike since today. Government must intervene and settle with them.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Choubey, why don't you understand certain basic things and basic principles? I said that we can only discuss one thing at a time and I also said that we are going to discuss everything. We have already admitted a Calling Attention on that. Why don't you understand this simple basic thing?

[Translation]

SHRI RAMSWAROOP RAM (Gaya): Harijans were prevented from entering, Nathdwara Temple and people were attacked with Lathis.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Either you give it in writing or see me.

12.02 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

Consumer Protection (Amendment) Rules, 1987

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Consumer Protection (Amendment) Rules, 1987 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 658 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 14th July, 1987 under sub-section (1) of Section 31 of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-4554/87].

**Notifications under Essential
Commodities Act, 1955**

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (6) of Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955:—

- (1) S.O. 462(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 11th May, 1987 rescinding the Rice (Prohibition of Use in Wheat Products) Order, 1958 and the Imported Foodgrains [Prohibition of Unauthorised Sale] Order, 1958.
- (2) The Sugar (Price Determination for 1986-87 Production) Second Amendment Order, 1987 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 654(E) in Gazette of India dated the 10th July, 1987. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—4555/87]

**One Hundred Nineteenth Report of
the Law Commission**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the One Hundred Nineteenth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Law Commission on Access to Exclusive Forum for Victims of Motor Accidents. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—4556/87]

**Notifications under the Industries
(Development and Regulation) Act, 1951**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of Notification No. S.O. 727(E) (Hindi and English ver-

sions) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th July, 1987 making certain amendments to Notification No. S.O. 98(E) so as to add and delete certain items mentioned in the notification in the list of items reserved for small scale sector under sub-section (2H) of Section 29B of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951. [Placed in Library See No LT--4557/87]

- (2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (6) of Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955:—

- (i) G.S.R 494(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 14th May, 1987 rescinding Order published in Notification No. G.S.R. 757(E) in Gazette of India dated the 25th September, 1985.
- (ii) The Oil Pressure Stoves (Quality Control) Order, 1987 published in Notification No G.S.R. 495(E) in Gazette of India dated the 14th May, 1987.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4558/87].

Indo-Sri Lanka Agreement

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the full text of the statement (Hindi and English Versions) on the Indo-Sri Lanka Agreement to establish peace and normalcy in Sri Lanka. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—4559/87]

(Interruptions)

[English]

DR. DATTA SAMANT (Bombay South

Central): Sir, the University Teachers' strike has already started...This is the attitude of the Government...

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Samant, will you behave properly now? Don't shout.

DR. DATTA SAMANT: I have given notice...

MR. SPEAKER: That is all right. I will look into it. No problem.

DR. DATTA SAMANT: Already, the teachers are on strike.

MR. SPEAKER: I am taking the subjects one by one.

(Interruptions)

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): Sir, my Adjournment Motion on University Teachers' strike should be taken up. The Prime Minister should intervene in this.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr Banatwalla, I said that I am going to discuss that problem also but not like this.

(Interruptions)

DR. DATTA SAMANT: It is a serious matter

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: All right. Nothing doing. Now, you sit down.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM.SWAROOP RAM: Mr Speaker... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Ramswaroop Ram, you give me in writing. Sit down.

(Interruptions)

DR. DATTA SAMANT: Is this the attitude of the Government?

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Datta Samant has not got my permission at all.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER: Will you sit down or not? You have not got my permission at all. You are always disturbing. Sit down now. It is too much. I have already heard you and I have told you that we are going to discuss the matter. What can we do about it? We can only discuss. No problem. Sit down.

*(Interruptions)***

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: If you give it in writing, I shall look into it.

SHRI RAMSWAROOP RAM: Mr. Speaker....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Ramswaroop Ram, will you sit down? You give me in writing.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: No problem...I am not going to listen to you.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Not allowed. Not a single word of whatever this gentleman says goes on record.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER: Now, we take up Matters Under Rule 377.

12.07 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[Translation]

(i) Need to establish Industries in Saran division of North Bihar for its development.

SHRI KRISHNA PRATAP SINGH (Maharajganj): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Saran division in northern Bihar is industrially a very backward area. There are only a few sugar mills in the name of industry in this part of the State. Some of these mills are lying closed and some are on the verge of closure.

It is very distressing to say that these mills were set up before Independence. No industry has been established in this area after Independence.

It will be quite relevant to point out here that this area occupies a very high place in India in terms of the density of population. Due to excessive population, the people of this area have to go to other parts of the country and also abroad in search of their livelihood where most of them are exploited.

Despite the 20-point programme of the Prime Minister, most of the people are living below poverty line. The only way to bring the people of this area above the poverty line is to establish big industries in the area.

There is no dearth of potential for installation of industries. For example, big paper industries can be set up in the area as bagasse, paddy straws and bamboos etc. are available in the area in plenty. Besides, railway wagon factories and electronic equipment factories can also be set up.

I urge upon the Government that industrial survey of this industrially backward part of land may be conducted and industries set up there.

(ii) Need to set up another plant at Haiderpur to provide sufficient drinking water to the people of Delhi.

SHRI BHARAT SINGH (Outer Delhi): The population of Delhi is increasing day-by-day and arrangements have been made for providing drinking water in every village. Government has spent huge sums of money on laying water pipe-lines and providing water connections. However, shortage of water has become a daily routine because of reduced supply of water to Haiderpur plant from Yamuna. Water does not reach the villages, rehabilitation colonies, jhuggi-jhompries and unauthorised colonies for several days. Due to low pressure of water, it does not reach the first floor also. The poor people have to dig pits under the taps and place earthen pots or buckets in them to get water. In order to remove the shortage of water, a second water plant should be immediately set up in Haiderpur and the supply of water from Yamuna should be increased so that poor people can get water.

(iii) Need to take necessary steps to check the brain drain from the country.

SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI (Bilhaur): Our country ranks third in the world in the matter of trained manpower. There are a large number of trained engineers, doctors and technicians in our country. Our country has to spend huge amount every year to train these persons. For this purpose, very high technical institutions are at work in our country. But our country and the people are not perhaps getting the benefits of their wisdom and skill. All these people go to other countries in their anxiety to earn more. They take pride in it and consider themselves better than others. This tendency is very harmful for the country. Ultimately it causes double suffering to the people of this country.

Therefore, Government should make it obligatory for those trained in the country and those sent abroad for training that they will have to serve in the country atleast for 10 years after completing their training.

Not only this, other effective steps should also be taken to check brain drain.

- (iv) Need to increase the frequency of Kerala Express from three to six days a week.**

*SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Palghat): Direct train service between Delhi and the Capital of Kerala is at present only for three days in a week. So, there is heavy rush in these trains. It is almost impossible to travel particularly during the summer vacation and the festival seasons. Since the tickets are reserved three months in advance, those who plan their journeys at short notice cannot make it. Every day hundreds of people travel from Delhi to Kerala and *vice versa*. And the number of passengers is increasing fast day after day. There is no other way to solve this problem except by increasing the frequency of the existing trains.

I, therefore, request the Government to take immediate steps to run the bi-weekly Kerala Express for six days in a week.

- (v) Need for financial assistance to Government of Bihar for establishing industries in Purnea district to prevent people from migrating to other States**

[Translation]

SHRIMATI MADHUREE SINGH (Purnea): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Purnea is the oldest district in Bihar state. It is surrounded by Bangladesh on one side and by Nepal on the other side. In spite of its being an important district on this account, neither there is any public sector industry of any kind in this district nor the district has been declared an industrially backward district. Every year thousands of labourers go to different States for their livelihood. In the circumstances, the Central Government should provide financial assistance to the State Government of Bihar and direct them to set up industries in the district in view of

the public interest so that migration of thousands of labourers every year could be checked.

[English]

- (vi) Need for immediate financial assistance to Tamil Nadu Government for completion of 'Palar Riverbed' scheme to meet the water scarcity in Madras**

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU (Gobichettipalayam): Sir, the spectre of one of the worst droughts in living memory looms large over Tamil Nadu with no rains in almost all the districts of the State.

An inordinate delay in the onset of South West Monsoon caused damage to the standing crops to the tune of a thousands crores of rupees and drinking water scarcity in villages and urban areas. The State Government is taking all steps to supply drinking water to all the villages by lorries. Even the urban areas where water supply is assured are facing acute water scarcity. Madras which has a population of five million is facing acute water scarcity. The Metro Water Board has dug giant wells in order to meet the water scarcity. Even then they are able to give water on alternate days only. A scheme has been drawn up by the Government of Tamil Nadu recently to take water from Palar river bed which would cost more than three crores of rupees. The State Government is requesting the Centre for an assistance of Rs. 1.50 crores for this scheme. The Central Government has to come forward immediately in order to meet the drinking water problem in Tamil Nadu. I request the Government of India to come to the rescue of the Tamil Nadu Government.

[Translation]

- (vii) Need to give early clearance to Punpun Dargah Scheme and Muhane Dam Scheme to save Jahanabad and Patna districts from floods and drought.**

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, some of the

*The speech was originally delivered in Malayalam

[Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh]

States all over the country are at present facing drought and some other States are under floods. This happens every year. It has not been possible to save the country from this crisis even after 40 years of Independence. Farmers of the whole country are in difficulty. Floods and drought heavily erode our national income because ours is mainly an agricultural country. 3 to 4 feet layers of sand has come up over the fertile lands of farmers due to which the land is turning into a desert. More and more farmers are coming under the category of labourers year after year. My area—Jahanabad—can be relieved of famine and drought for ever provided Punpun Dargah and the Muhane Dam Projects which are pending with the C.W.C. for the last 7 and 12 years respectively are cleared. The people are facing disaster due to delay in their clearance. The Central Government should, therefore, accord clearance to both these projects immediately and return them to the State Government so that both Jahanabad and Patna districts get rid of drought and floods once for all.

(viii) Need for effective constitutional steps to satisfy the people of hill areas of Uttar Pradesh who are demanding a separate State like the people of Darjeeling.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora): Mr. Speaker, Sir, a demand is being made by some people for a separate State in the hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh like the people of Darjeeling. There are mainly two reasons behind such a demand. Firstly, the people of hill areas have begun to feel that their representation in the Vast Legislative Assemblies of the States concerned is very inadequate. Secondly, there is lack of time-bound planned development programmes for the development of these areas. Moreover local people are not involved in these programmes and they are faulty.

Two types of legislative constituencies can be demarcated for Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal through a constitutional

amendment. The legislative constituencies in the hilly areas of these two States should be demarcated on the pattern of demarcation process adopted in the case of States like Himachal Pradesh and Meghalaya.

The development councils constituted for these areas which should have the right to formulate and implement plans and exercise control over the administration should be given the status of all powerful elected councils.

The situation in these areas is likely to become explosive in case no concrete steps are taken in this regard immediately.

12.18 hrs.

MOTION RE: APPOINTMENT OF A JOINT COMMITTEE TO ENQUIRE INTO THE ISSUES ARISING FROM THE REPORT OF SWEDISH NATIONAL AUDIT BUREAU ON THE BOFORS CONTRACT—*Contd.*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Further consideration of the motion moved by Shri K.C. Pant on the 29th July, 1987. Shri Kumaramangalam will continue his speech.

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM (Salem): Mr. Speaker, Sir, yesterday I hardly had a minute to start. At the outset, I would like to thank Shri Indrajit Gupta in his attempt to raise the level of the debate. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Sir, the issue that is before us today is one which I feel should be looked at not from any partisan angle or party angle. In the recent past, through various methods, an atmosphere had been created whereby any allegation, any rumour gets credence. In an atmosphere of suspicion, the whole political system is in question. It is no longer a matter of whether it is 'A' person or 'B' person or 'A' party or 'B' party. Let us be

clear among ourselves that insinuations, innuendos and rumours are a double-edged swords. Today we have reached a stage where anything can be printed, anything can be said and it is given credence without any basis without any proof.

Sir, we have before us a motion for the appointment of a Joint Committee and we find right from the moment, go, the opposition who do form a very important part of the country, are taking a stand that they will not participate in the Committee unless conditions 'A', 'B', 'C' are accepted. They know very well for a certainty that the issue that is being referred by means of this motion to a proposed Joint Committee is not an issue of insignificant nature. It is a very important matter and they are also aware of that. In fact, in the very terms of Mr. Indrajit Gupta, "if the opposition is not in the Committee, it would become an All India Congress Committee." (*Interruptions*).

Undoubtedly the issue is important; but the method that is being adopted even by senior parliamentarians and leaders like Mr. Indrajit Gupta is intimidatory tactics. It is a form of blackmail. They are saying either you listen to us or we will make your Committee ineffective. They are taking the stand...

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat): Mr. Speaker, are you nodding in approval?

MR. SPEAKER: He has not asked my opinion yet...(*Interruptions*)... I am just listening to him because I listened to you also yesterday.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: In the lilted words of Mr. Indrajit Gupta, he said that if you don't include us, it would become an All India Congress Committee. Therefore, it would no longer be a Joint Committee. So you better listen to us. Well, if that is not intimidation and blackmail, then what else!

Sir, I am totally in agreement with Mr. Indrajit Gupta that if he feels that a word or two in the reference is such that the interpretation may be of different type, it is always possible and open for discussion. But it is my personal opinion that it is not an issue where we must either become over technical or try to play party games. Because today it is not whether the Congress leaders have taken money or whether certain politicians have taken money or whether certain officials have taken money; it is the issue that whether at all the Indian leadership as a whole, irrespective of individual can be alleged... (*Interruptions*).

May I appeal that at least the grandfathers should listen to their grandsons!

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: What about granddads?

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI (Mandsaur): He is not only a grand father, but he is a naughty grand father.

(*Interruptions*).

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Yes, according to Mr. Jaipal Reddy!

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Jaipal's experience seems to be very deep!

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Yes, very deep in this matter!

Mr. Speaker Sir, certain issues were raised by Mr. Indrajit Gupta yesterday to the effect that he wanted to know what are the powers of the Committee. The reference in itself is very clear. It says that the rules of procedure of this House relating to the Parliamentary Committee shall apply with such variations and modifications as the Speaker may make. In the very recent past, Mr. Speaker you would agree, that you have been nicer to them than what we felt you should be and I am sure Mr. Indrajit Gupta has confidence in you to the extent that you believe that whatever modifications in the rules of procedure that should be done in the

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national interest, you would definitely do it. Afterall, the past has shown that your goodself has often given them more than what we felt should be given in terms of concessions.

But the point that is important is as to whether these concessions amount to the extent of making this Parliamentary Committee a nullity, the people's mandate a nullity. The demand is that they do not want proportional representation; but equal representation. Equal, in what form? It is being quietly told to us, "It is in your good health; if you don't agree to this, this Committee will be a failure and the allegations will continue against you, we will continue our campaign of insinuations and rumour and therefore, you better listen to us."

This is most unfortunate that the Parliamentary forum is being used by people who are senior parliamentarians—not juniors like me—who know about the ethics in a Parliamentary forum. They are using this forum to threaten and blackmail. They do not want the Committee to inquire into the matter. They do not want the truth to come out. They are not interested in knowing the names of the persons. They are interested in keeping it vague so that as much mileage they can take out of this issue they would like to take. That is their objective otherwise it is not necessary for them to take hard and fast rule. Can they not come and say, "all right we feel the wording of the reference is not sufficiently wide. The issue in itself cannot be investigated. We propose that this should be the manner in which it should be amended. Let us have a discussion and come to an understanding." No. In every discussion they come out with a hard rule in the House. They talk in highly conciliatory tones. They are willing to discuss it but when it comes to discussion what is the position? Do they give an inch? No. (*Interruptions*)

Mr. Speaker, Sir. I would request Mr.

Amal Datta through you to get brief from his leaders like I do.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I speak with conviction unlike Shri S Jaipal Reddy. I wish to make it clear that yesterday while speaking Mr. Reddy categorically stated I know the CIA knows the names of the persons. He said it very categorically. CIA knows the names of the persons. I think a lot of people heard him saying this. Definitely his indications were that the CIA knows and I am a little surprised that he knows the CIA knows. If according to him the CIA knows and he knows the CIA knows then let him take the names from the CIA and we will be very happy. Then let him also serve on the Committee. (*Interruptions*) I would not say that he is a CIA agent. He was once in the Youth Congress with us.

MR. SPEAKER: But no invitation to the CIA to be on the Committee.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: I will not say such things. When somebody says I know the CIA knows...

SHRI S JAIPAL REDDY (Mahbub Nagar): Sir, I rise to say a word for personal explanation. What I said was that Mr. Win Chadha is right now in America. He could be at large for the Government of India and for Indian diplomatic missions in America but he could not be at large for the CIA. There is every possibility for CIA to get to know the secrets from Mr. Win Chadha. I only referred to the danger of CIA getting to know the secrets.

MR. SPEAKER: I will look into the record.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: I am grateful for the clarification. A very important point which all of us seem to miss in passing is that why is it that the Government of India as a policy decision decided to do away with middlemen. Afterall whenever private companies deal with either

governments or any other buyer they often adopt the *modus operandi* of using agents—whether the understanding with the agent is commission of one type or payment made in another form. It is the normal practice in the commercial world but why is it that Government of India insisted that this normal practice should be done away with. It is obviously because everyone of us knows that whenever there is either an agent or middleman a certain price is paid and when a price is paid the price does not come out of the pocket of the seller but it comes out ultimately from the pocket of the buyer. As a Government, we were interested to get the best price, especially when it comes to such large contracts where every rupee matters, every lakh matters, every crore matters.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am sure the Hon'ble Defence Minister would correct me if I am wrong. The original offer of Bofors was over or around Rs. 1,900 crores. Ultimately they contracted for just over Rs. 1,400 crores. Nearly Rs. 500 crores is what the Government of India saved by doing away with middlemen and by hard negotiations. If really the intention of the leadership was to get kickbacks, then what was the need to insist on the middlemen being done away with. We could have always taken a stand that middlemen is not our business. It is their business. The agent of a seller is the agent of a seller. He is not our agent. It is free to him to choose what he wants to do.

Can I negotiate the price? I cannot. But no, on the other hand, the Government being a large buyer used its position as a large buyer. It used its political power at its disposal to use the highest influence in the country where Bofors exists to insist that there should be no middlemen. We received assurances. We received denials from the company that no bribes have been paid, no commission has been paid to any middleman. What can we say. There cannot be a better guarantee, a better proof about the genuineness on the part of

the Government of India. Even though so much has been done to ensure that there is no middleman, we find that allegations are there galore—stories after stories.

At one time, we found that the technicality of the gun was challenged. Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is my personal opinion. I am not a ballistic expert. I am sure there are many others who are ballistic experts. Ultimately it is the Army which should decide whether the gun suits them or not. If we start challenging the Army now, then where are we going to stop? If the credentials of even the Army are now going to be questioned, then nothing is left. Let us not break every system, every institution down with rumours, with allegations, innuendos and insinuations. If that is what we want to achieve, well, that is the best manner in which you can destabilise this nation.

One talks of destabilisation. I am not talking of destabilisation in terms of CIA or KGB. I am talking of destabilisation in terms of reducing the stature of institutions of this nation. What is this Bofors' gun incident doing? It is bringing down the status of political institutions of this nation. Not only that, it is now going slowly step by step forward to hit at the military institutions. What is going to be left? If this is not the destabilisation, Sir, it is nothing else...*(Interruptions)*...

Mr. Speaker, Sir, if I were in the Opposition, I would have been the first to say, I welcome this Committee because here is a Government that is coming forward with open hands and saying please inquire into allegations against it.

This is the first Committee of this type. I wonder when Professor Sahib was there in Government did he make such an offer on allegations which were far more serious in nature?...*(Interruptions)*...Sir, I may submit, we have heard rumours even to the extent that commission was built in the contract and that the Indian Government even after signing the contract, where there is a provision for commission, are

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hiding the facts. Then later on, it was said, no, it is not in the contract; it is in the annexure. Thereafter we heard rumour after rumour. Someone says that so-and-so has collected. Somebody else says so-and-so is collecting. But isn't it the time for us to put an end to these rumours? Isn't it necessary for us to have an honest look into the matter?

Bofors, as per the Minister's statement, has taken recourse to hiding behind the confidentiality of commercial transactions. It is unfortunate and I agree with all those in the opposition and Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad that today we will not support this confidentiality, because if these rumours, if these innuendoes, if these insinuations have to be brought to an end, it is time that the truth comes out and we must force the Bofors to tell the truth. It was felt that a Parliamentary Committee would be in a better position to make the Bofors speak. And why not? It is surprising to hear the allegation that we are trying to fill up the Committee. We know that invariably it is the minority opposition which is highly vocal, extremely efficient, very clear about their thinking, who always have their say in these Committees. I do not want to use harsh language, they are far more senior to me, but I am surprised at the cold feet. Are they afraid to bring out the truth? Are they afraid that the truth will establish beyond doubt that the Congress leadership was not involved? Are they afraid that truth will establish beyond doubt that all that came in the press was rumours and rumour mongering? Are they afraid that their campaign will come to a naught? That is the question.

They have made suggestions to cancel the contract. After many years we have achieved to obtain a gun which is undoubtedly one of the best. I do not say that that is necessarily the best, because I am not the one to decide. If we have to buy another gun, why is it...*(Interruptions)*.

May I make a plea to you, as my friends

on this side and the other side to hear me. I will be obliged for that.

They suggested for cancellation of the contract. The implications of cancellation have to be thought of. It is one thing to commit suicide, it is another thing to be murdered. In this particular case what is being suggested by the opposition is really harakiri. You want us to take the knife as a nation and stab it in our own self and deprive ourselves of a good artillery equipment. And why? Because of some rumours, because of some allegations, some insinuations.

Nobody has provided any proof. For months Government of India has been asking that anybody who has evidence that so and so has taken the money, let him give the evidence and the Government will take action. The Prime Minister said it on the floor of the House, he said it in the public that howsoever high the person may be, howsoever close and friendly he may be, action would be taken if Government was given evidence

The point is why there is reluctance. Shri Indrajit Gupta spoke about clause (ii) in the terms of reference saying that why is it necessary to inquire into and determine the Indian laws, rules and regulations which were violated by the concerned persons etc. Simultaneously, he said that unless an enquiry is made into what are the services that were given and the reasons for making payment, how can it be justifiable. It is obvious that often in references there are both implicit and explicit interpretations.

12.40 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

I am sure, Shri Somnath Chatterjee being a senior advocate, would agree with me. Undoubtedly, in order to determine whether an Indian law or rule has been violated, it would be necessary to find out the reason for which the payment was

made. Therefore, what Shri Indrajit Gupta wanted to know has also been included.

DR. DATTA SAMANT (Bombay South Central): In whose name is the money lying in the Swiss Bank? That is more important.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: It is covered under Point No. 1. In fact, all the questions raised in the letter of 16th June 1987 to Bofors from Government of India, will be covered by these terms of reference. If there is any doubt, I am sure there are many senior advocates in the Government and equally that many in the Opposition; let them sit down and sort out the wording. But the intention of the Government is clear. The Government have no intention to hide anything. The whole point is this. It looks from the statement of Shri K.C. Pant that we do not want a roving inquiry. Fishing in troubled waters is, of course, the habit of many.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): When the water is troubled... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Of course it is troubled. We do not want to deny that it is not troubled. You have created enough mischief. The atmosphere is vitiated. No longer can we say that this August House is one where people maintain certain ethics and traditions. We find that people do not debate seriously. They walk into the well of the House. They snatch the papers away. They threaten us all... (*Interruptions*).

What is important is whether these combined elements, consisting of certain sections of the media, consisting of certain political parties and certain opportunists will be allowed to get away with blackmail. Or can I, at least on this occasion, appeal to their reason and to their good sense? (*Interruptions*)

My friends from this side and that side are not allowing me to be serious Sir.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You be serious. Do not worry about them.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, if I may say, there is still time. I appeal to the Government and to the Opposition. If it is a matter of small differences in wording and interpretation, they may sit together and sort out the differences. I am not saying this either from the point of view of my party or from the point of view of the opposition. I am saying this as a common citizen, as a young man who is interested in the future of this nation... (*Interruptions*). It is necessary that truth comes out. And this cloud of suspicion that is being constantly manufactured and distributed, once for all, be put an end to

The Swedish National Audit Bureau's report, according to Shri Jaipal Reddy, suffers from infirmities. But it is that report which he relies on to cast aspersions I do not understand these double values. On the one hand, they say that the report says, 'you have taken winding up commission'. They do not say as to who this 'you' is. On the other hand, they say that the report is not reliable. What do they want to rely on; only on rumours? Of course, for the first time, I think, this House has seen that what is directed by a journalist, is obeyed by a member of this House. A journalist says: 'Raise this question'; and the question is raised. Undoubtedly... (*Interruptions*).

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: *Blitz* and Karanjia said: 'Raise this document', and that was raised, and they circulate zerox copies. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: I do not know why this guilty conscience is affecting them so much. After all, they are past masters at this game. (*Interruptions*)

If I may submit, a very efficient method for us to have really got a kickback is not

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the method which, they allege, has been adopted. The kickback that is normally taken, is taken through a middleman.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Oh! he knows, Sir.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Yes; not only I. Mr Somnath Chatterjee knows. Fortunately, I have never been in Government. Without being in Government, I as a labour leader am aware, and I am sure Mr. Somnath Chatterjee is also aware...

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: As a labour leader, does he take kickbacks? I do not know.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Fortunately, labour leaders do not have provisions for kickbacks, unless you know it. Then please teach me. You are my senior. (*Interruptions*). If I may be permitted by my learned senior friends on the Opposition to continue, I would like to continue.

The importance is in the intention of the Government in moving this Motion. The intention is not to hide anything, not to suppress anything, but to allow a free and fair inquiry into allegations. If we wanted to white-wash, there was no need to suggest a Joint Committee. There are various means by which a cover-up is possible. How can we cover up through a Joint Committee where the Opposition members are definitely the members? No; the truth is that they are not interested in participating in that Committee, because they do not want to go into the truth.

The Government has, through the statement of the hon Defence Minister Mr K.C. Pant, assured full support, full support of every type for this inquiry. Why is it that Mr. Indrajit Gupta has got doubts? In fact, he has no doubts. It is just that he wants to raise some doubts, to avoid participating in the attempt.

It is unfortunate that we find a genuine attempt on the part of Government to search for the truth being foiled by partisan thinking on the part of very responsible members of Parliament who are in the Opposition.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: His ammunition is exhausted...

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: I have a lot to say about Mr. Jaipal Reddy, if he wants me to say that. But I think in the interests of long-standing relationship, it would not be proper. Maybe on some other occasion...(*Interruptions*)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): You were in the Youth Congress when he was a child.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: So was I. One thing was very clear viz. that Mr. Jaipal Reddy made a request: "Please take money from the Indian business men." He made a plea. He said: 'Please take money from Indian businessmen.'

So, obviously, that is what is the real background and the reason for the Congress Party and the government being put up in front of firing squad. What is the crime we have committed? We did not take money from the vested interests, who are very good friends, of course, of Shri S. Jaipal Reddy. He wants us to take money from them and then he will let us free; and because we have not taken we are bad boys. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: I do not want to speak in my defence also. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Once the guilt has been brought home, what is there to see? The importance of the issue is that government till now taken all possible steps to find out the name or not of the person who had received, according to the Swedish National Bureau, the winding up commission. The statement of

the hon. Minister would establish that we have gone far; we have used every possible method except talking to Bofors in confidence. There is a reason behind it. If Bofors informally talk to us, immediately my friends on this side rise up and say, you are colluding and hiding something. Therefore, it was necessary for us to tell Bofors to give us either in writing or if they want to talk about it orally talk to the Parliament Committee where all the opposition parties would be present. In their own way, they may be represented through their friends. If they want to support each other in election, that is their business. But then they are still represented. Every vote of theirs is a representation. No. They are not interested in either talking to Bofors or helping this nation to find out the truth. They would like this atmosphere to continue and I am sorry that this is the position.

The political game is becoming more and more obvious. Now from Bofors they want to go to submarine. Of course, tomorrow, it will be from submarine to something else and from something else to something else. They will continue this game of vilification, insinuation and allegation and they will do their level best to break political institutions as a whole. I would understand if it was only a criticism of a policy. No. Their attempt is to tarnish the system, tarnish the institution. They are the real destabilizers. *(Interruptions)*.

I would only like to say that Shri Indrajit Gupta spoke yesterday and it sounded very reasonable. He spoke from the point of view that he did not understand why is it that the government is taking such a hard line. I am sure, the hon. Minister would reply and convince Shri Indrajit Gupta, if he has an open mind that we are not taking a hard line.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Leave it to the Minister.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: The issue that arises is that the questions that have been raised by Shri Indrajit Gupta are

to the effect that even for the Bofors issue the reference is not wide enough.

I would request him firstly to consult his good friend who is sitting behind him, Mr. Somnath Chatterjee, who just now agreed with me that there are implicit and explicit interpretations to the terms of reference.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: You see, if it is clear you will know.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: And therefore, it is very clear that all the questions that were raised in the letter dated 16th June 1987 can actually be covered in this reference. If it is a matter of words, I repeat, I would request both the Government and the Opposition to sit down and sort it out.

I would only like to end, by saying that it is not in the interests of either the Opposition or the ruling party or Parliament or even our democratic system that the present situation be allowed to continue. The truth about who took the winding up commission has to come out and all efforts should be made by one and all irrespective of.....*(Interruptions)*

AN HON. MEMBER: Winding up commission or charges?

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Winding up charges.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: When are you going to wind up?

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: I am winding up. This is the winding up statement.

AN HON. MEMBER: How much commission is necessary for your winding up?

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: I am grateful that all my sharp allegations and my sharp statements about the truth, they have taken lightly. But the truth is that it is time that we all rise above technicalities

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and narrow party and partisan interests and think in terms of national prestige. Today, the Bofors gun issue is not a just an *inter se* intra party or inter party fight. It is today an issue where the prestige of the nation is at stake and I appeal to both the sides.....

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO (Parvathipuram): Prestige of the leader.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Not at all of the leader. The prestige of the nation is at stake. And it is necessary that both of them realise the importance of arriving at the truth. The allegations came from a foreign radio who refuses to give evidence and some of the sponsors are definitely both in India and outside India. But the issue is shall we or shall we not do our best in the interests of truth? It is in the national interest that this Motion moved by the hon. Defence Minister for appointment of a Joint Committee be adopted.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: With the amendments.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: With modifications, whatever necessary both the Government and the Opposition may arrive at, but it is my personal opinion that no such modifications are required because the interpretation to be given by any lawyer would be to the extent that it covers all the issues that have been raised by every Member of the Opposition except the constitution of the Committee which I feel, in democratic interests should represent the House. If it does not represent the House then what does it represent?

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO: It should represent the people.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: The House in turn represents the people. It is wrong to say.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: What is your suggestion then?

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: It should represent the House. Proportional representation is all right. Election is a proper method of secret ballot.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI (Guwahati): You are not allowing us to be in the Committee. Would you allow us at least to speak?

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: They say that we are stopping them. But they are strangulating physically. Why? Am I telling you too much of truth?

I would only like to end by saying that that appeal that I have made to both the parties be taken seriously and I am quite certain that if they sit down together, they will be able to sort out it out and if this Committee goes into the matter the truth will come out as our national prestige is at stake.

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Dinesh Goswami.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI (Guwahati): Mr Deputy Speaker Sir, I would like to speak after lunch.

13.01 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for lunch till fourteen of the clock.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after lunch at three minutes past fourteen of the clock.

[MR DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

MOTION RE. APPOINTMENT OF JOINT COMMITTEE TO ENQUIRE INTO THE ISSUES ARISING FROM THE REPORT OF SWEDISH NATIONAL AUDIT BUREAU ON THE BOFORS CONTRACT-Contd.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT): Instead of day after tomorrow, there will be

a holiday tomorrow. And we will meet again day after tomorrow. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER: We have to go to our constituencies to celebrate Id. So 6th and 7th should also be declared as holidays. (*Interruptions*).

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I will convey your feelings to the Minister and she will find it out.

SHRI K.S. RAO (Machilipatnam): If we know which is holiday and which is not holiday, then we can plan our programme accordingly.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Tomorrow is a holiday.

SHRI K.S. RAO: What about day after tomorrow?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: On 6th and 7th we are having session.

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER: What have you decided so that we may plan our programmes accordingly? (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs will find it out. But as it is, tomorrow is a holiday and day after tomorrow we are meeting. (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT: I am fully in tune with the sentiments of the hon. Members here. I appreciate the noise. I do not think they have made such a lot of noise about anything other than a holiday. I will find it out and if it is possible, we will declare those two days as holidays... (*Interruptions*).

SHRI K. S. RAO: 6th is already a holiday according to the calendar.

SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT: That has been shifted to 5th. (*Interruptions*).

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, please order. Shri Dinesh Goswami.

Mr. Goswami, you can continue.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI (Guwahati): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, let me begin my speech by referring to certain comments made by my very distinguished friend Mr. Vithal Gadgil, the star performer of the Congress(I) yesterday who spoke on every subject under the sun except Bofors. Mr. Gadgil complained that there was a time when this Parliament used to settle issues and the Press followed, and now the Press focuses the issues and the Parliament takes them up. I am in entire agreement with him. In fact, the copyright of that statement probably belongs to me because I had made that complaint in the Rajya Sabha while participating in a discussion on President's Address a few years back.

PROF. MADHU DANAVATE: President's Address has appeared in the Press!

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: But the question is who is to be blamed, unfortunately the Parliament is not taken seriously by the Government, when we raise issues after issues here and these issues are not responded by the ruling party. And when issues are thrown into the streets or the Press takes it up and when public pressure is built up, only then the Government responds and that is why today the fourth estate occupies a more important place than the Parliament. I will give an illustration, Mr. Deputy Speaker. In this House and in the other House, for days together there was question of certain corruption charges against a particular Chief Minister of a State. In spite of the fact that demands were made from the entire Opposition in the House, nothing was done to him politically. Ultimately that Chief Minister was removed by a judgement of a court of law. Do you expect this Parliament to be effective after that? At least we raised issues on the basis of facts that are stated on papers. We do not carry cyclostyled copies or photo copies or Press statements as pages of Holy Bible and circulate them in the public here. Mr. Gadgil also referred that there are other

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important issues and this House should take up other important issues. He said why this hullabaloo. Yes, Sir, there are other important issues. But may I remind this House that if the Government had accepted our demand for a Parliamentary probe in the last session, then not only the committee would have been constituted, the committee would have gone far ahead in its investigation and this House would discuss other issues. Mr. Gadgil is not here. Should I remind him that whenever the question of graft has come, the Parliament has always taken it seriously. May I point out that once before when the question of corruption of the Prime Minister Shri Morarji Desai was taken up, the Rajya Sabha was thrown into turmoil on 8th December, 1978, 12th December, 14th December, 15th December, 18th December, 19th December, 20th December, 22nd December and 26th December, 1978 and Shri Gadgil and myself were both the Members of that House and I know what role Shri Gadgil played then.

Shri Kumaramangalam has said that we want truth.—Who does not want truth? I want the truth to come out—whether that truth hurts me or hurts the ruling party, whether that truth hurts the Prime Minister, is immaterial though it is quite likely that the truth may hurt somebody. The truth will not hurt the nation and that is why I want that the truth should come out. But if the truth is to come out, then the Parliamentary Committee must be an effective Committee which is capable of finding out the truth. If the Parliamentary Committee is not given sufficient powers in terms of reference loaded with sufficient jurisdiction and competency, then in the ultimate analysis if the Parliamentary Committee reports that the Committee was not able to find out anything, what will be its effect? Its effect will be that on all future occasions the Parliamentary Committees will be on a shadow of doubt. Whenever there will be demands for Parliamentary Committees, people will say, the members of Parliament will say,

what is use of Parliamentary Committee—a Committee was constituted on Bofors which failed. Do you not realise that if Parliamentary Committee fails to come to some positive conclusions, doubts and suspicions will also fall on the members of the Committee, that these Members of Parliament probably were purchased from some quarters and, therefore, the Report did not disclose anything.

We are not bothered about the composition. Let me make it very clear. Even if 14 or 15 Members of the Opposition are put in the Parliamentary Committee, under the present terms of reference, I will not participate in that Committee because I am firmly of the opinion that this Committee under the present terms of reference is incapable of finding out the truth. I am making it clear.

What is this that the Parliamentary Committee has been asked to go in for? The Parliamentary Committee has been asked to enquire into two issues arising from the Report of the Swedish National Audit Bureau, The two issues are—Who received the payments? That means the Parliamentary Committee's role is to fill in the dots and the dashes in the excise portion of the Swedish Audit Bureau Report and secondly, whether any Indian laws have been violated? The Committee gives the facts and on the basis of facts the executive should not decide and act if certain laws are violated. It is the duty of the Executive to determine to decide whether laws have been violated, and it is for the judiciary to determine whether the laws have been violated.

What is our objection regarding the terms of reference? Shri Indrajit Gupta spoke about submarine. I am not going into that. With these terms of reference as it constitutes to day, can the Parliamentary Committee go into all aspects of Bofors? I will like to deal with some of the aspects which I would like the Parliamentary Committee to go into. First, is—are these the only payments? The terms of refer-

nce says that the Committee will be allowed to go into three payments mentioned in the Swedish Audit Bureau Report. But if you look to the Report itself, there are unfortunately two basic flaws. This is a censored Report based on the information of another agency i.e. Swedish Bank and the investigation has not been pursued to its logical conclusion. There are two things which this Report says—

1. Bofors is the only authority or the concern who can speak what amount has been paid. The Report does not guarantee that these three payments were the only payments. The Swedish Audit Bureau has not taken the guarantee that these are the only three payments. How can this Parliamentary Committee be shut out from finding out if there are other payments?
2. The other question is—Mr. Pant, Defence Minister and Shri Arun Singh, Minister of State for Defence, have stated in this House that scrupulously the procedure for selection of defence ammunition and the defence guns has been followed.

Are we not entitled to go into that question—whether that procedure has been followed? Is this Committee not to go into that aspect—or the procedure of defence purchases and whether the procedure has been adhered to so far as Bofors is concerned? I am not for a roving enquiry. I have not asked for a roving enquiry. I do not want to go into other fields but when we enter Bofors deal in suspicion and doubts, will not this Parliamentary Committee go into this question—whether this procedure which Shri Pant has so elaborately laid down has been followed or not? Sir, Mr. Arun Singh while replying to a positive question put by me here in this House stated that in spite of the fact that there are clear policies, these policies have been violated and the Government have instituted departmental

enquiries against those persons who have violated the policies and in the past persons have been punished. I asked him "Are you prepared to give the names of those persons?" He assured on the floor of this House that the names will be given. But uptill now, in spite of the fact that the assurance was given by the Defence Minister, the assurance has not been followed and the names have not been stated in this House. One of the very important questions is whether you call it a kickback, whether you call it a winding up or winding down commission. Certain money has been paid by Bofors to certain persons. One of the most important things the Parliamentary Committee shall have to go into is whether this payment of money influenced the decisions of the purchasing of the guns. Mr. Kumaramangalam is not here. He spoke about leaving the judgement to defence experts. Nobody questions it. After all, the judgement about the quality must be left to the military experts. Who denies that? It must be left to the military experts. But the fact remains that there have been newspaper reports which have not been contradicted by the Government now. May I quote from the Political Diary of Mr. Inderjit, a noted Columnist and Editor of INFA regarding Bofors? I am sure the ruling party will not say that he is associated with C.I.A. or he belongs to that force which wants to destabilise this country. He has made a mention of this and it has been widely circulated. According to him on October 15 last, Mr. Bortil Brodin, Vice-President of Bofors said—

"The range of our gun is 30 km. However, it has been fired 24 km. in India because the ammunition which would give it a range of 30 km. had not been developed. We have now developed new ammunition and fired it last week and this week. This ammunition has given the gun an extended range of 30 km..."

This ammunition should have been supplied in July. I would like to know from the

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hon. Minister if they have developed this ammunition in October which is to be supplied to this country in July. How the Defence Minister says that the Defence Expert found out that this ammunition had the capability of going to 30 kms. I am not interested in questioning the decision of the Defence Experts. But whenever a gun is tested, there are evaluation reports by the Defence experts. Is this Parliamentary Committee not entitled to know and enquire about the evaluation reports and find out whether the decision to purchase Bofors guns was on the basis of the evaluation reports? We will accept the evaluation reports. But can you shut us from going into the evaluation reports when there is a cloud of dust into the entire Bofors deal? We would like to know whether the best guns have been procured, whether the kickback of Rs. 40 crores has not influenced our decision for not going in for the best but something which is the second best. After all, if there are guns which do not require such ammunitions and which can go to 30 kms. and if there is a gun which requires special ammunition to go to 30 kms., to a lay man it appears to me that we should have gone in for one which does not require such special ammunition and go in for the general ammunition. I would like to know whether the Parliamentary Committee should not go into this question, whether the Commission has been included in the ultimate price. Am I to understand that Bofors paid Rs 40 crores to somebody out of its own pocket? Is Bofors such a generous concern? Will any commercial party give Rs. 40 crores out of its own pocket to somebody and include them in the price and get it from those whom it has sold the guns? Is it not that the Parliamentary Committee should go into it? The Defence Minister and the Prime Minister umpteen number of times have said that "we have made it a condition to Bofors that there will be no middlemen". Are we not to go into that question? What safeguard was provided in the contract itself that the Bofors will not engage the

middlemen and if Bofors engages middlemen, they will suffer such consequences? Was there any condition in the contract agreement? Are we, as a Parliamentary Committee not to go into this? Should we not go into this? Is it not with respect to these aspects? What protection did this Government take to see that the persons who were alleged to be the agents of Bofors were not allowed to go out of this country?

Mr. Win Chadha's name came in the media even when this House was discussing Bofors in the last Session. Why is it that no action was taken. Mr. Win Chadha sells his property and goes abroad, goes to our Embassy, gets paper attested, nothing is done. His name, it appears, is rightly Win Chadha as he wins— every battle against the Government of India. Win Chadha is the Director of a Company. What is the name of that Company?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Anatronics Corporation.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: There are other Directors of that company and I am told that other directors have got properties here including properties in Vasant Vihar. The Director of a company is constructively as well as directly liable for the action of the company. Has the property of those Directors been assessed? Only property of Win Chadha has been seized. I would like to know whether these actions have been taken.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI): Are you quoting from some provisions of Company Law?

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Elementary provisions of law need not be quoted. You can ask Mr. Sen. Elementary knowledge of the company law, I suppose, you know. You yourself are a lawyer.

The National Audit Bureau's report is based on the report received from the Bank of Sweden. If we go to this National

Audit Bureau's report, they have made certain interesting observations and the observation at page 6 is:

"That at the request of the National Audit Bureau the Bank of Sweden decided not to obtain further information because this should be forwarded to the Government."

According to the Report Bank of Sweden left it to the Swedish Government. We have been told that Mr. Olof Palme made a solemn assurance that there will be no middleman. Mr. Palme is one of the most respected figures in international world. But we have to accept the statement of the Prime Minister. There is no other contemporaneous document. There are no minutes of discussion with the Swedish Government. We have to believe our Prime Minister. I am prepared to believe him.

Have you pointed out to the Swedish Government that here was a solemn commitment given by the late Prime Minister that there will be no middlemen, that the solemn commitment has been violated by the concern named, Bofors, and that in the Audit Report it is specifically said that the National Audit Bureau has formed the opinion that since the Bank of Sweden did not consider it should make such an inquiry, the Government of Sweden can only obtain information about which payments? Have you written to the Swedish Government drawing the attention of the Swedish Government that there has been an assurance of Mr. Olof Palme which has been violated and, therefore, the Government should take action? If you have not written, are you prepared to place it on the Table of the House? Or, if you have not written, it is because the replies of the Swedish Government may be that there was no such assurance at the point of time from Mr. Olof Palme.

I would like to know that are only Bofors is in a position to give full account of its own payment, and in this report, it has been specifically stated that the report has said the Bofors can say what amount was

paid. It has not taken the responsibility that that these are the only payments? Do you ask us to inquire? From which document do you conclude? Because this document says very clearly, the report of the National Audit Bureau says very clearly that only Bofors can tell how much amount was paid. It has not taken the responsibility that these are the only three payments and when you ask the Parliamentary Committee to inquire into only these three payments, you have come to the conclusion that these are three payments which have the documentary evidence, on which the Government has come. Where are the other reports of the other organisations, the reports of the Swedish radio, the reports which must have come to the Government? Why is it confined to this document of this Swedish Audit Bureau which is a censored document, based on evidence of other sources? The Report indicates, the very Report very clearly indicates, that if the Parliamentary Committee is to find out the truth, it shall have to go behind the Report, much behind and also must go for a thorough investigation. Now, it is interesting to see at page 1.

"the details, it is seen from the Report that AB Bofors claimed no middlemen were involved during this final phase of the investigation."

The negotiations started in 1971. Order for material trials were held in 1981. Final negotiation was in 1985. And instructions from Mrs. Indira Gandhi as the Prime Minister in 1980 categorically was that there must not be any middleman. Therefore, this Report says that "on the final stage" and the "final stage" is of 1985. Was Bofors told before 1985, from 1980-85, during the middle stages of negotiations that "you cannot engage a middleman because Bofors have not taken any responsibility of not engaging middlemen right up to 1985

Now the other important question is that the report says that stated payments have not been paid to any Indian company or any Indian citizen. It is a very interesting statement. That it has been paid to certain

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Swiss company. Now there are two possibilities that the definition of Swiss company may mean a company composed of Swiss nationals. But also it may mean a company of Indians and others registered in Switzerland. Because in that case also it will be a Swiss company. Is it not that this Parliamentary Committee shall have to enquire whether this payment alleged to have been made to a Swiss company, in fact, was made to an Indian and other owners of a company registered in Sweden? The terms of reference do allow us to go into these aspects. Is it because that the Government, with its aesthetic sense of beauty does not want that the beauty of the 'Lotus' should be exposed? After all, in this House, we made allegations against certain persons. When Mr. Ajitab Bacchan's purchase of land came out in paper that gentleman's brother resigned and went away from the Parliament. Mr. Pant in his own statement yesterday has stated that the Government asked Bofors some questions which have been referred to by Mr. Indrajit Gupta in his speech yesterday. The precise amount which has been paid; the recipients of the same amount; services rendered; the copies of contract agreement and other facts does not find place in the terms of reference. Does this term of reference not permit us to enquire into those facts which Mr. Defence Minister has asked from Bofors? And in my respectful submission it does not. That is why, we object.

The second aspect for which, Mr. Deputy-Speaker, we object is that the procedure, the powers and the jurisdiction of the Committee has not been defined. Now let us remember that the authority and the jurisdiction of the Committee of this House flows from the House and House must confer such authority on the Committee, and define its powers and jurisdiction. Mr. Pant has said, "well, it will have powers and jurisdiction of other Committees." May I remind him and point

out to his speech on page 3 where he has said:

"In conclusion, I would like to point out that this Joint Parliamentary Committee would perhaps be the first investigative Committee of this kind in our Parliamentary history."

That is the first investigative Committee. You constitute the first investigative Committee of this kind in the parliamentary history but do lay down its powers and privileges. Wherefrom the committee will acquire necessary powers? There is no procedure the Motion itself must lay down the jurisdiction and powers so that this may be the precedent for future Committees.

We have no committees in the past with such investigative powers where the jurisdiction and the power and the authority of the Committee has been laid down. We have asked that this Committee should be given the power of assistance of the Attorney General. Why? The reason is simple. The reason is that Bofors Company has taken a position of confidentiality of business transaction and we would like to know the legal position. Can the seller of a commodity take confidentiality of commercial transaction as a ground as against the purchaser? I cannot give an opinion. Mr. Jagan Nath Kaushal cannot give an opinion because opinions may vary. The opinion must come from a person who is recognised under the Constitution as the authority who is competent to give opinion and he is the Attorney General of India.

There are other issues. For example, this Committee may have to inquire whether the Bank of Sweden is duty-bound to disclose certain information if there is a violation of law and if there is a violation of an agreement between Sweden and India because an international agreement under the international law has also the force of law. Therefore, if we have an international agreement and according to Government there is a solemn agreement between Mr. Olof Palme and Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, to which

reference has been made an umpteen number of times, then the agreement has got the force of law and if it has got the force of law, the question arises whether for the violation of that law can we force the Bank of Sweden to provide us with information. Who will give us the opinion? Dinesh Goswami cannot give the opinion, nor can Mr. K.C. Pant give the opinion. The opinion can only be given by the Attorney General of India. If we ask for the Attorney General's opinion, the Attorney General will say that unless the Government requests or the House authorises he cannot give any opinion and therefore this must be specifically laid down. Do you think that a Committee of this...

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K.C. PANT): You want Attorney General's opinion on Swedish law. Is it so?

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Indian and Swedish law both and may be on the Swiss Banking law also. That may also be necessary. All these things will be necessary.

The other point is that can this Committee function without the help of the investigative machineries under the command of the Government and the Economics Department and without the Enforcement Directorate? Certain officials went to Switzerland to find out where the money is lying. Are we not entitled to have their assistance? Can you think that this Committee will be able to function properly without the assistance of all these agencies? If you want that this Committee should ultimately provide an eye-wash to the whole thing and an escape route, we are not going to be a party to it. It is not that we do not want to be in this Committee. We want to be in this Committee if this Committee is given sufficient powers so far as the terms of reference are concerned and clothed with proper procedure and jurisdiction.

Lastly I come to the question of composition. I am not much bothered about the composition; I am not really

much bothered. But so far as the composition is concerned, may I point out that in the Parliament there are different kinds of Committees—Special Committees and Ad-hoc Committees. This is a Special Committee and in the past whenever special committees have been constituted, the names have been mentioned in the Motion itself. In 1951 the Committee to inquire the Mudgal Affairs was constituted with the names of the members mentioned. There was another special committee which was constituted to discuss about the conduct of members in the Joint Session. There also the names of the members were mentioned and if I am not wrong, subject to correction, Mr. Hiren Mukherjee was probably the Chairman. In all the Joint Select Committees the names of the Members are mentioned. Why this process of election? The reason is simple. Because if you mention the names in the Motion, then the consent of those members is necessary. Without giving a certificate that the member has consented to be a member of this Committee, you cannot file the Motion. Knowing fully well that the Opposition would not like to be a member of this Committee without certain things being settled, and the Motion cannot you have taken shelter under election and proportional representation. You say that the proportional representation will be according to the strength of the party. Very correct. But may I point that under proportional representation is that the representation depends on the number of the membership of the Committee also. If the number is more the representation of the minority groups is more.

May I point out to Smt. Sheila Dikshit Ji that even in this House so far as the financial committees are concerned though independently Public Accounts Committee, Public Undertakings Committee and Estimates Committee go for elections all the seats are pooled together. All the strength is pooled together and then election takes place with the result that in this House though a party with a strength of 30 cannot go into these Committees if each Committee is considered indepen-

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dently a party with the strength of 7 because of pooling can go into anyone of these committees. I am not basically concerned with this question but the question is that this Committee is a Committee set-up for the first time in this country to remove a cloud of doubt and also to find out certain facts. Therefore, the Committee must not only act properly but it must also appear that the Committee has been properly constituted. Justice must not only be done but it must appear that justice has been done. Therefore, we have said though we are not taking up a very definite position that it should not be merely on the basis of proportional representation but as has always been done in the case of Select Committees it should be based on understanding.

Mr. P.R. Kumaramangalam said that the Opposition has become very tough. But I think certain facts should be stated before you. When the entire question was discussed in the Speaker's Chamber we made an offer to MR. H.K.L. Bhagat, the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs that we have given a letter to the Prime Minister giving our suggestions. We have given certain amendments which we consider necessary. But we know that in case a mutuality of agreement is to be achieved and arrived at neither can we stick to our position nor can Government stick to its position. If the Government sticks to its position and say that whatever they have done is correct and whatever we have done is politically motivated and wrong then there cannot be a meeting point. We also know if we stick to our own position and say that we are not prepared to budge an inch then we will not be able to arrive at any agreement. In the end we said before this Motion is discussed let us discuss all the terms of reference on the question of jurisdiction and on the question of composition and try to find out a meeting point. Mr. Bhagat gave an impression that he had almost consented but then he went out of the room. I do not know with whom he discussed but came back and said that

they would like this Motion to be passed as it is. I am making this statement in the presence of Mr. H.K.L. Bhagat. Let him deny if it is not so. Therefore, do not say Mr. Kumaramangalam that the Opposition has taken this tough position. This Committee has come into being not because of a very gracious approach of the Government of India but the Government went into the inquiry after it was forced by circumstances.

Sir, we are interested in participating in this Committee. We are interested in finding the truth. My party is not interested to go in for the scalp of the Prime Minister. We are not going to sit on the other side of the House. I will be here on this side of the House even if there is change in Government. I am not interested in de-stabilising this Government. We are interested in truth. But before we walk into a Committee we must be satisfied that this Committee will have sufficient power and authority to find out the truth. In my respectful submission the Opposition all along was considerate. We made this offer to discuss but our offer was turned down whereas it is complained that Opposition is trying to walk out of this Committee.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, if the Government wants to find out the truth then the Opposition is prepared to sit with the Government provided the Government tells us what is the Government's reaction to the proposals that we had given before. Let them tell that they are prepared to accept this much and not prepared to accept the other points. We will discuss and give our reaction. But the Government has not uptill now told us what is the reaction to the document which we submitted to the Prime Minister on the suggestion of the Prime Minister when we met him. On the 23rd, it is Prime Minister who suggested that: You give your suggestions. We have given the suggestions.. (*Interruptions*)... I have stated in front of Shri H.K.L. Bhagat. What I am saying... (*Interruptions*).

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): I must thank him. He has mentioned me three times. He knows it already that we are meeting today and he has been informed. Today, at 4 O'clock we are meeting and we have been talking to them individually... (*Interruptions*)... Please wait now... (*Interruptions*)... I made it clear. Firstly, I had been talking individually. Then, Shielaji had been talking to them individually today. We are meeting this evening and this has been decided already; not now as Mr. Dinesh Goswami is saying it. It has been decided before that... (*Interruptions*).

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: I don't know. I have not been informed uptill now... (*Interruptions*)... I do not mind. But the fact remain that, for the first time, the offer of the Government to have a discussion with the Opposition has come now. Our offer preceded that offer.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes, yes.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: And you accuse us!

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT: I must set the records straight that I have talked to a number of them individually, given our reactions... (*Interruptions*)... Please wait... (*Interruptions*)... Please wait... (*interruptions*)... They are denying that. I gave our reaction. Our Party reaction is given by me. Then we have given our reaction in our motion also. Also individually, I gave it. Then Sheilaji has been talking to them again today.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Sir, let him not cover up the lapse of having a collective consultation. You see, we told him that this is our document. You give your response to that...

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT: We will discuss. We are not for any shifting of responsi-

bility. We are not only, for the sake of an agrument, shifting of responsibility. Whatever responsibilities we have, we take.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Therefore, I conclude by saying that with these terms of reference of the Committee it will not be able to get into the truth unless it is amended. If the Government can convince us after discussions, we may change our views on some of our amendments. But some of these points must be inquired into by the Parliamentary Committee. The motion itself must spell out the powers, jurisdiction and authority of the Parliamentary Committee, including the organs of which this Committee will be able to take help. There must be consensus on the composition of this Committee. If we are opposed to this motion, it is because we feel that this motion, as it is brought, will never be able to find out the truth. The motion, as it has been brought, is an eyewash and not to find out the truth.

SHRI K.C. PANT: Would you give me just two minutes because I find that Prof. Dandavate says that this is a lapse and many hon'ble Members have reacted strongly to Government not having held a detailed discussion with them?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I don't mind... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT: I talked...

(*Interruptions*)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I am talking of collective consultation.

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT: No lapse.

SHRI K.C. PANT: I would be the last person to come in the way of any point of understanding. I promote understanding. But I think that all of us should act with some consistency. Recently, there was a Joint Select Committee set up by the Kerala Assembly. It concerned the Education Minister of Kerala who happens to belong to Janata Party. When that

[Shri K.C. Pant]

Committee was set up, the Opposition there was taken by surprise. They were not even consulted once. They asked the chairmanship. They were not given chairmanship. They asked for the majority. They were not given majority, I can understand that. But they were not even consulted. Most of the parties sitting here are parties in the Kerala Assembly, Kerala Government. So, what I am trying to say is that there has to be some consistency. There should not be double standards... *(Interruptions)*...I am for an agreement but you should not forget it

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Do they have any open mind?

SHRI K.C. PANT: Yes, certainly.

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would submit that drawing of parallel between the procedures of the Parliament and the procedures of the State Legislatures has never been done in this House. We are an independent institution; we even do not refer to what happens in the Rajya Sabha, not to talk of what happens in the State Assemblies. Therefore, you should always go by the conventions.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: That means he is justifying double standards... *(Interruptions)*.

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN (Badagara): In that case, the concerned Minister against whom allegations were made volunteered in the Assembly and requested the Speaker to set up a Committee. What is it that he is talking about?

SHRI K.C. PANT: Was the opposition

consulted even once?

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: No interruptions please. Shri Bholanath Sen.

SHRI BHOLANATH SEN (Calcutta South): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am really surprised to see the substitute motions submitted by the various parties, the best of which is that of the CPI(M) Party. Here, they have said that the report should be furnished on the first day of the Budget Session, 1988. Everybody has said, first week, second week or the last week of the winter session, but the CPI(M) Party have said first day of the Budget Session, so that this kind of propaganda against the Government can continue till the next Budget Session. They want to keep the whole thing uncertain and go on blaming everybody under the Sun and the Government.

The other thing I find is the temptation to get a share of the kickbacks, if I may use that expression. Everyone except Shri Unnikrishnan and Shri Dinesh Goswami has said: "Let us go abroad to any country we like at the cost of the Government". That is what they are saying...*(Interruptions)*.

They want to go abroad; everyone of them wants to go abroad. They also want that the number should go up, it is not any limited number, thirty or forty should go abroad for nice things. They want to go abroad for this purpose to any country. Is this the correct attitude to find out the truth? No. What will they do by going abroad? What the Government of India could not get, the particulars for which letters have been sent, will they be able to get it? What the Government of Sweden could not get, will they be able to get it? They say that law is being made here, but they forget about the law. I ask one question. Being a citizen of India, being Members of Parliament, should we forget that under Article 20 of the Constitution, no person accused of any offence would

be compelled to be a witness against himself? Is it not the law of this country? What will they do abroad? They say, they will find out the truth. Can they find out anything from the Swiss Bank? They cannot.

Nobody could find from the Swiss Bank; Swedish Bank could not find, out, even the Government of Sweden could not find out. How can they find out? Let them say, that they have this method by which they can find out the secrets of Swiss bank account. Let them say one word. Uptill now, except suspicion and throwing mud, what had they done. I challenge them, they cannot suggest any method by which they can find out the truth from the Bofors. I am saying what the law is.

SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA (Tamluk):
Terminate the contract.

SHRI BHOLANATH SEN: Yes, now it comes. The person who says, "All the workers of the world unite", is now asking to terminate the contract. And if Pakistan takes away the contract tomorrow, he will say, "These are the best guns". These are not like 'Pan and Bidis' which can be purchased from somewhere-else. It takes years. And you are talking as if it is an open market, a free market and you can go and buy these things. It is not like this. *(Interruptions)*

Yes, you can say that A commission was made in the House in West Bengal by your Party Chief. Crores of rupees were stolen from the CMDA fund, but the commission's results never came out. So, at least considering the party you belong, you should not talk like this. The Government of India money was involved in it. Still, there was no Commission, no Inquiry, no Parliamentary Committee. So, at least you don't talk. Let not the CPI (M) and their cohorts talk about these things. *(Interruptions)* CPI (M) talk too much because they have to hide everything under the carpet and here they pose altogether differently, don't we know. *(Interruptions)*

It is all in the paper.

AN HON. MEMBER: Which paper?

SHRI BHOLANATH SEN: The same paper that you and I read.

Now, Sir, I have a question to ask. *(Interruptions)*

I know CPI (M) and their cohorts. They have no principle. They talk about democracy here only to get power. They do not talk of democracy in West Bengal. *(Interruptions)*

I have a question to ask. Now, Mr. Reddy from Hyderabad... *(Interruptions)*

I know Mr. Jaipal Reddy. My memory is not that bad. Now, he said that Win Chadha has left the country and he had the transactions with Bofors. From where he get the information?

AN HON. MEMBER: From his friend.

SHRI BHOLANATH SEN: Who is that friend? Is he a CIA agent: is his friend a friend of Bofors. Who is that friend who has given this information. *(Interruptions)*

That is the tragedy, that is the culture of CPI (M) They are in the habit of suppressing things from the people. *(Interruptions)*

Don't talk about (CPI (M)). I know them too much. And the unfortunate part is that, they do not understand. I am talking against them and they are enjoying it. Sir, I was saying that Mr. Jaipal Reddy said, "Win Chadha has left". Now, he said that Win Chadha has left, it means that he has already got the information. But he is not a CIA man, as I know. He got the information from somewhere else. He said in the House that he had two telephone talks. If Win Chadha could find out his telephone number and could talk to him, how is it that Mr. Reddy is showing complete ignorance about the whereabouts of Win Chadha? Will he please come out with truth? How did he know this information? Who gave him the name? Who have him

[Shri Bholanath Sen]

the facts based on which he made the statement in press in Hyderabad?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: He does not belong to CPI (M).

SHRI BHOLANATH SEN: I only say that uptill now, no member of Parliament knows as to who this friend is who gave all information about Win Chadha. When he spoke to him why did he not contact the police? Why did he not contact the Defence Minister? Why did he not contact the Prime Minister? Why did he say that Win Chadha had left the country, when he did not leave the country? Why did he say in the press that Win Chadha had left the country when he did not leave the country then and left the country only after two days? Was he trying to help him? Or was his friend trying to help him? I want to know this. The whole Parliament wants to know from Mr. Reddy as to who this friend was. Why did he say that he had already left the country, when in fact he did not leave the country. No blame on you? Are you absolutely innocent? (*interruptions*)

14.56 hrs.

[SHRI SHARAD DIGHE *in the Chair*]

SHRI BHOLANATH SEN: Mr. Jaipal Reddy in his statement said, "... The CIA can catch hold of Mr. Win Chadha. I am afraid Sir, the CIA knows the names of the people who received the payment." How is Mr. Reddy so convinced about this? How could he know that the CIA knows the names. This is the attitude of the Opposition. Again, let us see what Shri Shahabuddin said. He went on saying 'Hinduja, Hinduja, Hinduja'. Where did he get the name? Where did the information come from? It seems, they have got better connections!

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will you please yield for a minute? When hon. Shri Shahabuddin asked Shri Arun Singh that since everyone was talking about Hindu-

jas, whether he would confirm it, Shri Arun Singh said, "I neither confirm it nor deny it." That was the reply.

SHRI BHOLANATH SEN: Nevertheless, he raised the point. Their attitude is, if there is anything against the Government, to take up that issue. That press says that the Prime Minister has not been able to give a clean Government and these people ask for a midterm election! That is their whole objective.... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please wind up now.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: He should be given more time. He is giving us more entertainment..... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: I am a point of order Sir. Yesterday, both sides agreed that they would allow the other side to speak in peace. But they are continuing the heckling. It is obvious that they do not want the debate to go on. I request the Chairman to once again remind them.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is no point of order.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: We are only pleading for more time for Shri Bholanath Sen. It is very entertaining.

15.00 hrs.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY: Mr. Chairman, we found in the Press that the Prime Minister is searching for an efficient Speaker. Is that the example?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please address the Chair and go on.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BHOLANATH SEN: Sir, the CPI (M) friends are known to me. It does not affect me at all. It is based on their culture. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is enough now. Please go on.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BHOLANATH SEN: Now the other objection is this. What is being said even today and even Mr. Goswami has also said that, did the Prime minister really hold a talk with Olof Palme?

(Interruptions)

SHRI BHOLANATH SEN: These types of questions are being raised here. It has been said time and again not only by the Prime Minister but by others also in India that it has been known to them and still they have to say that. I am not surprised. You see their object and that is, "no, no, this thing will not do"

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: No interruptions, please.

SHRI BHOLANATH SEN: Again CPI (M) boys are interrupting. In our country—in Bengal. There is one thing called:

"Chorer Mayer Borho Gola"

It means the mother of the thief shouts most. He is like that.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BHOLANATH SEN: The Commission is started and stopped....

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Will you wind up now?
(Interruptions)

SHRI BHOLANATH SEN: I am not allowed to speak. (Interruptions)

It is their own word. I will finish it as quickly as possible. One thing I would like to say is that this Swedish Embassy's note has been circulated to the Opposition and in that it has been stated that they have not disclosed the names of the recipients of the amounts mentioned there. It is only the Bofors who can give the names of the individuals their friends and their cohorts who do not disclose their names.
(Interruptions)

Now, even Mrs. Mukherjee's party also wants to go abroad.... (Interruptions)

Now let us see what they said.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY..... *Bhalo Kore Balun...* (Interruptions)

SHRI BHOLANATH SEN: *Aapna Ke Dekhe aamar dukkoo hoi, aapnar chehele-ke pettai, aapni e'obosthai Korben Ki.....*

He makes the statement in the Press against the CPM and here he supports you but we cannot.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please address the Chair and concentrate on the subject.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA: That is the culture you have developed, Mr. Sen.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BHOLANATH SEN: Sir, it has been stated here that "in view of the fact that a preliminary investigation connected with the company, namely, Bofors, in question is in progress at present and since it does not rest with the Government to examine the National Audit Bureau, from a penal point of view, the Report will be submitted to the Prosecutor General" Therefore, a criminal case is pending or is about to take place. And also a criminal investigation is about to take place regarding infringement of the Swedish Export Law regarding export to certain countries. Now, Sweden is the country where Bofors is there. In Sweden, the Swedish Government cannot do it. It is an organization which is in Sweden. They cannot find out; they are sending their report to the Prosecutor-General for prosecution, for violation of Swedish law.

So far as the Swedish law is concerned, they are not certain. It has not yet been proved. What will the Committee do by going there?

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: Wind up this Committee; why do you suggest this Committee then?

SHRI BHOLANATH SEN: I will explain. If you do not understand English, I will speak to you in Bengali separately, outside the House.

[Shri Bholanath, Sen]

The point is that the other object is to create a new tenor, a new type of a Committee where they will compel the Ministers, ex-Ministers and everybody to cross examination or to ask questions *(Interruptions)*

There is a law which is respected, regarding oath of secrecy. They do not care. They have no faith; they have faith only in false propaganda. Therefore, Ministers must be compelled to break their oath at their behest. Which law in this country permits that? It does not permit that. They want that.

In one paper, I found that they wanted to put up a panel and cross-examine him, i.e. the Prime Minister—like the Shah Commission did—and compel him to commit the breach of oath

They want to rule this country by these methods. Can they do it? They are trying to cross-examine Prime Minister, cross-examine Ministers, cross-examine ex-Ministers—about what? About their knowledge regarding the facts which they have gathered during... *(Interruptions)* their tenure as Ministers. Of course, during their tenure. Otherwise, they cannot know.

There are rules for the working of the Committee.

Rule 270 says...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO (Vijayawada): On a point of order, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your point of order?

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: In spite of your clear direction to address the Chair, he is consistently speaking directly to the Opposition. *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no point of order. Mr. Sen, please address the Chair. *(Interruptions)*

PROF MADHU DANDAVATE: Why is he provoking ladies also to fight him?

SHRI BHOLANATH SEN: Mr. Unnikrishnan had.... *(Interruptions)* spoken about the rule. Some other members have also mentioned about these rules Let them see what is the Rule 270. It says:

“A Committee shall have power to send for persons, papers and records

Provided that if any question arises whether the evidence of a person or the production of a document is relevant for the purposes of the Committee, the question shall be referred to the Speaker whose decision shall be final:

Provided further that Government may decline to produce a document on the ground that its disclosure would be prejudicial to the safety or interest of the State.” They do not want this. Our country has got Pakistan on the one side, and China on the other.

We hear from the leftist friends about the American interference. Now, they want, not all, some of them, disclosure from 1980, not from 1977.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: O. K. from 1977.

SHRI BHOLANATH SEN: You don't care whether the country goes to dogs because you are not going to be the Prime Minister. People are not going to vote for you to come to Power from the Government of this country. They had said many things which create more or less doubts I can throw doubt on each word. It is very easy. *(Interruptions)* But have they given any concrete proposal as to how the truth can be achieved. Nothing. Uptill now, I challenge Uptill now, they have not given any reasonable suggestion that by this method we can get at the truth. No. *(Interruptions)* Well you take share while travelling abroad going to Switzerland and Paris. Don't worry? *(Interruptions)* In the last ses-

sion, how many days did we spend talking about these things? During this session, how many days have we spent talking about these things? What is the net result? The net result is that no suggestion has come saying that this is the way you can get at the truth. Nothing. Our Minister has already said about that. *(Interruptions)* I don't mind talking to you in a very light mood outside the House, not here. *(Interruptions)* Why should they be afraid to hear the truth? They are afraid to hear the truth because they do not like the truth. If the truth comes out, then all propaganda is bad, is untrue. That is why they said, constitute a Parliamentary Committee; then somebody said, I will not join the Parliamentary Committee; it is useless. *(Interruptions)* I had a sweet tooth for CPM. They broke it. My companion was murdered by CPM. Don't worry? Don't defend it? *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please address the Chair. Please conclude. No running commentry.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BHOLANATH SEN: It had been said yesterday and it has come in today's paper that certain questions based on the Audit Report were sent. Whatever has come to the notice of our Government has been placed before them. Without material, there is no use in going to the meetings of the committee. We go there just not to see each other's face. You have to have some material. Certain questions have been asked, whether the precise amounts have been paid — or deemed to be paid — by Bofors by way of commissions, secret payments etc. in connection with the Indian contracts, the recipients of such amounts, etc., their names. Because they will not give, prices rendered by such persons:..... *(Interruptions)*

Neither Mr. Jaipal Reddy nor Mr. Shaha-buddin will give the addresses or the information. Even the copies of the contract, etc. were asked for. *(Interruptions)*

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Why do

you attack the Janata? We are not troubling you in West Bengal.

SHRI BHOLANATH SEN: You are troubling me. You have troubled us for three years. That was the end..... *(Interruptions)* for a long time. But now because he is ex-Minister he cannot answer.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Sir, resign with retrospective effect from it.

SHRI BHOLANATH SEN: And the CPM wants him to be the Chairman and wants to placate him, no questions to be answered from him, no answer is to be taken from him. He is an ex-Minister. Why can he not say? *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do not answer all those questions. Please continue.

SHRI BHOLANATH SEN: I am very happy that you have noticed at least that their questions and their utterances are not worth replying.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You continue, you ignore them.

SHRI BHOLANATH SEN: So, these questions have been asked. Now, the question is, at the direct request of the National Audit Bureau Bank of Sweden has considered making inquiries at the Swiss Bank in question. But after careful consideration it has decided that in view of the current central Bank practice it should not do so. How can they do it?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please wind up within two minutes.

SHRI BHOLANATH SEN: I have taken ten minutes. Five minutes they have taken.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have asked for ten minutes and I have given you ten minutes. Please wind up now. *(Interruptions)*

AN HON. MEMBER: Give him winding up charges.

SHRI BHOLANATH SEN: May I read a parts of the national Audit Bureau Report? *(Interruptions)*

"The National Audit Bureau has formed the opinion that since the Bank of Sweden did not consider it should make such an enquiry, an application to the Swiss Banks to obtain information about which payment(s) were possibly forwarded should in that case be made through the Government.

The observations of the National Audit Bureau are in summary as follows:.."

Then the points are set out. *(Interruptions)*

I am not surprised that since the last so many days they have been shouting whenever these things have been talked about because they have no answer to the problem. They cannot suggest. "How can we get it" they say. Excepting Mr. Unnikrishnan and Mr. Goswami they want to go abroad and spend some time abroad at the cost of the Government.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: I am also interested.

SHRI BHOLANATH SEN: You have not said that.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: If the others go, I will also like to go.

SHRI BHOLANATH SEN: Now the truth has come out. Temptation and temptation! Temptation for spending the money of the Government of India abroad. *(Interruptions)* At last, I will respect what Mr. Chatterjee said: *(Interruptions)* Think of the lean, weak and poor men, do not waste time of Parliament. Do not waste the time of the country and money of the Government. Do not try to topple the Government or do something which a neighbour or an

enemy of the country may wish to see!" *(Interruptions)*

Do not destabilise our country.

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN (Badagara): Mr. Chairman, Sir, we have heard many distinguished Members from the other side. Particularly we just heard an astounding performance from my dear friend Shri Bholanath Sen, for whom I have great esteem and affection. I could not find out what he wanted to say.

SHRI BHOLANATH SEN: Am I not talking in English? You have no solution to the problem. That is what I wanted to say. When I was speaking, you are murmuring.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRIISHNAN: The eminent lawyer that he was, I thought he will slice through our arguments, I thought he will make a powerful case, but I find from the strategy and speeches of Shri Bholanath Sen, Shri V. N. Gadgil, who preceded him and my young friend Shri Rangarajan Kumaramangalam, again for whom I have great affection, as well as the distinguished Defence Minister that they have no case at all! After all when he is left with a brief of that kind, Sri Bhola dada had to perform the way he did! He had to fall back upon the usual case law on CPM, and on his friends including Mr. Choubey, cohorts, what have you. But Sir, the problem is quite different. As my friend Shri Dinesh Goswami a little while ago mentioned, Parliaments and vibrant democracies are not merely forums or legislative devices through which the sovereignty of the people are asserted and activated. It is the mirror of hopes and aspirations of the people. That is why Parliament gets activated, becomes alert in response to what goes on and when there is churning outside, it has to be reflected inside the House.

Mr. Gadgil is not here. He quoted what Mr. Chandrasekar talking about drinking water. Look, who is quoting whom. He talked even about democracy. He talked about emergency. I felt he should not have. I am sorry he is not here, because here was

a man who said whatever the Congress has earned in its history of 90 years was destroyed by a son in 19 months of emergency. That is what my friend Mr. Gadgil has said. It does not lie in his mouth today to talk of emergency and that is why he has quoted Chandrasekar. Why do you have the problem of drinking water? Why are you discussing this when the House is discussing something else.....

AN HON. MEMBER: Where is he?

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRIISHNAN: The whole point from the other side has been to suggest as to why these ought to be or there need to be an enquiry at all. Then, they should not have brought up this motion for a Parliamentary probe at all. The best thing would have been to reaffirm their position of last session - no Parliamentary probe - no probe of any kind. But, Sir, the Opposition has a duty to perform. The Opposition has in a Parliamentary democracy, to continuously project its point of view and appeal to the people outside continuously and attempt to create an impact on them and on the electorate.

During the last four months or so, there has been a kind of upheaval in the mind of the people of this country. It is as though a metamorphosis has taken place, a political metamorphosis. How is it that a Government so enthusiastically put in power and warmly welcomed and applauded thirty months ago, has reached the sorry pass that its very credibility and the credibility of its leader, the Prime Minister has nearly evaporated? It is a question you have to answer this side. It is not a question I have to answer or we have to answer. It is a question you have to answer, which ought to bother you.

To my mind Sir, answers can be found in the approach that the ruling party has adopted, as reflected in the Bofors Debates during the last session the one on 20th April and the one which began yesterday. The Minister of Defence, while speaking yesterday, thought that the sequence of events were very important. I agree with

him. But he cannot be allowed to inject missing gaps in the sequence of events.

On April 16 the Swedish National Radio made a broadcast on the pay offs in relation to 105 MM Howitzer Swedish gun deal with India, and pay offs being passed over to undisclosed beneficiaries in Swiss Bank accounts. When the allegation came first, it was declared from the house-tops as Bhola Babu tried to do again today, by the spokesmen of the Government of India that it was 'false, baseless and mischievous.' Don't you remember? It was broadcast over the Government controlled media. All India Radio, day after day and in the television as 'false, baseless and mischievous.' These were the words used. The words are important. Was it false? Was it baseless? Mischievous it may have been in the sense that it shook the throne. But was it baseless? And there was a torrent of statements made in this House and outside and pronouncements from the Prime Minister himself, from the Defence Minister, the then Minister of State for Defence, and various spokesmen of the ruling party, most of which, I am sorry to say, were nothing but a tissue of lies. And it has been proved already. The Working Committee of the ruling party itself gave an international dimension to this simple charge of bribery in high places or kickbacks in the decision making process. They talked of Destabilisation. They hardly understand what is it. The people outside felt that there was something stinking or rotten in the State of Denmark, Destabilisation or no Destabilisation. And the meaningless barrage continued. It is like what Hitler had said in his *Mein Kampf*:

"You cannot believe how much you have to deceive a nation in order to govern it."

Therefore, the barrage continued, They talked about destabilisation and various kinds of forces. I am fully aware of these forces. But I am reminded of a joke - I hope, nobody will get offended—about Enver Hoja, who was the ruler of Albania. Once

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there was a theft in *Tirana* near his house or palace. Some party comrades or commissars went to him and reported that there had been a theft and they did not know how it happened near his palace. He said: "You foolish comrades, don't you know what to do? Don't you know who are our enemies? Do you not know the American imperialists and the Soviet revisionists?" And they started the barrage that the theft was engineered by the American imperialists and the Soviet revisionists and the counter-revolutionaries in Albania.

SHRI BHOLANATH SEN: Swedish Radio!

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRIISHNAN: Unfortunately, it was All India Radio and not the Swedish Radio.

SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI: I just like to remind Mr. Unnikrishnan that in 1973 onwards when Jayaprakash started the movement, similar analysis were passed and heard from Mr. Unnikrishnan. It is on record.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRIISHNAN: I have never said anything. I am prepared to defend my political position if you give me an opportunity. But that is a different thing. We are not discussing that. Right now, we are discussing the Bofors.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Because he was in your company at that time.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRIISHNAN: It was explained on behalf of the Defence Minister— this is very important; Mr. Das Munsu also kept my company for a long time but let us not discuss that. The most important point here was that there are and there were no middlemen or agents. Secondly, there were no payments at all or kickbacks; there could have been no kickbacks in relation to this deal. And thirdly, the Swedish Government at the highest

level of former Prime Minister, late lamented revered Olof Palme had given us a solemn assurance to this effect. The Prime Minister said in this House, and I quote:

"We have to take somebody's word as truth and when a Prime Minister of a country assures us after having gone into great depth that there will be no middleman involved, then we have to accept the word."

The then Defence Minister of State who is not here today, went a step ahead and he said that he would not even recognise, even if it were a legal right to become a commission agent, any supplier who has an agent. He would not even see his face. Even though the Constitution of India allows everyone the right to pursue his own profession - I am sure Bholanath Sen would agree with me - but the then Minister of State for Defence would not allow him to pursue his profession here. The Defence Minister Pant Ji said there was a solemn assurance. I quote:

"And there has been a tendency to ignore what the Swedish Government has said. There has been a tendency to slur over the fact that the man of the stature of Olof Palme gave a solemn assurance. Can you slur over the fact?"

He posed this question in the House. But what happened? On all these cojts, has their stand been vindicated as is claimed by the Prime Minister? It has been proved that there have been middlemen or agents or those who received the payments, whatever you may call them. It has been proved that payments have been made, kickbacks have been received and it has also been claimed by Swedish authorities that no assurances were given. On April 17, Carl Johan Aberg, Under Secretary of State in the Department of Trade, Government of Sweden said that what Olof Palme con-

veyed to Mr. Rajiv Gandhi in January 1986 was only an oral response received from Bofors and passed on orally, and no assurances of any kind were given on behalf of the Government of Sweden. But still on April 27, that is, three days after the Ambassador of India in Stockholm was informed by Bofors that payments have been made—the dates are important; i.e. on April 24 Bofors tells the Ambassador in Stockholm that payments had been made— after the statement of Swedish Government spokesman, that there were no assurances the Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi tells a meeting of Army Commanders. This is from Press Information Bureau's release. I quote:

"Sweden had confirmed that there were no middlemen and no money was paid in the Swiss Bank."

This time after he made a statement, it was left to one Marite Ulquist, Private Secretary to the Prime Minister of Sweden who deny it again that there ever was any such solemn assurance. Further, it was claimed by the Defence Minister in his statement on 20th April here in this House while reaffirming his case, that the Defence Secretary had stated that the Government of India would disqualify any firm in case it came to the notice of the Government of India that an agent has been appointed by the foreign firm. Did the Defence Secretary act on the information or was he allowed to pursue this case by the Defence Minister or the Prime Minister? Did he even bat an eyelid? Did he go through this again? Disqualify means what? Blacklisting? Was that contract allowed to operate in spite of violation of its terms. If they were disqualified, what is the legal position? I would like to know, even the June 16th letter to which the Defence Minister drew the attention of the House yesterday, does not invoke this provision or restate it about which much was claimed on 24th April. The Prime Minister like a village school master who even though vanquished could argue still/continues with his statements of innocence

even after the National Audit Bureau Report. After all these days he tells India Today that the Report has vindicated his stand. It can only be compared with the great performance of Shri Bholanath Sen in the House today. And he said...

SHRI BHOLANATH SEN: You are not saying about the CPM.

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN: He said there were no middlemen when they signed the contract. Who is Shri Win Chadha, Mr. Bholanath Sen?

SHRI BHOLANATH SEN : You know, your friends know.

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN : Just for a moment, who is this Shri Win Chadha who is absconding? I think you have been following the news in the newspapers. I am sure you must have read that. *(Interruptions)*

He is the agent of Bofors. In an affidavit filed in the Delhi High Court he has claimed that there is an existing contract. *(Interruptions)*

There is a solemn affidavit filed on his behalf, that there is an existing contract and a continuing contract till 1990. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI BHOLANATH SEN: That affidavit has not been signed by him.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: What about the Audit Bureau Report? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI BHOLANATH SEN: That is why the question has been asked... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRIISHNAN: Let us leave Shri Win Chadha for a while because it seems to be a red rag to Shri Bholanath Sen. *(Interruptions)*

*MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Leave it to the Minister to reply.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRIISHNAN: He wants

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evidence. I will give him some evidence. What about the sub system agents of Bofors like FERRANTI represented by Avictronics of one Mr. B.M. Gupta, SAAB represented by concorde International of one Mr. Vinod Khanna and MARCONIS (UK) represented by EUREKA Sales Corporation of Chaudharies (*Interruptions*)

It is not only in this deal that they have been involved but in various other deals since 1980-81, Mr. Defence Minister, like WEST LAND HELICOPTERS, MIRAGE 2000, Marcon System for JAGUARS Seaking MK42B and Italian Torpedoes. I do not know whether anybody will take objection to the word Italian. (*Interruptions*)

Italian Torpedoes which I am told black-listed few years ago were bought from a blacklisted firm, I challenge the Defence Minister to disprove it. Since 1980 or 1981 and more specifically in 1985-86 the Defence Ministry and the purchasing organisation of the forces have been dealing with these agents and even discussing their commission. That is the most important thing.

You asked for evidence. Normally, I would not like to give. I did not want to argue but since he has been shouting for the last half-an-hour for evidence, this is a letter * from the Director General of Signals on project Suraj, addressed by the Project Incharge to EUREKA Sales Corporation, Mr. Bholanath Sen, on 16th May '86 indicating, I am not reading it out. I will not read out. Another† one from Mr. P.C. Gulati, Director,... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: I am on a point of order.

Shri Unnikrishnan is reading out from some papers. I want to know whether he can read out unless he places it on the Table of the house duly authenticated....⁶

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no, he is referring to notes. (*Interruptions*)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: If he is reading, this may be laid on the Table of the House. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN: Sir, he asked for the evidence. I will read out that.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Sir, I have a point of order. You kindly let me formulate my point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have followed your point of order He is merely referring to the notes which he has prepared.

SHRI S JAIPAL REDDY: Mr. Chairman, please let me formulate my point of order. I find that the hon. Member, Shri K.P. Unnikrishnan is quoting from certain documents and letters. Now, the rules of the House are known to the hon. Members that nobody can quote from documents or letters unless they are placed on the Table of the House. So, I would request you that Shri Unnikrishnan be asked to lay it on the Table of the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He is referring to the papers that he has.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRIISHNAN: Sir, I shall lay on the Table of the House these secret documents. I can prove any number, not only this. I was provoked by my friend Mr. Bholanath Sen. I did not want to.... But he says: what is the proof? That is why I had challenged the Defence Minister. It is that right from 1981, you have been dealing directly with the agents. That is my point to day. You had even discussion, on their commissions and you have been meeting them not only in this but in all the deals. That is my point. That is what I wanted to prove.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: You lay it on the Table of the House.

* Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 4915/87

† Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 4914/87

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN: This is again on offshore Defence Advisory Group—a system of middle elevated platform, then from British Aerospace - and in the Aerospace, a letter * addressed to Mr. Rakesh Shni, Minister of Defence. On page 3 of that letter, there is a very interesting paragraph—

“Prices include commission 2% payable in India directly to our representatives, Eureka Sales Corporation, 48/1, Malcha Marg, New Delhi.”

This is what you have accepted by talex and that is dated 24th February 1986, when our distinguished Prime Minister himself was holding, if i am not mistaken, the defence charge and if you will permit, I will give you dozens of cases. I can pass them on to you if you want. That is why you have repeated and you are following 'Hitler's dictum', carry on a barrage of propaganda that no middlemen, no middlemen in this. Middlemen have been there in this deal as well as outside. Kichbacks have been received an commissions have been paid. That is my charge. My distinguished friend for whom I have the greatest respect and admiration, the Defence Minister, Mr. K.C. Pant, asked a very simple question yesterday: who do you want to reopen from 1980-81? It is not our fault Mr. Defence Minister. Your Colleague till the other day the Minister of State for Defence liad stress on this Policy from 1980-81 and this is what he said, re-affirmed in 1981-82 and in 1985-86. That is why we want the Parliamentary probe to begin from that very point. Sir, on the other hand, he has distorted it by sying that we want a review of all the contrad since 1980, which has not been claimed by anybody on this side. Nor have we sought this from the Prime Minister when we met him or when we wrote to him. It is a complete travest of truth. If that is the way you have been informad, I am sorry I have nothing more to say. I don't know who has informed you. Finally he said, he is worried about the morale of forces, as

though the morale of defence forces can improve, if you indulge in a massive cover up and loot. This is exactly what is sought to be done today. This is reflected in the attitude towards Swiss Bank deposits, the final destination of kickbacks. Mr. Bhola Sen, how do we know, all these things? I will tell you, you ridicule that some of us who have moved some amendments wanted to go the Switzerland or Swedan, God knows where. Mr. Bhola Sen you ought to haven known better. You ought to have known better because you are a distinguished lawyer.

SHRI BHOLA NATH SEN: Can you collect any evidence from them?

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN: When the Government of India knew, I presume, they know that in the Swiss Penal Code, clause 273 forbids and penalises divulging of any information — and reaffirmed by a referendum the other day—what was this farce of delegation which was sent of a Deputy Governor of Reserve Bank and of two Joint Secretaries and one of whom was Joint Secretary of Rural Banking? And you know, when he finally arrived in Geneva, the others were about to leave that very day. I am challenging it on facts. You said, what are your facts. I am challenging it on facts. Let us have an inquiry on all this.

Finally, when the Swiss Federal Bank Chairman was met by the Hindu representative, Chitra Subramanian and the Telegraph representative visit and somebody over the telegram, he said, “ Are they still here? Why are they here?” That is why, I say, it is a cover up. The whole exercise is a cover up —A to Z—a massive cover up.

SHRI SÖMNATH CHATTERJEE: How much money was paid.

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN: Well, they must have wined and dined at your expense and at our expense. This is why, I

* Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 4913/87

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say, this Government which has moved this motion for probe, believes, again I repeat, the Hitlarian dictum: that you cannot believe how much you have to deceive the nation in order to "govern" it, to cover up friends, associates and family members, culprits, Bachchans, Signors and Senoritas! One Hundred crores of rupees of licences, import licences have been given to these Bachchans. I say, bring this matter before this House, hundred crores of rupees in two years. I shall tell you, how it has been dealt with. This is the racket that continues and this is what you are trying to cover up.

Therefore, Sir, the question is whether you do it through this Parliament or by disabling the parliamentary agency set up to enquire like a parliamentary committee, you maim it and you have nothing of it. That is our charge today. You prevent it from inquiring into these things. After all, it is this inquisitorial power, that is the essence of democracy—the ability to question, the power to question, to establish accountability, Mr. Bhola Sen.

SHRI BHOLANATH SEN: Anybody inside India can be compelled to give evidence, but not in a free foreign country.

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN: Therefore, no amount of shouting can take away.

SHRI BHOLANATH SEN: You cannot go and compel them to give evidence in Sweden or Switzerland or other right under any law. parliamentary committee. You have no right under any law.

AN HON. MEMBER: Our money is kept there.

SHRI BHOLANATH SEN: Well, money may be kept there, you know better. But the point is, you cannot compel anybody to give evidence in a foreign country. They are free countries.

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN: Therefore,

Sir, I conclude. I do not want to enter into an argument with him. I hate to, because we are such good friends. I do not want to say a word about what he said.

But the time of retribution has come. You can no longer continue this hide and seek game. These winding up costs is a terminological inexactitude. They are the winding up costs of your party. They are also the winding up costs of the credibility of your leader. Therefore, if you want to carry conviction, I do not want to go further into these deals, you change your approach, have a Parliamentary probe, a meaningful parliamentary probe, with the terms of reference and composition as we have proposed.

SHRI HAROOBHAI MEHTA (Ahmedabad): I am not surprised that my good friend Mr. Unnikrishnan has referred to Hitler's book *Mein Kampf* in order to attack the Government. Mr. Unnikrishnan started by quoting Hitler. it is very clear that he may be in the company of those who are following Goebbles. Mr. Unnikrishnan has tried to malign the Prime Minister by saying that at one stage it was held out by the Prime Minister and the speakers supported him that there was no middleman and there was no kickback but, at the same time, ultimately my learned friend is aware that any statement made at a particular point of time is based on inference on the basis of the material available at that point of time and, therefore, it should not be overlooked that Prime Minister also said that the Government invited information from all concerned including the Opposition.

The Swedish Government was also approached for the information. The radio correspondent, who is supposed to be credited with the report broadcast by the Swedish radio, was requested to furnish information, if he had any, so that inquiry can be held. No statement can be absolute. On the contrary, the Prime Minister made it very clear that every inquiry will be made into the matter and if anybody is found to be guilty, action will be taken. Therefore, on

the contrary, it was the Prime Minister who initiated inquiry into the matter. Thereafter, you must have seen the course of events. Prompt approach was made to Swedish Government for inquiry. Swedish Government was requested to hold an inquiry into the Bofors affairs and furnish information by giving the answer. In any case, Mr. Unnikrishnan would be aware that one Mr. Narendra Kapadia, about whom he is more aware than anybody else, who is a commission agent for several foreign firms, a Director of Seimens, is involved in stealing some secret information. My learned friend has also omitted to furnish the name of Mr. Kapadia.

Shri Unnikrishnan should be knowing that acceptance of commissions from foreign powers in foreign currency is an offence.

Prime Minister never closed the doors for an inquiry. He invited information from Opposition though Opposition did not come forward with any tangible information. Swedish Government asked the Audit Board to inquire into the matter. And then, when the report of the Audit Board was received by the Government of India, the Government promptly approached the presiding officers of both the Houses with the request to appoint a Parliamentary Committee. When this was not found feasible, the Government has at the first available opportunity approached the House with this proposal to appoint a Joint Committee. But it was considered necessary to approach the Parliament for appointment of a Committee. Now when the Committee is proposed, the opposition is saying that it will have a somersault. The same opposition which demanded that there should be a Parliamentary Committee to enquire the matter by Parliamentary probe is not now ready to make a smooth passage to appoint a Joint Committee into the investigation of this matter.

Sir, several procedural questions have been asked, viz. what are the powers of the Committee? Our learned friends must be

aware that Rules 269 and 270 provide for the powers of the Committee to summon the witness, to send for persons, papers and records. The Committee can also record the proceedings, call for records and persons and can examine the evidence. I should also point out that when it concerns obtaining information from overseas, there are Precedents where House of Commons has permitted its Committees to go overseas.

Sir, it has been noticed that there were some disputes whether a Joint Committee or a Committee of House of Commons or a Joint Committee of the Parliament can proceed abroad in order to collect information, to examine people there, to examine papers also. The House of Commons in 1966 made it very clear that Committee can also go abroad, collect papers, information and examine evidence. Several Committees have in fact, visited foreign countries in order to find out evidence for information. On some occasions oral evidence has also come. Even foreign citizens can give evidence. It will be open for this Committee to get evidence from foreign citizens and foreign citizens can also give evidence. Even papers, records etc., can be called for from overseas. Foreign agencies, viz. the Government of Sweden and Swedish Audit Bureau can be requested to supply information. Therefore, this Committee will not be powerless. Undoubtedly, the Rules of Procedure provides for certain powers of the Committee. At the same time, as is the precedent in the House of Commons, the House also can authorise the Committee. But, it is not necessary that authority should be through motion itself. It has been noted in the Parliamentary practice that the privilege and powers of the Committee can also be defined if the Committee considers that it is necessary. Then, it is necessary to obtain, to secure some powers if the Committee considers it necessary to examine some persons or to obtain some information from overseas or visit overseas, it can always approach the House and House can authorise it through a resolution to visit abroad to

[Shri Haroobhai Mehta]

examine persons who are abroad and not under the control of Indian law. Therefore, there is no deficiency in the proposal which is placed by the Hon. Defence Minister.

One more advantage will be there. It has been stated by some of our friends from the opposition that all these information regarding locating names, recipients of the money can be done by the Government itself. But, Sir, the advantage of the Parliamentary Committee will be that the witnesses who give the evidence before the Committee or furnish information to the Committee will be protected by the Parliamentary privilege. The House of Commons has always considered it privilege to provide protection to the witnesses who give evidence before any Committee of the Parliament or furnish information to a Committee. And no court can also taken any action for any violation of the law. Evidence given before the Parliamentary Committee are covered by the privileges structure. It is well-known that the privileges of the Lok Sabha are the same as the privileges of the House of Commons as on the date of coming into force of our Constitution i.e. as on 26th January, 1950. It is recorded in the records of House of Commons that House of Commons has always considered it its privilege to protect the witness who gives any evidence before the Committee. Therefore, this Parliamentary Committee will have added advantage of fearless and candid evidence being placed before the Committee. It is not quite clear why the opposition should not accept this Committee.

16.00 hrs.

Of course, there can be some questions which the Opposition have raised. One is about the terms of reference. I also feel,

with great respect to the Hon. Minister who proposed the Motion, that the terms of reference must be expanded. My proposal is that the terms of reference of the Committee must be expanded in order to find out whether the CIA has played any role in spreading disinformation about Bofors. The CIA is very active now -a-days in India. Not being content with the assassination of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, not being content with several attempts on the Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and not having learnt any lesson from the failure that the CIA had in the first ever attempt in India—that is to assassinate Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru by blowing up our air constellation viz., the Kashmir Prince in 1955—the CIA is now very much active in India to spread disinformation. Let the terms of reference of this Committee also include the role, if any, played by CIA in spreading disinformation about Bofors and other things, so that the inquiry may be complete and we may know how CIA is very much active in order to malign the Government and create disaffection against the Government.

One more point has been raised by the opposition and that is that the composition is not acceptable in them. The composition is according to the election. An election will reflect the numerical strength of the Opposition in the House. On this matter, if the Opposition cannot have equal number of seats or more seats than the Congress Party, it is not our fault. It is the electorate which has created this situation. It is the people of India who have given us the mandate to be in majority in this Committee and asked them to be in a minority in the Committee. Therefore, they have to rest contented. After all, if they did not have sufficient strength among the people to be represented in a larger number than us, then they should rest contented and accept whatever number is available to them according to the principle of proportional representation.

16.02 hrs.

[SHRI SOMNATH RATH *in the chair*]

The Minister has been gracious enough to give us secret ballot on the question of deciding the proportional representation and, therefore, we will be able to reflect this strength in the Committee.

I am told that they are also asking for one more change *viz.*, that the Chairman should be either the PAC Chairman or any other member from the Opposition should be offered the chairmanship of this Committee. On principle, this is not acceptable. Accusations against the Prime Minister, against the Government and against everything that are working for progress in this country are made in this House and outside by the Opposition. If somebody from the Opposition is asked to be the Chairman of this Committee, it will tantamount to asking the prosecutor to be the judge.

My learned friend, Mr. Somnath Chatterjee, who is not here, will be quite aware of the two basic principles of natural justice. Firstly, nobody should be condemned without hearing; but they have been doing that. The Prime Minister and the Congress Party have been always put on a trial in the Press without any regard to the principles of justice. Secondly, anyone who is interested in a decision shall not become the judge. That means, the prosecutor should not be the judge. If anybody who is interested in a particular shape of result of a particular inquiry, he cannot be a judge. Therefore, in the interest of maintenance of the principles of natural justice the learned friends from the Opposition should have avoided asking for the Chairmanship of this Committee. After all they are the accusers and if

they themselves have to judge, that will be violative of the basic tenets of natural justice and I, therefore, disagree with any suggestion on this score.

Several things have been said about the restriction to the three items. I may remind them that the Prime Minister had said that you give us some proof and we will proceed. Now, the Audit Board's report gives us a *prima facie* case and that *prima facie* case is with regard to these three items *viz.*, the three payments referred to in Clause 1 of the proposal. Therefore, there is legitimacy in proceeding with an inquiry only about these three items. There is no *prima facie* proof about any other item so that any other inquiry can be undertaken. Of course, one would like that the terms of reference should be expanded. But then it cannot be a fishing inquiry so far as Bofors deal is concerned. Any inquiry can be undertaken subject to that it should not be a fishing or roving inquiry. Therefore, it has been considered legitimate to confine the terms of reference to these three items. But that will not prevent the Committee to make any other recommendation. I want to draw your attention to Clause 3:

"To make suitable recommendations based on the findings on (i) and (ii) above."

If after arriving at a finding on Bofors the Committee finds that something more is required to be inquired or some more aspects required to be gone into then it can always make suitable recommendation to the House. Ultimately it is this House which reflects the sovereign will of the people which will decide whether any further inquiry is necessary or not. Therefore, there should not be any apprehension on this score. However, it is for the Defence Minister to consider.

[Shri Haroobhai Mehta]

Sir, even in the Opposition there are some friends who are very much aware about the danger of de-stabilisation and the activities of CIA. Therefore, if there is a serious effort to request the Government to modify the terms of reference properly in order to ensure that nothing relevant to Bofors deal is left out then Government can always consider it and have a dialogue with them. If after the dialogue some suitable modification in terms of reference is required then it can be done. Subject to the parameters that it should concern the Bofors deal and it should not be a roving inquiry the matter is not one of principle and policy and it can always be worked out by mutual dialogue between the Government and the Opposition leaders. But I must say that there are some good friends who are aware that there are many more important things in India which need to be discussed. As a junior Member of Parliament I feel a sense of disappointment which must share with the Chair and other Members of the House, that a lot of time is being spent on inquiries like Bofors and other things. Corruption is the issue which Opposition consider to be their main target. Ultimately some friends of the Opposition know that corruption is inherent in any capitalist structure where extra money can buy extra comforts with impunity. So corruption cannot be avoided. Therefore, to avoid corruption it will be necessary to transform the society. Without a social change you cannot relieve the society of the evil of corruption. But nevertheless we cannot absolve the Government from its obligation to take action against corruption wherever it is found. It is, therefore, that Government has taken steps to ensure that a full inquiry is made into this. But more importantly are there not important issues? Should corruption get the first priority for discussion in the House? Look at the drought situation in India! 90 per cent of Indian soil is without rain. The scarcity conditions have assumed enormous proportions. Are we not to give that priority for discussion on the famine conditions in India and con-

sider this corruption to be more important? Unemployment has been increasing. Several textile units in Ahmedabad and other parts have been closed—sometimes with permission and sometimes without permission of the Government. Do we not consider that thing to be important for discussion and have priority over some allegations of corruption?

Similarly we have seen for the last two or three years MRTP was diluted. What is the effect of the dilution of MRTP? Has there not been concentration of wealth in India in few hands on account of dilution of MRTP? Do we not find it more important for discussion than the charges of corruption?

Similarly on the question of liberalisation of imports or certain economic steps taken in the last two years by some friends who are not with us and sometimes people who are not with us become very clean in the eyes of the Opposition. Sometimes rejected goods become very precious goods. Goods rejected from one quarter become very precious for others. But I am not on that. The point is that do we not get time to discuss the disastrous results which certain economic measures have had on the economy of India? All these things do not get priority in the list of priorities and allegations of corruption. Ultimately we may not forget that all this may be a part of this information exercise undertaken by the CIA.

Sir, it was the Swedish Radio which gave us information—the same Sweden whose investigating agency has not yet been able to establish the identity of the assassins of the late Prime Minister Olaf Palme. We do not know what are the connections of CIA with the Swedish agencies. But we certainly know that the CIA is interested in maligning the top leadership in India and in the third world. They have started neo-interventionist policy of America which is reflected in CIA activities as regards information also. They have also got a control over the press in their country and abroad. They utilise this agency to feed the press

with stories with a view to maligning the top leadership of Government in the third world countries.

Corruption, after all, is an instrument which has always been applied for maligning the people. Sir, as I told you, corruption is inherent in a capitalist society with the result that allegation of corruption also will be readily believed in such a society. It is always said that nobody will take money in the presence of a witness. Therefore, allegations of corruption are always easily made and unfortunately easily believed. The same type of allegation has denigrated the liberal capitalists in Germany which enabled Hitler, who was quoted by my learned friend Shri Unnikrishnan, to ride over the crest of popularity in Germany and came to power. Power was snatched by fascists in Germany on the basis of allegations of corruption denigrating the liberal capitalist Government in Germany. Are we going to see and tolerate the repetition of such an exercise in India? If Hitler, who was quoted by Mr. Unnikrishnan, has his followers in India, ultimately the Parliamentary Democracy will be destroyed in India. Our Opposition friends, learned in scientific socialism and scholars, who want a social change in India, who are not contented with the present system in India, who know that the present evils against which they are fighting are corruption of capitalist society, they will be the first persons to be hunted out. Their head will be rolling first. Fascists have never succeeded in India. Therefore, this is the time when all right-thinking people, all democratic-minded and secular people should unite and mobilise themselves in order to protect this history. We have, after all, to strengthen this Parliamentary Democratic system. On account of falsity of allegations, multiplicity of false allegations, character assassination, all this history should not be destroyed.

I was not surprised when my good friend. Mr. Jaipal Reddy, said that if this committee is appointed, as proposed, the purpose will be defeated. Whose purpose will be defeated? If this Committee is

appointed, the purpose to continue the character assassination on the basis of these allegations will be defeated. The purpose to tarnish the image of the Prime Minister and the national leadership will be defeated. The purpose to help the destabilisation process will be defeated. But the real purpose to find out the truth will not be defeated. That will be assured. I am afraid that the Opposition is afraid of truth. It will be the duty of the Committee to find out the truth. My learned friend. Shri Somnath Chatterjee, should be aware about the Church case in England which says that whenever any statute conferred power on any public body in the interest of public, that power is coupled with duty. So, when Parliament confers power on this Committee to find out the truth, the Committee will have the duty and obligation also to find out the truth. It will not be able to escape from that duty. Therefore, I should have expected the Opposition still to work out some solution about the terms of reference without unduly widening it and without unduly harbouring any apprehension about the scope of it. Powers can always be conferred by the House. Therefore, ultimately, let us try to work out something through which we can find out truth namely who have been benefited by this money which, if it is violative of Indian law, would be considered to be anti-national.

I earnestly appeal to the opposition to kindly cooperate with the Government in finding out the truth and not merely utilize this debate in order to throw brickbats against the Government.

With these words, I commend the motion for acceptance by the house.

PROF SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla): Mr. Chairman, Sir, many things have been said about this ticklish problem and I do not propose to repeat anything that has been said on both sides of the House. While I wanted to understand the implications of certain remarks made by Shri Indrajit Gupta, I also wanted a response from the Defence Minister, and through you, Sir, I will communicate this to the

[Shri Saifuddin Soz]

Defence Minister. He presented his motion yesterday relating to the Bofors deals. I found that comprehensive. He has proposed a Joint Committee to look into this whole matter. I heard friends from both the sides and many points have been raised, the issue regarding Win Chadha, commissions, kickbacks and all related matters which make this problem very ticklish. But I have been pained not by what I saw in the press, but by the allegations which were made on the floor of this House by some friends and I feel personally that Prime Minister's name was unnecessarily dragged into the discussion because we have to wait till the conclusion of the Enquiry Committee. Perhaps this Parliamentary Committee is going to be constituted and we have to wait till its conclusions are available. It is very easy to make allegations; it is very difficult to substantiate them.

As I have promised, I will not repeat the points that have been made by Shri Somnath Chatterjee, Shri Jaipal Reddy, Shri Indrajit Gupta and others as also Members on the other side, but I have to make a suggestion. The Government is assuring us that it is very eager to find out the truth and the opposition has been fighting to find out the truth. Therefore, my attention was particularly drawn to Shri Indrajit Gupta's speech to be very frank about it and I wanted to request the Defence Minister to kindly go through that speech again, because he raised a very important issue. It is not that other friends did not do it; friends like Shri Unnikrishnan did their research and talked about commissions, Win Chadha and so many other things. But primarily, I would say that while the Swedish Government or the Bofors are telling us that it is a question of commercial confidentiality, but actually it is commercial rivalry that has created a problem for us. There are the Bofors and other companies and they have rivalry among themselves. Perhaps there is not much of discipline in Sweden; perhaps they do not control industry as we do. I do not know much about how they control the business. Any

rival in business can go to the radio and make a statement that may be totally irresponsible. But it is for the Government of India to deal with the Government of Sweden.

I have seen this Audit Bureau report and they admit some commissions were paid.

What is generally called 'kickbacks'. Now, everybody wants to know where these kickbacks have gone. Shri Indrajit Gupta, explained that may be Win Chadha received only 1 crore or so. So, deduct this 1 crore from 35 or 50 crore and where the rest of the amount has gone?

Now, Sir, I have a simple suggestion. I have no doubt that the Government wants to find out the truth because Government represents people of India, Government is answerable to the people as it is a democratic Government. And I have no doubt that the Opposition also wants to find out the truth. Although, this is my complaint that some of the Members in this House have gone much too far in making wild allegations.

Shri Indrajit Gupta wants that there should be a Parliamentary Committee and Opposition should be represented on that. I am not putting words into his mouth. He has already made a speech. This is the crux of his speech and perhaps Shri Indrajit Gupta also wants that there should not be an atmosphere of bickering and we should know the truth. The whole country should know the truth. He has thrown the ball into the Defence Minister's court. In one way, he told him not only to make the terms of reference but the question of whole Committee somewhat broader. I support Shri Indrajit Gupta on this point and I request, through you, Sir, to the Defence Minister, who is represented here by Shri Arjun Singhji, that he should respond to the urges of Shri Indrajit Gupta. The Defence Minister should ensure that the Opposition should be properly represented on the Committee; whatever the constitution of the Committee. After all there are some norms. I do not say 20 Members from this House and 10 from the other House, 14 Members from this House

and 7 from the other. Whatever be the composition, but the major Opposition Parties should be properly represented. For that, Sir, I make a request to the Government that it should kindly ensure that the Opposition join the Parliamentary Committee and it should also ensure that this Committee should be constituted by consensus and not by open voting.

[Translation]

SHRI SHRIPATI MISHRA (Machhlishahr): Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you I want to express my views in this august House. I listened to the views of most of the hon. Members who spoke on this subject. I listened to Members of both the sides. A number of allegations of corruption have come up suddenly within a period of one month. The Opposition was time and again making the demand that a Parliamentary Committee should be constituted to go into the allegations. Instead of accepting the demand for setting up a Parliamentary Committee, the ruling party has set up a commission consisting of a Supreme Court Judge under the Commission of Enquiry Act with a view to bring out the truth. The Opposition had been making allegations on the basis of radio news and stories published in the newspapers.

The ruling party has tried to explain that these allegations have been made by a particular type of persons and newspapers and it seems it is an endeavour on the part of CIA to destabilise the Government. Just now an allegation has been made in the House on the basis of a news item contained in a newspaper saying that CIA Chief has prepared an action plan to destabilise India. It has been inferred as if all other stories contained in the newspapers are correct but the news about CIA's attempt to destabilise India is wrong. It is for this reason that when US embassy contradicted that news, a privilege motion was brought in the House against the person who placed that newspapers on the table of the House to show that CIA people are not involved. I don't say that CIA people are involved in it. The opposition has accepted the version of those who are and

who have been the enemy of the country but have not believed the Prime Minister. Earlier the Government had agreed to constitute a Supreme Court enquiry under the Commission of Enquiry Act. The proposed commission was to be given all the judicial powers but it was not acceptable to the Opposition. I had then suggested to my party that the demand of the Opposition for a Parliamentary Committee should be accepted but the concerned person had not accepted the suggestion because he wanted that an impartial Tribunal should be set up to bring to light the reality. We wanted to assign this enquiry to Supreme Court because we had got majority in the House and as such the Opposition will not be in majority in the Committee and the truth will not come out. Now when Government is constituting a Parliamentary Committee to go into this issue, it is not acceptable to the Opposition whereas earlier they had made the demand for the same. I do not know the reasons therefor. I think, they knew how the Committee will be composed. Some of the Opposition Members are very old and they knew that the Committee will be constituted in accordance with the set rules. In case, they were not aware of it, on what grounds they suggested that a Parliamentary Committee should be constituted to go into it and if they were aware of the rules, why they are not agreeing to it. Do they want that they should have equal representation in the Committee and the Chairman of the Committee should be from the Opposition? It is not possible because today such an atmosphere has been created that the ruling party has become a party to it. The complainant can not be allowed to sit at judgement against the defendant. For dispensation of justice, the announcement of the Prime Minister about constituting a Committee of Supreme Court Judges should have been welcomed. Hon. Members should have tried to understand the motive behind announcing the Committee under the Commission of Enquiry Act. I don't want to mention the name of anyone here. Someone has stated that Prime Minister is not involved in Bofors case; his name is not in it. It appears as if

[Shri Shripati Mishra]

the person who like this has seen the list of persons involved himself or he has been a party to the transaction or all the facts regarding this case are known to him. If it is so and Prime Minister's name is not there, then the name may be disclosed. There is no need for investigations in that case.....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY-
(Katwa): It is not so.

SHRI SHRIPATI MISHRA : I am not quoting you but are you prepared to take responsibility for those who have said that the name is not in the list. You can say it only when you have the list. Tell us whose name is in that list. Do you have the list ? If not, how you can say these things.....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY : Possibility is there.

SHRI SHRIPATI MISHRA : So many possibilities are there. It is also possible that Member of CPM can support CIA people or America. Everything is possible. But one thing I want to make clear. The Prime Minister, the Defence Minister or State Minister of Defence have repeatedly underlined in their statements from the very beginning that they do not want to conceal anything. They are interested in bringing out the facts in this regard. Just now, an Hon'ble Member has handed over a slip and said many thing here perhaps to get cheap publicity in the press or for some other reasons. He went to the extent of saying that he knows everything and can prove it. As such how we can say that the Committee will not serve any purpose. If the hon. Member knows everything, then he should not join the Committee, he should become a witness and bring all the evidences. Then the problem will be solved.

Mr. Unnikrishnan has said that he can prove all the things. In that case, he should become a witness. Prime Minister has called for suggestions to solve the tangle under the rules. Not a single suggestion has been given by which the Sweden

Government or Bofors Company may be compelled to reveal the names or the Swiss Bank may be compelled to disclose the names of the depositors. If the Hon. Members are interested in the information and want that facts should come to light, they must give concrete suggestions in the House. It will be our endeavour to see that the suggestions given by hon. Members are accepted by the Prime Minister so that the names of the persons who have deposited money in Swiss Banks can be revealed. No suggestion is coming forth from the Members in this regard. Hon. Members are pointing out accusing fingers at those who are not present in the House and other people. The common man will judge the performance of the Members in this regard. He will also see the proceedings of the House and also judge whether Government made any attempt to take the right decision and the contribution of the Members in the matter. On behalf of the Members, I urge upon the Government also to constitute the Committee in accordance with the rules. If need be, the membership of the Committee should be increased. Hon. Members can suggest suitable terms of reference. The opposition has demanded that they should be given equal representation in the Committee and an Opposition member should be made its Chairman. If this suggestion is accepted, then there is no need for an enquiry. They should straight-away give their judgement. Whether such a judgement will be effective or not, that is a different matter. The main point at issue is that the names of persons who have deposited money in Swiss Banks and those who have received consideration should be disclosed. The persons knowing details in this regard should come forward.

Lastly, the sequence of evidence in this regard should be gone into. I do not want to repeat all the minute details. First of all, the issue of Fairfax was raised knowing fully well who is the chairman of that company. I belong to a rural area. I want to narrate a rural saying. One day a father came to know that his sons in connivance with their wives are wasting money. It was

but natural for him to enquire into it so that the money is not wasted. It was also his duty to see as to whom the responsibility of probe should be entrusted. It should be entrusted to a family relative who can save the house as well as conduct an impartial enquiry into it. No father would like to entrust this work to a person who has been involved in litigation against him for the last 25 years because it would not be a wise decision in any way. This work cannot be entrusted to that person who has been our enemy since Independence. Can we entrust this responsibility to a person who had levelled absurd allegations against one of our former Prime Ministers and called him a CIA agent? I am not talking about the present Prime Minister but I am referring to the Prime Minister of Janata Party regime. He had levelled an absurd allegation against another former Prime Minister for which a court case is still going on against him. He had submitted written apology but the former Prime Minister had not accepted that apology with the remark that let the court case be decided. You have submitted written apology, so less compensation would be claimed from you. If the same person, who had levelled such absurd allegation against the former Prime Minister, today shows some certificates in the House and says that so and so officers or Ministers are good, would you believe him? Can we believe a person who levels allegations against a Prime Minister who has been sent by the people of this country to this House with a thumping majority of 410 to 415 Members in the House. It is known to all as to what our Prime Minister wants and what kind of man he is?

I have been not only the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh but before that I was also the Chairman of Gram Sabha. I have risen from the bottom and that is why I am suggesting it on the basis of my own experience. If the opposition really wants to have a fair and impartial enquiry, they should demand probe by tribunal of the Supreme Court under Commission of Enquiry Act and special powers should be

given to the Commission because under our system Supreme Court is the highest judicial body in the country. I do not think that the ruling party will not do justice with it and only the opposition who always run after the power can do justice. If they want an impartial enquiry why don't they demand for the constitution of an impartial tribunal which will have no connection with the ruling party and will conduct an independent and impartial enquiry into this matter? I know the opposition will not demand so because earlier also they have not made such demand. They want to prolong this matter and want to keep this alive so that once again they are in a position to seek the confidence of the people of this country. If they really want to save the dignity of the country and its democratic system and if they have faith in this system, they should make a demand for an impartial probe. The Hon. Prime Minister had done best possible thing on his own by entrusting this work to the Supreme Court under Commission of Enquiry Act. I don't think there can be anything better than this? Not only this, he has also said that the demand of the opposition would be accepted provided they participate in the Committee but even that is also not acceptable to the opposition. I urge upon the Government to compel the opposition to participate in this Committee otherwise tomorrow again they will say that the verdict of the Committee is one-sided and not fair. Therefore, they should be compelled to participate in it. Government may extend its term and if necessary more representation be given to them in the Committee so that they may give verdict against themselves.

With these words, I conclude.

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY (Hanamkonda): Mr. Chairman, Sir, when I was speaking on lotus, I was asked to give the meaning of lotus which I explained in Sanskrit. Now it is clear and that is why there is no need to constitute this Committee. It has been made crystal clear in the Audit Bureau report that commis-

[Shri C. Janga Reddy]

sion has been paid. I want to ask what does the commission mean? I treat commission as bribe. The consideration received for fighting cases in courts is called corruption and the consideration received by Government officials from the back door is called bribe. It is for this reason that I call it bribe and not commission. On pages 5, 6 and 7 of the Audit Bureau report, it is clearly stated—

[English]

“that the costs of this assistance (“winding up costs”) amounted to 2-3 per cent of the order sum, that is SEK 170-250 millions and that the final payment was made during 1980”.

[Translation]

The final payment was made in 1980. Government has been saying that no middleman was involved in the deal. I give an example in this context. I had an old maternal grand mother. I used to ask her to give 4 or 8 annas to bring peppermint but she always used to say that she did not have any money. When I asked her whether she did not have money with her or there was no money at house also, she always used to say that she did not have money. She never used to say that there is no money in the house or in the bank. Similarly Treasury Benches have said that they have not taken any commission. I do agree that they have not taken any commission but I am talking about taking the bribe. It is true that they have not taken commission but they have taken bribe. Now what is the necessity of constituting this Committee? We know that nothing will come out of it. If they had not taken bribe and had clear intentions they would not have any hesitation in bringing a proposal of constituting the Committee in the House on the very first day when this issue was raised in this House...(Interruptions)

Sir, that is why I wanted to speak in Telugu. I know that they would not allow me to speak.

The clean-shaved Prime Minister has cleaned everything. Today in villages also, the Bofors and Fairfax matters are being discussed whereas some time back they used to discuss about Indira Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi. The ruling party members are shouting at us because they take us as their enemy. That is why they are behaving like this. They do not have any other matter before them. Now, there is no necessity to constitute this Committee because it has been made clear in the report that payment has been made. Government has been repeatedly saying from the very beginning that no commission has been paid but now when the Audit Bureau report has made it amply clear that commission has been paid, they are saying that they have not been paid any commission but some other people are involved in it and they are trying to find out their names. In India, wife does not utter the name of her husband, Whenever she is asked to tell the name of her husband, her reply is ask someone else to tell the name. Therefore, the Government is compelling us to name them whereas we want that they themselves should come forward with their names.

SHRI VIR SEN: Are you becoming our wife?

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY: You may become wife or husband but what actually we observe?

Whenever the congress party is in trouble or its power is at stake, they want to keep CPI and CPM on their side. Whenever CPI or CPM is with Congress Party or they cooperate with the Congress, they are not CIA agents and when they do not cooperate with Congress, then they become CIA agents.

When Shrimati Indira Gandhi was in trouble, she imposed emergency and now the ruling party is again creating same atmosphere. Whenever they are in danger, they create difficulties for others. If they are suffering from jaundice, they want us also to be jaundice patient. They are

jaundice patient but we are not. They are trying to hide something.

What this Committee will do? The Bofors Company is ready to disclose the names but the Government does not want it. Recently when Deputy Chairman of the Bofors Company came to India, some queries were made from him about the issue but he expressed his inability to disclose anything for this reason. However, he was prepared to send a delegation of Bofors company with all relevant documents and talk to the Government of India, but our Government did not agree to that. Shri Arun Singh, the then Defence Minister agreed to that but every day they are changing their Defence Ministers. We do not know who will be there tomorrow? Shri Rajiv Gandhi has himself said that after present session major reshuffling in the Ministry will be done. Therefore, it becomes very difficult to remember the names of Ministers. The Bofors Company was then prepared to give more information to the Defence Minister. However, if they do not divulge the names, defence deal with the company should be cancelled. If they do not cooperate with us, we should cancel the agreement. What is commercial in it? We are asking them as to whom they have made the payment? It has been made amply clear in the Audit report that commission has been paid. Now the question is merely to disclose the names of the recipients. They should divulge the names. Why should the Committee go there to ask for the names? It has been made clear in the Audit report that commission has been paid. The Government refuted the charge levelled by the Hong Kong based CIA agent but later on that was confirmed by the radio and Newspaper. Though Shri Gadgil had been Information and Broadcasting Minister, yet he called the newspaper as the game of journalists. He himself consults the newspapers and rushes to the Notice Office. Yesterday he himself quoted from a book which was also written by a British Journalist. What is the difference between the two. Has that book been written by any intellectual? He is also a journalist.

Government does not consider Indian journalists as intellectuals. It does not behave them. Shri Gadgil had been the Minister of Information and Broadcasting, so it does not behave him. Now he is simply a Member of Parliament. Had we not listened to the radio and read the newspaper, this matter would have not come up in this House. It is still a mystery. We know that men in the Government and their friends are involved in it.

Government should send a telegram to the Bofors Company immediately asking them to disclose the names otherwise deal should be cancelled. If deal is cancelled, it will create commotion in Sweden and the company will close down. About 10,000 people are working in this company and they all will become jobless. If it is not possible, then the Government should give an ultimatum to the Bofors Company to disclose the names of the recipients within 24 hours. It will make the position crystal clear. Government should do it as early as possible.

Whenever the Prime Minister wants, he asks the Ministers to resign. As soon as he came to know that Shri Arun Singh had come to know all things, he asked him to resign. He knew that if he continued to hold the post he would expose everything. After taking the resignation, he rushes to the President for the acceptance. Whatever we demand, they do not agree to that. They think that the purpose would be solved by bringing this motion. I once again would like to ask as to why Shri Arun Singh has resigned? Why delegation of Bofors Company was not allowed to come to India? I do not understand as to what is there to enquire into. The thief has been caught. What else the Government want? Have they any charge sheet to file against them?

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY: We intend to beat them.

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY: You may beat them or file charge sheet against them but we want to have detailed information

[Shri Saifuddin Chowdhary]

about it. The Swedish Government should be told that a furore is being created in our country over this matter and we are being maligned. That is why we should be told everything clearly. Our ex-Prime Minister is dead. She was good friend of mine. Now Shri Rajiv Gandhi has to do this work. He should write to the Bofors Company in a very clearcut manner as early as possible otherwise people will start agitation over it. Bofors Company should be told to disclose the names of those persons who have received kickback. If the Company does not divulge the names, deal should be cancelled. The cancellation of the deal would shake the Swedish Government, unemployment would increase and it would create furore all over the country and the Swedish Government would have to bow down. I think, there is no need to constitute this Committee. Everything will come out automatically if an ultimatum is given to the Swedish Government.

AN. HON. MEMBER: Tell something about lotus also.

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY: You know everything about that. With these words, I conclude.

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA (Vidisha): Mr. Chairman, Sir, by debating Bofors deal, the Opposition has been trying for the last 2-3 months to create a suspicious atmosphere in the country. They are constantly trying to create suspicion in the minds of the people against the Government which is firmly working for the poor and for the security of the country.

During last session, our Prime Minister had categorically stated that no middleman or agent was involved in Bofors deal. The Government of India had very clearly told the Bofors Company and the Swedish Government that in this important deal, the Government of India would not like the involvement of any middleman or agent. That is why the gun deal which was of the order of Rs. 1800 crores in the beginning came down to Rs. 1427 crores in our

national interest. It would not have been possible if some middlemen or agents would have been there. There has been a convention in the international market to have commission agents or middlemen. It is for the first time that deviating from the established practice Government of India greatly emphasised that it would not like to engage any middleman or agent in this deal. I am surprised to see that our opposition leaders are saying that some middlemen have received commission.

When it was said that some outsider has received commission, the Government of India asked the Bofors Company and the Swedish Government to enquire into the allegation of kickback as announced by the Swedish radio on 16th April. The Government of India asked for the factual position. On the request of our Prime Minister and the Government of India, the Swedish Government took the decision to conduct an enquiry by its National Audit Bureau. Now the Government of India has decided to constitute a Parliamentary Committee so that the names of the persons to whom payment has been made and to whose accounts money has been credited, may be brought before the people.

But today the people of opposition parties are retreating. Instead of debating it in the House, they want to picket here. Instead of submitting concrete evidences, they are depending on certain newspaper reports and articles by some journalists. If the opposition has any proof, any name, then please bring it before the House. Raise discussion on it and demand action on that. We are surprised on this point too that when the matter of their becoming member of the Joint Committee comes, then they pretend by one way or the other that more representation should be given to them, the Chairman of the Committee should be from their party and he should be given so and so powers.

17.00 hrs.

[MR DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

If they sit with the Government and have

discussion on some, selected issues in the real sense then there will be no doubt that no one wants to hide anything. If any commission or bribe has been paid, the factual position in this regard should come before the House and the people of the country. Our Hon. Prime Minister had categorically denied the involvement of middlemen in this deal. He had also assured the House that stern action will be taken against those who have received the payment. In the same manner when he received the report of Swedish Government, he again emphasised on the disclosure of names mentioned in the Audit Bureau report. What can be more open than this? When we can openly discuss all the issues of public importance on the floor of the House, then what is the difficulty with the opposition. When we are talking about the ratio of their representation in the Committee as per the well established Parliamentary conventions, the opposition is retreating. Above all, our opposition is also divided on this issue—some are favouring and welcoming the constitution of Committee, some are asking for the Chairmanship of the Committee and some are demanding more representation of their party. Instead of making it a controversial issue, we should sit together and create a cordial atmosphere. There are no two opinions that facts should come out.

So far as corruption is concerned, this is for the first time since 1981 that in 1984-85 the Defence Ministry strictly followed the principle that in any international defence deal no middlemen would be accepted by the Government of India and no role would be played by any middleman in such international deals.

In the past also, many deals were concluded and suspicions arose on those deals whether it was Jaguar deal or Sale of Gold but neither any demand was ever made for any enquiry nor any powerful Commission under the Chairmanship of a Supreme Court Judge or a Joint Committee like this was ever constituted. The

reason for this is that our Government's intention is very clear and Prime Minister has clearly stated that whosoever is found to be involved in it will not be spared. Opposition should co-operate in this matter and bring forward information based on facts before the Committee. This is our opinion.

Apart from this, if we consider the procedure adopted in the defence deals for purchase of defence equipments, we will find that such decisions are not taken at the political level. Such decisions are taken by the experts in the Defence Ministry after ascertaining the needs of the country, utility and quality of the equipments available and after rigorously testing the equipments in different conditions. No deal is finalised before testing the quality of the equipments. We will have to go into the background of the Bofors deal deeply. Negotiations were going on for the last so many years to purchase the 155 mm Guns. When our neighbouring countries have already acquired weapons having a firing range of 30 to 40 kilometers and when security of our borders is threatened, we can not defend our borders by using a gun having a firing range of only 5 Km. or by using old and outdated weapons. In the circumstances, our defence experts and commanders felt the necessity of acquiring a long range gun and they had been suggesting to the Government from time to time to acquire this gun in view of its utility and suitability. Today, if we are raising accusing fingers against it, it tantamounts to question mark against our security system. Today, the morale of our defence forces is highest in the World. Hon'ble Members of opposition should think about this aspect also. In such matters, we should work like a team and no one should be allowed to take any political advantage out of it. We should try to find out the facts and take action against the culprits.

It is observed that our opposition colleagues are side tracking the main issue and trying to derive political benefits out of it. Efforts are being made to malign the

[Shri Pratap Bhanu Sharma]

Government and implicate the Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi in it. Today, the persons who themselves are involved in many scandals and corruption charges have come in the fore-front to level such charges. We will also have to see whether Bofors Company is really a culprit in this deal and if Swedish Government gives protection to them, we will have to devise ways and means and pressurise them so that they are unable to achieve their designs and the truth comes before our Government and our Committee. No one has made any query or given any concrete suggestion in this regard. On the contrary, efforts are being made to take political advantage out of it and create an atmosphere of suspicion. But when the truth comes out, the opposition will be greatly disappointed.

AN HON. MEMBER: Anyhow, truth should come out.

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA: When in accordance with the Parliamentary traditions, our opposition colleagues can freely express their views in the House in spite of massive majority of Cong. (I) and Ruling Party members hear them patiently and extend them co-operation, why they are agitated over the representation given to them in that Committee in accordance with their strength. The people have only that much faith in them. Why do they say that they should have been given more representation in that Committee and Chairman of the Committee should be from the opposition. According to our Parliamentary conventions, we have to honour this committee. The recommendations, observations and suggestions contained in various reports of the Parliamentary Committees, whether it is Committee on Public Undertakings or Estimates Committee or Public Accounts Committee, have always been given due consideration and no one has ever opposed them. I think, the motion moved by our Defence Minister Shri K.C. Pant, in the House is quite comprehensive and it makes the intentions of the Government clear. The Committee being set up through

this motion will go into the question of commission or bribes paid to certain individuals by Bofors Company after the agreement was entered into with them.

In the end, keeping in view the arguments advanced by the opposition and the firm determination of the Government to go into the question of payment of commission to certain individuals by Bofors Company in violation of the agreement with a view to find out the facts and take suitable action under the law, the appointment of this Committee is most desirable. The opposition should not adopt a negative attitude in it and on the contrary it should extend full co-operation in the matter so that we may maintain our Parliamentary traditions and work as a team to find out the facts and bring true picture before the countrymen. Political gains can't be above national interest. The opposition has presented the facts in an exaggerated manner which are far from the truth. They have simply quoted some newspapers in support of what they have said. They are perhaps expecting some news from Sweden Radio like before. They have already wasted one week's time of the House and intend to take a day or two more. This is not proper. I feel, the Government has taken a right decision. All the ruling party Members have hailed the decision of the Government that a Committee should go into it. Those who have violated the agreement and the Indian laws should be awarded severest punishment. I would also like to point out that security requirements of the country and the atmosphere being created around the country by some big powers compel us to arm our defence forces with latest defence equipments and keep their morale high so that the security of the country can be guaranteed. In view of the above, we should not do anything which may demoralise our defence forces and jeopardise our security arrangements. We should proceed with this belief and strengthen our Parliamentary traditions. So far as formation of the Committee and its scope are concerned, the opposition should give it a serious thought and co-

operate with the Government in the matter.

With these words, I conclude.

[English]

DR. DATTA SAMANT (Bombay South Central): Sir, corruption is becoming regular in this country. It is coming to a little higher level and when there is a slightest suspicion that the highest level in this country is involved in corruption including commission or bribe, I think, it is the duty of this Highest House to go into all the details, find out, notify it and bring it before the public. It is not at least my intention to bring somebody and criticise somebody. But the whole thing is happening in the last 5 or 6 months, let it be Fairfax or Submarines. Even I have got certain evidence, certain things about whatever the defence projects executed from 1983 onwards in this country. But I am coming to this point.

This Swiss Radio is announcing and giving the exact date, the time and the amount of corruption given in second decimal. It is not only that. But subsequently, at the request of the Indian Government, the Swiss Government had appointed the Swiss Audit Bureau. And this Audit Bureau made investigation and admitted it. It is done by their Government. It says that as per the Swedish Bank, Skandinaviska Enskilde, which is of the Bofors the money is transferred from this Bank to the Swiss Bank. In that, some middlemen were there and money is put on the Swiss Bank on some others' names. Actually, there is no question of finding out whether the money is paid. Rs. 35 crores to Rs 50 crores money has been paid from the Bofors account to Swiss Bank. This money has been transferred in the Swiss Bank in the name of certain people. That is already found out. That is the case, at present.

Subsequently, it is going further. If you see all the consequences that happened in the last two or three months, it is quite

interesting. I think, everybody has to take note of these things: that the Defence Minister is resigning; the Minister of State for Defence is resigning; the hon. Member, Mr. Bachchan, one of the Members of the House is resigning. One of the so-called middlemen, Mr. Chadha who has made affidavit in the Delhi High Court and who has admitted that he was taking Rs. 2 lakhs per month, up to 1990, who was fixed for as Bofors agent for booking hotels, cars etc., has disappeared. I am not going into the details. He just disappeared. He was here till recently. The Government knows that this man is involved. If the Government is sincerely desiring to find out the details, he was the best man to have detained and interrogated. I am making the charge against the Government that the Government has not arrested him or detained him. They allowed him to go out and now they say, he disappeared. Four days back, I saw in the TV the photographs of missing person, Mr. Chadha and sons. It is just shown to create a case that they wanted to arrest him but he is not here. All such consequences are there.

Mr. M.R. Rao, Liaison Officer of the Bofors in India, an ex-Navy Officer was working for Bofors for the last two years. He was staying in Maurya Sheraton. He is missing for the last one month. Above all, there is one Martin Arbdó who has negotiated on behalf of the Bofors and he was in India last year when the deal was struck. When all such things had happened, this man Mr. Arbdó has resigned from the Bofors and disappeared. If you take note of all these consequences one by one, it would be very clear to you, the Swiss Radio announcement, the Swiss Audit Bureau giving the details regarding fixing money. Further, they have not given information. It is dot, dot. Under whose name the money is paid, it is not known. Then, subsequently the resignation of two or three Ministers, resignation of the Member, disappearance of this man, disappearance of Mr. Rao, and the resignation of one Mr. Arbdó from Bofors who had been dealing with Bofors in India,

[Dr. Datta Samant]

all these things had happened. You forget of *prima facie*. I am not a lawyer. But the money is paid to the extent of Rs. 50 crores. Money is accepted by somebody. It is transferred from Swedish bank to Swiss Bank.

Now the question is coming. Is it not a single duty of this Government to find out who has done this deal and on whose name this money is lying in the Swiss Bank? I am asking this Government, what honest efforts have they taken in the last three months. In the statement of the hon. Defence Minister, he said that on April 20, 1987, Shri Ozha, our Ambassador in Stockholm met the representatives of Bofors. He tried to meet the Executive of Bofors. He tried to meet the External Affairs Minister. He tried to see the other Minister. Have you given authority in writing? You say, you are making efforts. You are making your case, as Mr. Chadha disappeared. You are making your case in your statement that Mr. Ozha tried to see so many people, the bank people, Government people but nobody has given us the details. This is an indirect way of avoiding and hiding. The Government is not honest to make their sincere request because they do not want that his name should be disclosed and, therefore, I am making the charges against this Government.

I am coming to Committee. The Committee is appointed as Government wants. How this committee is going to function? Whom are you going to summon? Chadha has disappeared. The Fairfax man has disappeared and resigned.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Even Mr. Brahma Dutt has disappeared.

DR. DATTA SAMANT: Hon. Defence Minister is not here but I am told, subject to correction, that the files and details of the Bofors which were in the Defence Ministry, are also not traced and are disappearing. Whom the Committee is going to see? I want a reply to this. As per my knowledge,

subject to correction, the files, the details of the agreements, are also disappearing.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Only the former Defence Minister is disappearing.

DR. DATTA SAMANT: If this is the state of affairs, how this Committee is going to function? This is democratic committee. You call us and ask us, "Have you seen that somebody is taking money?" How can I see? While making such transaction, is anybody going to give evidence? And then you will say that there is no evidence at all!

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): You say that the files are missing. It is not correct.

DR. DATTA SAMANT: All details are there with you! Is the Committee empowered to go and study details of each paper of the Bofors in the Defence Ministry? I do not think. Nothing is clear. The Committee is going to call 3 or 4 people. They will not give evidence. The Fairfax Committee, with Shri Natarajan, is appointed. You know the fate of this Committee. They have summoned and gave a questionnaire. Shri Gurumurthi who is involved in this affair refused to come before this Committee. He refused the summons. Hershman who is involved in the inquiry refused to appear before this Committee or he refused to give the forms which were to be filed. That is the fate of the Fairfax Committee appointed by the Supreme Court judge! Who is going to give evidence and come before this Committee to find out the facts? These are my allegations.

It seems that the treasury benches and the Government is not much interested to find out these things. If at all, I will not be there on the Committee. There is no question of my being on the Committee. If I want to go to Sweden or America, I can go. My workers can give that much money.

But some allegation is made by the Bengal M.P. that Opposition wants to be on this Committee and to move about the country. That is why, this Committee is being appointed. I never accept this allegation. When this Committee goes to Sweden, Bofors is going to say that this is my professional secrecy. I mean that is his professional secrecy. If you go to Sweden, they will say, it is my business secrecy. I think this Government wanted to maintain professional secrecy and business secrecy, because they do not want to disclose who has taken this money from the Bofor bank to the Swiss Bank and in whose name this amount is put and, therefore, if at all the committee is appointed, without terms of reference and without giving it wide powers, after three months, these people will refuse to give evidence and again our Prime Minister will ask "Has Opposition got any evidence?" I do not know. The entire thing is done in the Defence Ministry discussions.

Money is transferred to Swedish Bank. Shall we go and see it? You want evidence how this money is given. Shall I see this money is given? I do not know. What is this argument?

Now the Audit Bureau has given the report and they have admitted the fact that the money is transferred. Subsequently, there are a number of developments taking place. Because this Bofors are in the bad books of the Swedish Government and they have started inquiry regarding whatever they have supplied to Rangoon and Singapore, why not the Government demand all these details from them? They should continue this process. They should also ask for these details from our Indian Bofors dealers also.

Sir, I have got some more details. I would like to give them now. The Swedish Government and the Chief Prosecutor of Sweden has launched a pre-trial investigation into the Bofors Defence deal itself. They have already started this enquiry.

The pre-trial criminal investigation enquiry has started. In this connection I would like to put forth one important thing to this august House i.e. why not this House pass a Resolution unanimously and ask: "this is the desire of this Parliament which is the highest body of the land; this is the desire of all the 70 crore people of India that similar to that of the pre-trial enquiry prosecution, you start an enquiry regarding to whom the money was paid in the Bofors deal, as far as our India is concerned". We can pass a Resolution like this. I am making this demand. Instead of appointing this Committee which is not going to work out anything in future, I think that if you could put pressure on the Swedish authorities, something useful can be brought out. Why I am saying this is because of the fact that the ball is now in the court of the Swedish Bank and the Swedish Government and not with the Indian Government. This is the demand I am making before the hon. Minister. Again, I would like to reiterate that this House, instead of appointing this Committee, can pass a unanimous Resolution requesting the Swedish Parliament to ask the Government of Sweden to release, in full, the portion of the National Audit Bureau's report which the Government of Sweden has withheld. I do not have any suspicion. On the contrary, I am making the accusation against our Government that it is indirectly telling the Swedish Government as to not to disclose the further portion of the report. The Swedish Government has got the National Audit Bureau's report and it has also got the two pages of the report which says that 'A has given to 'B' and 'B' has given to 'C'. It is not a case of *prima facie* suspicion. It is a proof that the Government authorities want to delay the whole matter. We can come to this conclusion from the way how the Government authorities are dealing with this matter. These things are going to happen in this country. We can definitely look into the matter and find out the truth.

Sir, I will not take much of your time. But there are one or two things which I would like to put before this august House.

[Shri Datta Samant]

Certain things are happening. I think, Shri Unnikrishnan has mentioned about them. I have got certain details about the defence budget from 1976 onwards. During 1976-77, our Defence budget was hardly Rs. 2600 crores. After a period of 10 years, it has gone up to Rs. 12500 crores. During the year 1983, the contract for the supply of 90 Mirage-2000 aircraft—which has been done to counter the challenge of U.S. F. 16s being supplied to our neighbours—ran into Rs. 3500 crores. I am making a request in this House that even this thing may also be included in the terms of reference. Enquiry on this matter should also be done, as to how this contract has been given etc. In the year 1984, a contract worth Rs. 3000 crores was entered into in order to purchase the British Harrier vertical short take-off and landing aircraft for the Navy with Sea King Helicopters and Sea Eagle missiles. The amount involved in this deal was Rs. 3000 crores. In the year 1985, for the supply of 21 Westland Helicopters, The Government has spent about Rs. 65 crores and the purchase of the aircraft carrier Hermes cost about Rs. 150 crores.

Sir, I would like to say that it is quite disheartening that during all these years, in the defence purchase, such type of things are happening and middlemen and some agents have been involved. It is not a question of corruption. But, apart from this, it is a demoralisation of our military.

The third point is this: if such type of things are repeated, agents like Shri Win Chadha are knowing your details. Regarding the Bofors gun deal, could you tell us that the version of Shri Win Chadha is correct? The Prime Minister is telling us that everything is secret and it cannot be disclosed in this House in the interest of national security. But everything can be disclosed to Win Chadha who is as an agent of Bofors, in this country. This is the fate of the defence of this country. People who came in-between while the contract process was going on, all such people have intervened. There is no secrecy of our

defence. Secrecy is for us, for the Members of Parliament. Crores of rupees are being spent on the defence purchase deals. When the contract with Bofors was signed and when the contract was terminated and when the further things happened, with all respect, I would like to say that the Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi was in the control of the Ministry of Defence. I do not want to make any allegation. When the highest man of this country, who is the Prime Minister of this country, was there, during his regime, all such things—1,2,3,4,5,6, and 7— have happened. Therefore, it is for you—and not for me or for the Opposition—to show that you are honest. You are in the glass chamber and you have to show that you are honest. I think, that is what is required. Therefore, at any cost, it is for the Government or the Treasury Benches to tell us, the money from Bofors has been taken by such and such people and that it is lying in the Swiss bank in the accounts of these people. The Government can do this in one minute, and no law will come in between. We are the buyers from Bofors. Let us pass a Resolution: "We are the buyers; you, M/s. Bofors, do not have the professional secrecy; you give us the information in whose names the money has been transferred". You can pass a Resolution and tell the Swiss Bank and even the Swiss Audit Bureau. You can pass a Resolution and make a request to them that they may start a pre-trial prosecution against those who have taken the money as they have already launched against Bofors in respect of supplies to Singapore and other people. Even that sort of a criminal prosecution will solve the Bofors issue. I am afraid, the Treasury Benches and the Government are not prepared to do this thing because they know that the highest and the top people are involved in these. I am making this accusation. That is why they are avoiding to give evidence, that is why they are delaying this inquiry, that is why they want to have this type of a Committee with such terms of reference. Are they going to call the MPs to give their evidence in all these dealings? The Prime Minister must be called because he was

the Defence Minister then. Everybody is equal before a Committee. Are you going to call the Prime Minister before this Committee? Whom are you going to call? I do not know who is going to be called. This is just a white wash to avoid it. After three or four months, on the T.V. and the radio the Government is going to come out with a statement: "A highest Committee of MPs was appointed and they had gone to Sweden and everywhere, but it is regretted that nothing has been found out". Therefore, to get a clean chit, the Government is making all these efforts—just to save their skin. I am accusing the Government of this, and I ask them to withdraw this Motion.

Thank you, Mr. Deputy-Speaker, this time you have given me more time.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I have always given you enough time and not only this time.

[Translation]

SHRI VIR SEN (Khurja): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, a number of hon. Members in the House might have studied the English literature. They might have heard the name of Sheridan a writer. He has written some plays. One of the plays he has written is "School for Scandal". The only business of the School for Scandal was to create a scandal and start discussion on it everywhere. What I feel is that the House is being treated as a school for scandal by our colleagues sitting on this side. On getting a small hint, they start making uproar over it. Whatever scandals are raised, it is very peculiar that we take them as authentic and accept them. Even in Ram Charit Manas, there is a reference to Sita who had to face an ordeal only because a washerman said that he could not keep a woman with him who had lived with some other person. Similarly, these scandals are being brought and they are fully relied upon even if there is not an iota of truth in them.

In the report of the Audit Bureau, it has been stressed that there is truth in it. I have nothing to say if our colleagues sitting on the left believe it, but I regret to say that even people of Government side also believe it and a mention of it has been made in this note. We should deliberate as to what type of report is it. We have never come across an audit report which was prepared without going through the records and without checking the accounts. It has been stated in this report itself that neither the accounts of the Bofors were gone through nor the accounts of the Swiss banks were seen. Perhaps this report has been prepared on the basis of oral statements. How a report which is not based on facts can be relied upon? Should we believe if anything is said or any report is submitted without being based on facts. We have never seen a report such as this which is not based on facts. A report which is not based on facts can not be accepted as an audit report. There is not a single word worth believing in it.

There is, no doubt, a mention in the report that it appears money was given. At the same time, it should also have been mentioned what amount was given. It is not clear from it as to whom money was given. It is not known as to how our people have believed it. Anybody who believes this report and says that this is an authentic report, I would like to make an appeal to him and request him that first of all he should understand that no report is possible without going through the records and without going through the accounts. Can a report, which is not based on facts, be called an audit report. A report not based on facts can not be treated as Audit Report and relied upon.

The entire arguments of our opposition parties are based on this baseless report. On the basis of it they have made a futile attempt to prove that all the people here are criminals and culprits. Can they define the often used term kickbacks. Kickbacks means repayment to buyer as consideration with a view to win over the contract. If it is misinterpreted and allegation is clandestinely made against people head-

[Shri Vir Sen]

ing the Government, I do not consider it to be a right thing. This way something can be pointed out but it does not prove anything whereby it could be said that any of the Ministers in this Government or the Prime Minister had received any kickbacks. Doubts can be expressed but it is not proper to make any allegation because this report has no authenticity. The report, of course, gives an impression that some middleman has received some consideration.

There has been prolonged discussion on "winding up charges". It was said that there was some agreement before arriving at the decision and some issue was there. But there is no concrete proof of it. Efforts have been made to make comments only on the basis of that report. Everything is being said on the basis of it and allegations and counter-allegations are being made. If any allegation is proved as to which agent took money, then only it will be possible to know as to who are the people and officials of Governments who have links with them and who have received consideration. But this also requires some concrete proof. I am of the view that we should say something on the basis of concrete proof and we should not talk in the air. We should not believe the hearsay. It will be in the interest of all of us. If we go on accepting every baseless allegation then it will not be proper and we will not be able to protect our high traditions.

One thing appears to be very funny in this matter. Once or twice earlier also I tried to draw the attention of the House towards it while taking part in the debate so that the correct position is brought before the House. No manufacturing company or a business concern will admit that it has paid any consideration for getting the work done. No one would like to spoil his credibility by his own words. No Government of a country will ever want that any aspersion is cast against any industry of that country so that no other country in the world is prepared to establish business connections with it. Despite all these things, if the Swiss radio said something

and we people make allegations in this House that the Bofors company gave money and kickbacks, nobody, can agree to it. After all what was the purpose or objective behind it? Why a Government, a radio or any agency should say something against its own national interest? It appears to me that there is nothing behind it.

I would like to make one more submission. Whatever information has been given, whether it is through the radio or any other media, it was given in pieces so as to make the issue live. Once it was said that kickbacks were given and this was included in the agreement. Later, it was said that it was included in the annexure. These details were given after a gap of two to four days, so that the issue remains live and agitation may continue. It appears to me that if anybody says anything against the national interest, then it is crystal clear that there is definitely some source or agency behind it which is trying to destabilise the country by making allegations. If time and again the talk about the destabilisation of the country is repeated, then it will have to be made clear as to why this thing is going on and why the information is being furnished in pieces time and again. There is definitely some agency or source which is bent upon defaming the Government and thereby create destabilisation in the country.

This thing is going on for the last several days. The opposition emphasised the need for a Parliamentary probe into this issue in the last session of the House. I think, the audit report had not come to light at that time. People were apprehensive that it will make a big disclosure but the report reveals nothing. There is a proverb in English—to develop cold feet. Now these people say that they will not participate in it. I say why they have developed cold feet? It is because they know that nothing will come out of this probe. They have come to know that no Minister is likely to be adversely affected by this report. The opposition has been emphasising the need for a Parliamentary probe during the last

few months but now they say that probe is not required. It is because it is now clear to them that none of the Ministers in the treasury benches will in any way be affected by this probe. They have been saying that the names of those persons who have taken money, should be made public. The present proposal contains the same thing. The names of the people, who have taken money, may be ascertained and action taken against those people. Action should be taken against those people who have violated the law of this country and accumulated money. They are backing from it now. They are asking about the powers of the Committee. I say that the Committee is vested with the requisite power to call any officer.

Our colleague Shri Datta Samant has said that the file itself is not traceable. I want to know whether Shri Datta Samant is a clerk or a peon in the Defence Department—who has full knowledge about the movement of the files. If the file has been actually lost, the proposed Parliament Committee can call for the papers and if the papers are not made available, then the true picture will be revealed. But as Shri Patil has said, no paper has been lost. Hence everything will be crystal clear in due course of time.

Now the issue which is being raised is as to what is the contribution of the Bofors in the amounts deposited with the Swiss banks. Now the plea of confidentiality is being repeated time and again. This is a matter which concerns two sovereign States. Both of them have got their own laws. I am of the view that whether it is the Parliament of India or the probe Committee, it cannot change the laws of Switzerland. Regarding confidentiality, when in India there is a law that deposits in a bank can not be disclosed, they can also have a law in this regard. I feel it is not possible to ascertain the facts from the banks. But the accounts of the Bofors can be gone through. The accounts of the Bofors can be checked by making a request to that

Government. It can be ascertained as to whom they made the payment. Therefore, the hon. Members who are apprehensive about the findings of the probe Committee should keep this fact in mind. I feel, through the good offices of the Government and as the hon. Members have suggested by pressurising them we can scrutinise the accounts of Bofors and find out the recipients of the kickbacks. After the persons involved are identified, the Government can no doubt take stern action against the culprits. Our Prime Minister and other Ministers have repeatedly emphasised that strict action will be taken against the culprits and those people who deserve punishment will not be spared.

Audit Bureau report would have revealed all the facts if we really wanted but they have tried to conceal the facts. If the Parliamentary probe Committee goes into it and Opposition Members extend their full co-operation in it and join the probe, then there is no reason why the truth can not come to light. Once the truth comes to light, appropriate action can be taken against the culprits. There is no doubt about it.

A demand has been made here that the Attorney General should be called. I want to submit that there is no difficulty in calling the Attorney General, but the opinion of the Attorney General will be an expert opinion. Expert opinion of a legal luminary, whether it is given by an Attorney General or any other dignitary in India or elsewhere, does not carry the weight of law or have any legal value. Opinion is only advisory in nature. Hence, it does not make any difference whether the Attorney General is called and questioned or not, because his opinion cannot be a legal interpretation.

In case, a matter is referred to the Supreme Court for their opinion, the opinion of the Supreme Court also cannot be legally enforced. The Supreme Court itself can reject that opinion when a case comes up before them. It will be recalled

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that once a dispute arose between the Uttar Pradesh High Court and the State Legislature. In that case, the opinion of the Supreme Court was not acceptable to the High Court. Hence the opinion of the Attorney General also does not carry any special meaning. Similar is the position in the case of our Attorney General also. Likewise, it will not make any difference even if Attorney General of Switzerland is called to give his opinion.

Lastly, I would like to say that our opposition colleagues are very much concerned about our image. They are also worried about the black clouds hovering around us and want to clear them. In this context, I want to make it clear to them that it is our concern and we will see how to clear the clouds. Whatever clouds are there, they will disappear automatically in due course of time because they contain only dust. Not to speak of only one issue, i.e. the Bofors, all those issues which have no weight or truth, will disappear automatically like the dust. This Bofors issue will not last for more than six months.

Now I want to say something about this Committee. As has been said by other colleagues and as all of us know, accusers cannot be judges. It is a well known fact that if somebody is an accuser, he cannot sit in this committee. But if he sits as a Judge, we are prepared to give him powers and he can decide as to who is the criminal and who is the culprit, who has committed a crime against the country so that he can be punished. We are prepared to give this power.

I am of the view that all of us should wholeheartedly support this motion because this Government and this House is giving us powers in regard to all those things about which we have doubts and apprehensions in our mind. Hon. Members themselves can find out the truth and the reality.

With these words, I support this motion and also appeal to the hon. Members of the Opposition to support it whole heartedly.

[English]

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO (Vijayawada): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to participate on this very important issue which is drawing the attention of the entire country. I believe it is an issue which has drawn the attention of millions of people throughout the length and breadth of the country

An earlier occasion was the nationalisation of banks which has after all gone even to the common man—the poorest man, the agricultural labourer, the rickshaw-puller in this country. Now this is another issue next to that. Whether my friends on the other side would agree or not, it has gone to the imagination of the poorest of the poor in this country. If they want, they can have their own information—intelligence reports—on how people are thinking, how different sections of the people are reacting to this vital issue.

Sir, unfortunately the ruling party is trying to divert the attention of the people from this important issue. Many a time, they are utilising this bogey of forces of destabilisation at work. Whenever they feel their interests are in danger, when they have failed in certain duties, they try to raise this bogey. You know only the other day, several hon'ble Members had brought photostat copies of a magazine in which the information says that CIA has a scheme to destabilise the Government of this country. Not one or two, Sir, a very large number of people had displayed the magazine's front-page coverage. Then the embassy has contradicted. One of our colleagues had brought it to the notice of the Hon'ble Speaker. A responsible man, who was in the Cabinet, has run down our colleague in the terms which I need not mention again. That is how they are trying to divert the attention of the people.

Some of our colleagues on the other side have been saying: "Give us some proof, give us the information, certainly, we are

going to act on that". How can the ordinary people of this country, the Members of Parliament give the information which is not known to the Government, which is a powerful organization, which is having all powers in its hands. It is only when a Swedish National Radio agency broadcast something, and it was reported in the press, we have brought it to the notice of the Government through this august House. I would not repeat what several of our colleagues have mentioned during their speeches. I would like to say only a few points.

First of all, some of the hon. Members of the ruling party tried to criticize the genuine fear of the opposition about the fake representation in the Committee. Ours is a Parliamentary democracy and representation to several political parties which are functioning in this country will need to be given. As you know, the chairmanship of the Public Accounts Committee is given to the Opposition. Now, you are having four-fifth of the membership with you. The chairmanship of the Public Accounts Committee to a member of the Opposition is with the noble intention and that is that the Committee will act very effectively and it will examine how the revenues are being spent, whether there is any wastage, whether the amounts are being spent as per the budget allocation approved by the House. Therefore, I see no reason why the Government and the ruling party should not accept the suggestion of the Opposition for granting the chairmanship of this Committee to the Opposition side.

Such a Committee is going to be appointed by this House for the first time in the history of Parliament. I need not repeat the terms of reference indicated in the motion. I would only like to refer to one important aspect which makes us to feel that the terms of reference should certainly be expanded to cover the way in which very huge money, nearly Rs. 40 to 50 crores, was said to have been given to a Swiss agency regarding this arms deal. With the present terms of reference to inquire into and determine the Indian laws,

rules and regulations and so on and so forth, I feel it will not cover that aspect which is a very important one. Earlier, when the discussion was taking place, about news is said to have been given by our Embassy abroad regarding payment of commission to an agent to the tune of seven per cent. In the discussion that took place, I raised this matter and said that about a year back in May 1986.

18.00 hrs.

Serious doubts were expressed regarding the payments to some middleman or agent by Bofors/as well as about the efficacy of these guns which were expected to have 30 Km range. Unfortunately, on that day the then State Minister for Defence, Shri Arun Singh expressed his pains that the Opposition has no faith in his patriotism or his integrity. We are not talking of patriotism or integrity. But, the fact remains that these doubts have to be clarified by the Government of India, which is a feature of very serious consequences. Sir, the moment the news was given by the Swedish National Radio Agency, the Government was trying to say of and on that there was no middleman; there was no agent though by April 24 itself Bofors have given the information through a letter to our Embassy there that the Government is in know of things by that date itself. Certainly the news that was emanated from that radio agency was not baseless. Unfortunately, the Prime Minister of this country told the Army Commanders that "the Bofors deal was maticulously handled" and that "Sweden has confirmed that there was no middleman and no money was paid in Swiss banks." This was the statement given by the Prime Minister to the Army Commanders even after the fact that the Government was aware that something has gone wrong: this Bofors Company has paid some money either in the name of winding-up costs or in other name to some people in India as well as abroad.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please wind up.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: This has raised serious doubts. And the very fact that a team of high level official persons from Bofors wanted to come to this country and clarify certain things but Government denied their request, further confirmed the serious doubts. The letting off Mr. Win Chadha from this country has further confirmed the doubts that the persons in very high position are involved in this deal and that is why he is allowed to escape from the country in spite of the fact that he is an official Bofors agent in this country. This matter was brought to the notice of the Government as far back as April 16 and by further information from Bofors on April 20.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please wind up.

SHRI V. SOBHANDREESWARA RAO: If the Government really desire to bring forward the facts, or to inquire as to who are the persons or the agents who have received the commission, it can do so. Sir, there is one important tool in the hands of the Government. Actually, in the statement made by the Minister of Defence on 24 April, he said that the Government of India would disqualify the firm, in case it came to the notice of Government of India that an agent had been appointed by the foreign firm. The Swedish Audit Bureau has emphatically made it clear that there are agents to whom the Bofors Company has given enormous amounts belonging. India also has given much more amount to some firms located in Switzerland. Only the Bofors and some persons in our country might know as to what purpose and to whom these payments were made.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please wind up, Mr. Rao.

SHRI V. SOBHANDREESWARA RAO: If our Government asks the Bofors to supply all relevant information, failing which the contract will be cancelled, then the Bofors has no other alternative. It will certainly give all the information contained

in the dotted portions, left out by the Audit Bureau in its report.

Finally, I would like to say just one thing. It is not because we demand or it is not because we suggest, that this must be pursued. The Prime Minister happened to be the Defence Minister also, when the agreement was signed. It is amply clear that moneys are given. The names of the agents may be known or may not be known to us now. But it is a fact that the terms of the agreement were violated and the firm did not stand upto them. It is a clear failure on the part of the Government and on the part of the Defence Ministry. So, I would say that the Prime Minister who gave a clarion call to his party members during the Congress Centenary Celebrations at Bombay to fight corruption with no bars held, should resign voluntarily. It is the moral duty of the Prime Minister to step down voluntarily from the post of Prime Minister to enable the inquiry to be conducted in an impartial manner so as to bring out the facts.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You please wind up. I have been telling you for the last 20 minutes I cannot allow you to go on

SHRI V SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Just one last sentence Sir.

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER: I gave you 20 minutes. You should have finished. Shri Poojary is on his legs already.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO Shri Bir Sen has quoted the example of Sita Devi and a *Rajaka*. It is because the mighty emperor Rama had given so much value to the words of a *Rajaka*, that Sita Devi had to go through fire to prove her purity. It is only because of their highest ethical values that Rama and Sita continue to be the ideal models for millions of people in this country, even after so many centuries. I think, if this Government does not subscribe to any such moral values, then they do not have the right to continue.

18.08 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE—*Contd.**[English]*

MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) issued under the Central Excise Rules, 1944:—

- (1) Notification No 190/87-Central Excises published in Gazette of India dated the 4th August, 1987 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification No 175/86-Central Excises dated the 1st March, 1986 so as to restrict the MODVAT credit to the user industry only to the extent of the duty actually paid on the inputs

- (2) Notification No. 191/97- Central Excises published in Gazette of India dated the 4th August, 1987 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to chemicals and explosives used in the manufacture of zinc and lead concentrates from the whole of the duty of excise leviable thereon. [Placed in Library See No. LT-4560/87]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: We will not be meeting tomorrow. Instead we will be meeting at 11.00 A.M. on Thursday.

18.09 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till
Eleven of the Clock on Thursday,
August 6, 1987/Sravana 15, 1909 (Saka)*
