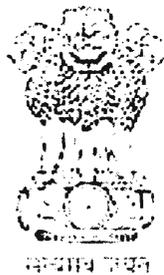


LOKSABHA DEBATES
TENTH SERIES (VOL.V No.42)

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First session



TENTH LOK SABHA

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

STATEMENT

Tuesday, September 10, 1991/Bhadra 19,
1913 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Super Thermal Power Plant in Haryana

*754. SHRI DHARAMPAL SINGH
MALIK:
SHRI TARA SINGH:

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

(a) whether a proposal submitted by the Government of Haryana, to set up a Super Thermal Power Plant at Yamunanagar is pending with the Union Government;

(b) if so, the time by which clearance is likely to be given to the project; and

(c) the details thereof including its estimated cost and the proposed generating capacity?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(a) to (c). No proposal to set up a Super Thermal Power Plant by Haryana Government is pending with the Union Government. However, four units of 210 MW capacity each are proposed to be set up by National Thermal Power Corporation at Yamunanagar in Haryana. The project will have 302 Kms of associated transmission system of 220 and 400 Kilovolts and necessary sub-stations for evacuation of power. The Public Investment Board in its meeting held in October, 1990 has recommended the Project at an estimated cost of Rs.1582.06 crores (at first quarter 1990 price level). The project will require investment approval by Government, after its funding is tied up.

[English]

SHRI DHARAMPAL SINGH MALIK: The Minister has denied the proposal of setting up of a Super Thermal Power Plant at Yamunanagar. But the hon. Minister has accepted that four units of 210 MW capacity each are proposed to be set up by National Thermal Power Corporation at Yamunanagar in Haryana. I want to know from the hon. Minister as to what is the hitch in the final clearance of this project, why it is pending and by when the Government is likely to clear this project. At the same time I want to know from the hon. Minister whether the estimated cost of Rs.1582 crores will be accepted by the Government for the current year or not.

[Translation]

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the National Thermal Power Corporation has decided to set up a power station of 846 megawatts at Yamunanagar. The feasibility

report of the project has been prepared. This project has also been given the techno-economic clearance by the central electricity authority. It has got the forest environment clearance as well as clearance from the civil aviation authority and P.I.B. also According to the present rates, Rs.2000 crore are likely to be spent on this project. Four units of 210 MW will be set up. This project will be set up in foreign collaboration. The proposal of investment is under consideration. As soon as a decision is taken in this regard the Government will take action.

[English]

SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK:

The position in Haryana is not unknown to the hon. Minister. If nothing is done in Haryana, the position will become worse. You know that Haryana is an agriculture and rural industry based State and the power generation is needed. In these circumstances, considering the acute power shortage in Haryana, I want to know from the hon. Minister whether there is any proposal to set up gas based power plant at Faridabad in Haryana. If so, the details thereof and if not the reasons thereof because already there is a pipeline coming via Faridabad and that can be used.

[Translation]

SHRI KALP NATH RAI : Mr. Speaker, Sir., in view of the shortage of power in Haryana and in the entire country, the N.T.P.C. has already started its work in Yamunanagar. Acquisition of land has nearly been done there. Buildings are being constructed and infrastructural work has also started. As this project will involve an expenditure of Rs.2000 crore, the problem of funding is under consideration. We are making every effort to start the work on thermal power station from this year itself. Secondly, the proposal for setting up a gas based power plant in Faridabad is also under consideration.... As soon as, there will be availability of natural gas from the petroleum ministry, the work on gas based power project will be started.

(English)

MR. SPEAKER: Question No.755.

SHRIMATI BASAVA JAJESWARI : I was raising my hand, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: This is relating to Haryana please.

Gulbarga Airport

*755. DR. B.G. JAWALI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the present stage of the Gulbarga Airport; and

(b) the time by which it is likely to be completed and put into operation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI M.O.H. FAROOK): (a) and (b). The airstrip at Gulbarga belongs to the Government of Karnataka and is being constructed by them.

DR. B.G. JAWALI: Sir, I fail to understand this. Does it mean that the Civil Aviation Minister has nothing to do with the airstrip for airport that is being constructed there ?

Secondly, I was given to understand by the State Government that an expert committee of the Civil Aviation Authority with expert engineers for the construction of the airstrip was there. A report was submitted to the State Government and, in turn, to the Central Government.

I would like to know what is the delay. I know that the airstrip is being financed by the State Government. Whether it is the Central Government or the Department of Civil Aviation, under its supervision, it has to be completed and put into operation. At what stage is the airstrip; whether it is for Vayudoot or for any larger aircraft?

SHRI M.O.H. FAROOK : Sir, the construction of the airport has been taken by the State Government to Karnataka Land Army Corporation Limited. The National Airports Authority is only providing the technical assistance-consultancy-free-of-charge and as a special case. Apart from that, we have no authority over them.

DR. B.G. JAWALI : It is more than a decade now. The land has been acquired. The compensation has been paid. If it goes on, somewhere it has to be started. May I know from the Hon. Minister whether anything can be done in this matter?

SHRI M.O.H. FAROOK : Sir, I have already told that this is a State project. The project report was prepared and sent to them for implementation. More than that, we have no authority over it. It is the State Government who have to process the whole matter.

[*Translation*]

Conversion of New Rail Lines

*756 **SHRI RAM NARAIN BERWA:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new railway lines foundation stones for which were laid in 1973-74 and which are still under construction;

(b) the initial amount allocated for these projects and the amount spent thereon so far;

(c) whether approval was accorded in 1973-74 for conversion of nine metre gauge lines into broad gauge;

(d) if so, the reasons for not starting the construction work on three such lines; and

(e) whether the Government propose to chalk out a time bound programme to speed up the pace of construction of the aforesaid works?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) Foundation stones were laid for 5 lines of which 2 are still under construction.

(b) Initial amount allocated in 1974-75 was Rs. 0.30 crores. The amount spent upto 31.3.91 on these works is Rs. 38.07 crores.

(c) and (d). Only one gauge conversion project Manmad-Parbhani-Parli Vajinath was approved in 1973-74 on which work is in progress.

(e) 114 km of Manmad-Parbhani-Parli Vajinath project from Manmad to Auran-gabad is targetted for completion in 1991-92, depending on availability of resources.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM NARAIN BERWA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has said in his reply that 13 years ago, 5 railway lines were sanctioned out of which 2 are still under construction. I would like to know the percentage of progress of that work and what was the initial cost and what is the present cost.

[*English*]

SHRI MALLIKARJUN : Sir, two projects, that is, two lines Shahadara-Saharanpur and Dalmau-Daryapur, have been completed. The foundation-stones were laid on 2.12.73 and 4. 12.1973. The third project is Chitauni-Bagaha.

Its foundation stone was laid on 22.10.1973. But only nine kilometres could be completed up to October, 1978. That is between Bagaha and Valmikinagar. Later it was frozen. However, this project has been re-commenced in 1990. The present cost is Rs. 160 crore in which the Water Resource Ministry and Uttar Pradesh Government and Bihar Government have to contribute Rs. 103 crore.

So far as the fourth one, that is, between Rampur and New Haldwani, is concerned, 66 per cent of the work has been completed. It will be completed by 1992-93.

There was also some difficulty. There was constraint of funds and that is why work was not taken up at a rapid scale. But for the past two years, the work is going on satisfactorily. It will be completed.

There is another project called the Sakri-Hasanpur project. On 22.2.1974 the foundation-stone was laid. But it was frozen due to paucity of funds. However, on the persistent demand from the people we have asked the North-Eastern Railway to update the survey.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM NARAYAN BERWA : Will the hon. Minister be please to state that whether a policy decision will be taken to the effect that only those railway projects will be sanctioned in future, which will provide immediate benefit to the people in case funds are available Besides this, please also state whether the reasons for delay have been looked into and what steps have been taken to remove that delay?

[*English*]

SHRIMALLIKARJUN : Depending upon the funds allocated by the Planning Commission- actually I want to reveal this to the august House- every year Rs.250-260 crores have been allotted for the new lines. Within this funds, we have to fund the on-going projects. For that reason, there is a delay in the completion of the construction of the new railway-lines.

DR. DEBI PRASAD PAL : Will the hon. Minister inform what happened to the Digha-Tamluk railway project which was already sanctioned but no execution has yet been completed? Will the hon. Minister also inform whether there is any project for developing new-line in West Bengal? West Bengal is one of the most congested areas.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN : I would just see if details about this line are available. I will let him know after looking into the file.

MR. SPEAKER : If that information is not available, pass it on to him later.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI : The conversion work on a line from Varanasi to Chhapra in north-eastern railway is going is going on for the last 10-12 years. But it has not yet been completed. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it has been included in this reply and by what time it will be completed?

[*English*]

SHRI MALLIKARJUN : The conversion project from Varanasi to Bhatni including Salempur-Barhajbazar was taken up in 1977-78. The work relating to Varanasi-Bhatni was completed.

Regarding Salempur-Barhajbazar, work is in progress. It is targeted for Completion by December 1991.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI : I am not asking about Bhatni. I am asking about Chhapra-Balia line from Varanasi to Bihar via Gazipur.

[*English*]

SHRI MALLIKARJUN : I have not information about Chapra-Aunrihar, not about Varanasi-Chapra.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SANDIPAN BHAGWAN THORAT :

Mr. Speaker, Sir, this question is regarding the conversion of metre gauge line into broad gauge line. For years, we have been carrying out an agitation in this regard. When Shrimati Indira Gandhi had visited Sholapur, she had assured us about the conversion of this line. I would like to know from the hon.

Minister whether a broad gauge line be laid to link Pandhapur, which is in my constituency and Latur, which is in your constituency?

SHRI MALLIKARJUN : At present there is no such programme.

SHRI CHANDRAJEET YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has pointed out just now that there is a plan to convert some meter gauge lines into broad-gauge lines and an amount of more than Rs. 259 crores is being spent every year for constructing lines.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN : Yes, Sir!

SHRI CHANDRAJEET YADAV : Well ! I want hon. Minister's attention to the statement made by the former Railway Minister Shri Janeshwar Mishra while presenting the Railway Budget regarding eastern Uttar Pradesh which is the most backward area of the country. I belong to that place, it is industrially backward too. Azamgarh and Balia have played a major role in the freedom struggle but it received backward because of meter gauge lines. Will the hon. Minister, keeping all these things in view, consider sympathetically for converting the Shahbad-Azamgadh Maunath-Balia line into broad-gauge for which the House has already been assured.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN : Sir, there is no probability of converting this line at present because there is a programme of converting the eleven meter gauge lines into broad gauge whose total length is 2121 km. while new lines require an amount of Rs.3000 crore. Railways are finding it difficult to deploy the funds.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Manmad-Parbhani Project has already been approved in 1973-74 and out of which Manmad-Aurangabad line...

[English]

It has been targeted for completion in 1991-92.

[Translation]

It means that the work which has been approved in 1973-74 has not been started as yet. The first part of my question is what is the reason for such a long delay and secondly, what will be the total expenditure on it and what amount will be allotted during 1991-92?

SHRI MALLIKARJUN : The total length of the line is 354 km. of which Manmad-Aurangabad line is likely to be completed. The rest work will be completed afterwards and it will require amount of Rs. 87000 crores.

SHRI SURAJ MANDAL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the survey of Vaidyanath Dham Dumka line of N.E. Railway in Bihar has been conducted in 1973-74 and a committee headed by Shri Baitha visited there and on the basis of the recommendation of the Committee it was assured in the House with reference to a question that Rs. 72 crore would be spent on it but no amount has been allocated for this scheme.

I would like to know from the Government about the criteria adopted in connection with the public welfare and the movement of goods. On the one hand, Dumka has been made a Commissionary after a long period but still there is no railway line. There are a number of mines of iron, coal and other minerals and the work relating to movement of these items is also being done but the railway line will be constructed within a year. I would like to know the whether the Government would construct the railway line in these areas which are backward in North East.

[English]

SHRI MALLIKARJUN : Actually, this is not included in our programme. (Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : I appreciate the anxiety of the hon. member. I am sure the House will appreciate the fact that the development of the Railway Network depends on

its returns. As he rightly pointed out, work on those railway lines where natural resources are available, goes on a fast pace because these resources have to be exploited for the economic development of the country. The other part of the question is that the district head-quarters have to be connected. We are sympathetic to it and we will consider it as and when our resource position improves.

[*Translation*]

SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to when the work on the Thane-Belapur-Bombay industrial Belt will be completed. As per my information the Government of Maharashtra has already spent a lot on it and it was to be started last year and a lot of work has already been in progress there...

SHRI MALLIKARJUN : Sir, the construction of a bridge on Belapur-Bombay line was a difficult task, now it has been completed. Now SIDCO is constructing a railway station on the line. As soon as the construction work is over, it will be commissioned in 1992.

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to state through you that in order to connect U.P. and Bihar Mrs. Indira Gandhi had laid a foundation stone there so that Chhitoni-Bagah may be connected and a bridge on the Gandak may be constructed. But the progress of the work was very slow. Then the third Minister came and George Fernandes became the Railway Minister. He once again inaugurated the work. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether the Government has made some provision in the present Budget for connecting Chhitoni and Bagah and if so, the amount to be incurred and the time by which the work will be completed.

MR. SPEAKER : The copy of the Budget has already been provided to you. You can see yours if in it.

[*English*]

SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF : Even in the 1991-92 Budget, enough provision has been made to meet the requirements of this bridge. But the unfortunate part is that the Members who belong to that region try to bargain with us and put pressure on us, rather than their State Governments. The Ministry of Water Resources is also taking part in this work and it is also giving support. But the problem is that the Governments of U.P. and Bihar are not giving their share. Therefore they must ask their State Governments to participate and give their equity share. The delay is only on account of U.P. and Bihar Governments.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, wherever railway lines have been laid, some development has taken place and I feel that railway lines have also been laid, wherever some development has taken place. Railways have not become accessible to the backward areas, precisely because of lack of political pressure and that is why regions like Bihar and Eastern Uttar Pradesh continue to remain backward. In the Kosi region, of Bihar, the distance between one district and another is 14 kilometers but a person intending to travel from one district to another has to take a long route of 300 kilometres and it takes him three days as well. All this is happening because that area does not command a political voice. I would like to know from the Government about the future of the Sakri-Hassanpur railway line. In your answer, you said that five lines were to be laid out of which only two have been completed. I would like to know the time by which construction work on the remaining three, would commence. Both Sakri and Hassanpur fall under my Parliamentary Constituency I would like to know the steps the Government proposes to take to complete that railway line and by when, does it intend to start the work?

SHRI MALLIKARJUN : Work on the Sakri-Hassanpur railway line has not been

taken up because in 1987, the project was reviewed. The foundation stone of this project was reviewed. The foundation stone of this project was laid on 22.2.1974, but due to lack of funds, it could not be taken up. In 1987, the whole project was reviewed and provision made for it in the Budget was also scrapped, at one time. However in the interests of the people, in accordance with their wishes and on the insistence of Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, we have directed the North Eastern Railway to update its survey report on this project.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a matter involving my Parliamentary constituency. The foundation stone for this project was laid in 1974, and now the hon. Minister says that in 1987, that is 13 years after that, the provision made for the project was deleted from the Budget. Now, he is saying that he has directed that the survey be updated. I am not asking any illegal favour from you, but as a Member of Parliament, you can at least consider my demand and make an announcement in this regard that work would start soon. What is the need for another survey? You give an assurance to the House that work on the line would be taken up, without delay.

SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF : My friend has been a Minister and I am sure, he knows that starting work, without conducting any survey does not constitute a scientific approach. If you have done anything like that, I won't call it proper... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Then, how was the foundation stone laid ... (*Interruptions*).... was it done merely to catch to catch votes? (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF : Therefore, as my colleague, Shri Mallikarjun said, we are getting the survey updated. By that we mean that the work would be taken up. Only after taking into account the cost envisaged then and the current cost involved. He has correctly stated that orders have been issued to update the survey and that too,

because you demanded it. You should be happy about it...(*Interruptions*)....

[*English*]

SHRI BALIN KULI : The hon. Minister has state that wherever there are resources like Coal, Petroleum, tea, etc. in abundance-which are necessary for the development of the country-the railway line goes there. I would like to know from the Railway Minister when will the broad gauge railway line from Guwahati to Dibrugarh completed. Is there any target for the completion of the broad gauge line from Guwahati to Dibrugarh?

SHRI MALIKARJUN : Sir, of and on this has come up for consideration but still it has not been considered to be taken up.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI RITA VERMA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, during the tenure of the then Railway Minister, Shri Kedar Pandey work on the Madhubani Railway line was taken up but now we have come to know that those are being removed and taken to other places. I would like to know from the hon. Minister, whether this is a fact. The second part of my question is that the area that I represent, is a very backward one. When it was decided to link the Madhubani area with the main line and convert the existing metre-gauge line into a broadgauge line, why is it that, now the tracks are being removed?

[*English*]

SHRI MALLIKARJUN : Sir, Madhubani line, as I remember, is a frozen one.

[*Translation*]

SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister the fact that although the requisite infrastructure for railway line including bridges have been built in the Adivasi dominated area of Palmau in Bihar, a railway line is yet to be laid.

When this project was reviewed, some people opined that it could be discarded as it is an Adivasi area and that the line could be laid elsewhere. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether this is true?

SHRI MALLIKARJUN : Sir, at the moment, I do not have information about this.

[English]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Sir, there is a narrow gauge line in my district, Puruliya which is a backward district of our country. A survey was conducted in the Puruliya-Kotshila line for converting it from Narrow Gauge to Broad Gauge. The survey was conducted in the year 1984. At that time, its estimate was Rs. 6 crore. It was sent to the Planning Commission. It was rejected by the Planning Commission.

This line will connect Bokaro with Puruliya. May I know whether the Minister will consider the conversion of Puruliya-Kotshila line from narrow gauge to broad gauge?

SHRI MALLIKARJUN : According to the hon. Member, it was but the Planning Commission. Now, we have again sent it to the Planning Commission.

Suspension of I.A. Services

*758 SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether some domestic services of the Indian Airlines have been withdrawn/suspended during the last one year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore; and

(c) when these services are likely to be restored?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI M.O.H. FAROOQ): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Some domestic services had to be withdrawn/suspended during the last one years because of shortage of aircraft arising from (i) grounding of the A-320 fleet and (ii) the Gulf crisis.

(c) Most of the services have been restored. The gradual restoration of the other services will also be considered with the fuller utilisation of the A-320 aircraft.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the decision taken to suspend the domestic services after grounding the A-320 fleet is a personal decision taken by the hon. Minister or a decision to this effect was taken by the Cabinet or this decision was taken on the basis of the views expressed by the experts. Sir, due to this decision, the country had to bear a loss of crores of rupees and the passengers, industries, trade and business had to face a lot of difficulties.

[English]

SHRI M.O.H. FAROOQ : Sir, this decision was taken by the Government, So, we cannot say that this decision was taken by one person or the Cabinet and so on. It is the Government's decision. On the basis of the decisions, the whole thing had been executed.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA : Sir, my question has not been replied to and I want to know whether this decision was right or wrong? I request the hon. Minister to make it clear.

[English]

SHRI M.O.H. FAROOQ : Sir, I have to

say that it does not seem to be a right decision.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, why the decision to ground the fleet had to be taken and then why the services were restored? ... (*Interruptions*)...

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : Let the parts of the question be asked at one and the same time.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to know the reasons for grounding the Airbus-fleet and restoring services of these aircrafts. Sir, it has caused the loss of billions of rupees to the country.

Sir, the hon. Minister in his reply had assured that the domestic flights would be started gradually. In this context, I would like to know the number of airports in which the said service has not been restored till date. The time by which these services are likely to be restored and their number thereof. The services of Vayudoot are suspended without any information which causes a lot of inconvenience to the passengers.

MR. SPEAKER : If the information is readily available, you may give it otherwise you give it in writing lateron.

[*English*]

SHRI M.O.H. FAROOQ : There are 11 links which have not been restored yet; out of 11 links, we restored about five in November; the rest will be restored in due course.

[*Translation*]

SHRI TEJSINGHRAO BHONSLE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, instructions have been issued to restore most of the services in due course. I urge that there used to be I.C. Boeing Service from Bombay to Poona and a Boe-

ing 737 service from Poona to Bombay which has been suspended. At present Vayudoot Service is available there for which Aero plane is being used. Keeping in view the traffic position it seems that people there are facing problems. I want to know the time by which the Poona-Bombay, Bombay-Poona service will be restored?

[*English*]

SHRI M.O.H. FAROOQ : For the time being, it is not under consideration. Actually, what we have done is out of 69 routes we have almost restored the original ones leaving about 11; and out of 11, we are just commencing five. Therefore, only six are being left.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : Amongst the services suspended, I presume was suspended temporarily, was the mourning flight to Jodhpur. Jodhpur is a major tourist centre; Jodhpur is also entrepot to the entire west Rajasthan including the entire tourist traffic for Jaisalmer as also for Bikaner. And there does not appear to be any rational for the suspension of this flight to Jodhpur because the same flight goes to Jaipur, Udaipur and all that was omitted was just Jodpur. So, my first part of the question relates to this suspended morning flight to Jodhpur which was on account of difficulties faced from the consequences of the Gulf War; it is now definitely overdue for resumption because the tourist season is on us. It is a major tourist spot. When is the Government resuming this flight?

So far as Kota is concerned, there used to be a Vayudoot flight to Kota. It is a major industrial area; and the timings of were not inconvenient. My good friend, the hon. Member from Kota is a most efficient and careful MP from that region; he is always pushing for Kota. If the schedule for Vayudoot flight to Kota is made in the morning, it would be a very effective flight. Would the hon. Minister please answer affirmatively to both these questions?

SHRI M.O.H. FAROOQ : As far as first

part of the question is concerned, I have already told that the Jodhpur sector is under our active consideration.

MR. SPEAKER : You have got a positive reply; it is better than negative.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : In bureaucratic parlance, active consideration means that the file has been finally found. But I only want to know when are you going to act on it? Please have a time schedule for Kota also.

SHRI M.O.H. FAROOQ : The morning flight to Jodhpur will be resumed from November 1991.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Please start it on the First of November. What about Kota?

SHRI M.O.H. FAROOQ : Kota pertains to Vayudoot. This question pertains to Indian Airlines.

SHRIP.C. CHACKO : The hon. Minister has stated in his answer that due to the shortage of aircrafts some of the domestic flights were suspended. Suspension is a very temporary thing. And in the second part of the answer, he has stated that most of the suspended flights were re-introduced. There were four flights between Cochin and Bombay, which is one of the busy sectors of the Indian Airlines. Only two flights were re-introduced in that sector.

In view of the fact that a large number of people, who are going to Gulf countries, are travelling from Cochin to Bombay, will the Minister be pleased to state that all the four suspended flights will be re-introduced?

And the re-introduction of A-320s will not solve the problem of small airfields like Cochin, because these aircrafts cannot land there. I want to know from the Minister whether the Government is thinking of acquiring more Boeing aircrafts in view of the shortage of aircrafts.

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): Sir, it is extremely difficult to answer every single details. We have withdrawn about 69 flights due to the Gulf crisis. Now when each and every one of them is going to restored is difficult to say. In any case, Indian Airlines Time Table is an on-going process, is a continuous process. Every single bit of information that the hon. Member wants, we will certainly write to him giving reasons.

SHRI M.O.H. FAROOK: Sir, what the hon. Member says does not seem to be a correct. Some of the aircrafts, that is, A 320s, have been grounded because the pilots are under training. The moment they come from the training we are going to gradually introduce them.

About the other part of the hon. Member's question, we are going to purchase new aircrafts. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you do not give us a chance. I want to ask a question related to Bihar State ... (*Interruptions*)... Bihar is being neglected... (*Interruptions*)... The flight to Patna has been suspended.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : I will disclose a secret to you. On the floor of the House if you ask a question, you will get a negative reply. Please better meet the Minister.

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Sir, Kota flight has been cancelled for quite awhile. It is a very important area. It is important to get a reply as to when this service is going to be resumed... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : Morning flight ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : It is a question of changing the time. whether it is morning or evening. But being such an important sector, it cannot be ignored.

SHRI M.O.H. FAROOK : I have already told that this question is related to Indian Airlines ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : If you have the information, please give it.

SHRI M.O.H. FAROOK : This is Vayudoot flight, which she has herself said...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Please write to her.

SHRI M.O.H. FAROOK : I will write to her.

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, A-320 flights were grounded after the Bangalore crash. It was to be re-introduced in a phased manner. We find that several aircrafts have been lying parked in various airports of the country. And there has been a shortage of flights in various sectors. I want to know whether all the A-320s were totally re-inducted or this phased programme is still an on-going process. And if so, are we still considering to by further 12 A-320 aircrafts under our earlier agreement?

SHRI M.O.H. FAROOK : Sir, what the hon. Member says does not seem to be correct. Some of the aircrafts, that is, A 320s, have been grounded because the pilots are under training. The moment they come from the training, we are going to gradually introduce them.

About the other part of the hon. Member's question, we are going to purchase new aircrafts ...(*Interruptions*)...

[*Translation*]

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you do not give us a chance. I want to ask a question related to Bihar State ...(*Interruptions*)... Bihar is being neglected ...(*Interruptions*)... The flight to Patna has been suspended.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : I will disclose a secret

to you. On the floor of the House if you ask a question, you will get a negative reply. Please better meet the Minister.

[*Translation*]

Pollution Caused by Thermal Power Plants

*759. SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH:
SHRI RAM SARAN YADAV:

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

(a) the number of thermal power plants emitting ash and sulphur dioxide;

(b) Whether the pollution caused by such thermal power plants is a health hazard;

(c) if so, whether the emission control devices installed in these plants are not functioning satisfactorily; and

(d) if so, the details of the steps proposed to be taken to control the pollution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(a) to (d). There are 66 Coal-based thermal stations operating in the country. The flue gases from these thermal plants contain ash and sulphur dioxide. The emission can become a health hazard if the level of emission exceeds the standards of emission levels prescribed by the Central Pollution Control Board in this regard. The standards prescribed are observed by the installation of emission control devices such as Mechanical Precipitators and Electrostatic Precipitators. The new thermal power plants installed or being installed in the country are equipped with Electrostatic Precipitators of better design and high efficiency ranging from 99.5% to 99.9% to keep the emission levels within the statutory requirements.

For the older power plants, a Renovation and Modernisation programme has been launched since September, 1984 for installation/augmentation of Electrostatic Precipitators of high efficiency in respect of 104 generating units covering 24 thermal stations. These units had installed pollution control devices as per the technology available at the time of their installation, which are now inadequate as per the present standards. The work in this regards has been completed in respect of 34 thermal units and work on remaining 70 generating units is under various stages of implementation.

Further work on 23 old units covering 13 thermal plants is included in the second phase of Renovation and Modernisation programme for the 8th Plan.

SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to know the number of thermal power plants emitting ash and sulphur dioxide and whether the pollution caused by these thermal power plants is a health hazard? -

SHRI KALP NATH RAI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are 66 coal based thermal power stations in the country.

SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir I would like to know further whether the Government has taken satisfactory measures to control the effluents being discharged by these plants.

SHRI KALP NATH RAI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as per the guidelines of the State Control Board, the Pollution Board and the Central Pollution Control Board, electro-static Precipitators are being installed in 104 units of the existing 66 coal-based Thermal Power Stations. In the old units, the mechanical precipitators are being replaced by electro-static precipitators under the modernisation programme of 1984 so that the level of pollution could be reduced.

[*English*]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: The pollution comes not only via the smoke

but the huge amount of coal dust and fly ash which accumulate by the side of the power plant is also a source of pollution. In West Bengal there are some projects to utilise this burnt coal and fly ash and then transform them into bricks or other useful needs. In West Bengal we are tying that under the Chairmanship of Shir Somnath Chatterjee in the district of Hugli. There are reports that some other States like Gujarat and Maharashtra have also attempted tht.

MR. SPEAKER : You are replying to the question rather than asking the question.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : My question is very simple. As a measure of controlling pollution generated from the power plants, will this Department be in a position to finance such projects or give aid to such projects?

[*Translation*]

SHRI KALP NATH RAI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to inform the hon. Member that all the thermal plants of Bengal are old ones. So, mechanical precipitators had been installed in all of them. Now, electrostatic precipitators are to be installed in them under the 1984 renovation modernisation scheme of the Government. ...(*Interruptions*)

AN HON. MEMBER : What is the question and what a reply he is giving. ...(*Interruptions*).

SHRI KALP NATH RAI : I am giving reply only. It is regarding pollution in Bengal. ...(*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER : The question is whether the Government will provide funds for the brick-kilns?

SHRI KALP NATH RAI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a suggestion and I have noted it down. It will be considered ...(*Interruptions*).

[*English*]

SHRI K.P. REDDAIAH YADAV : There are a number of thermal power stations

throughout the country. Particularly in Vijayawada, during the summer season, due to whirlwind and gale, the coal ash is spreading throughout the city. So such coal disposal plants cause health hazard. What is the remedy with the Government to stop such a pollution?

MR. SPEAKER: Precipitators have been installed.

SHRI K.P. REDDAIAH YADAV : Precipitators are for the fly ash and not for the disposal of the coal ash. Coal ash is dumped in big tanks. During the summer season, due to heavy whirlwind and gale, it is spreading in the city. Is there any proposal with the Government of India not to allow this coal ash during the summer season to pollute the city?

[*Translation*]

SHRI KALP NATH RAI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are working in accordance with the guidelines given by the Ministries of Environment and Health for controlling pollution. New plants are being set up to stop the pollution being caused by the spread of ash.

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Will the hon. Minister please state whether there is any alternative to devices of mechanical precipitators and electrostatic precipitators which have proved a failure in checking pollution. The Thermal Power Plant at Kota is a major plant and it is coal based. People living in its vicinity are very distressed because of pollution caused by it. I would like to know whether there is any proposal to convert the thermal power stations from coal based to gas-based stations where gas-line is available. If so, by when it will be done?

SHRI KALP NATH RAI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the mechanical precipitators are an outdated technology which are being replaced by electrostatic precipitators in order to reduce pollution. It is a modern technology. Besides this, high chimneys are being installed so that flue gases being discharged by these plants do not cause any health hazard. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : He has already replied this.

[*English*]

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL : Environmental pollution is the bane of most metropolitan cities. Is the Government considering any proposal to shift the thermal power stations from major cities like Delhi and Bombay?

MR. SPEAKER : He wants to know whether you are going to shift the big plants from the big cities.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KALP NATH RAI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the plants which have already been set up cannot be shifted but new plants will be set up at a safer distance.

SHRI AYUB KHAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the pollution being generated by the plant at Kota in Rajasthan is proving harmful not only to human beings but also to animal kids. Is the hon. Minister aware of it? If so, by what time the problem will be solved?

SHRI KALP NATH RAI : Sir, the Kota Power Plant is the largest plant for supplying electricity in Rajasthan. So far as the problem of pollution is concerned, the Government is considering to sort out this problem to the extent it is possible.

SHRI KALKA DAS : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister in his reply stated that most of the power stations have been electrified. The level of pollution has been increasing much due to effluents being generated by the Badarpur Thermal Power Station and Indraprastha Power Station. Delhi is the most polluted city. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether there is any proposal in the Eighth Five-year plan to electrify these power stations. If so, what are the details thereof?

SHRI KALP NATH RAI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, under the renovation modernisation scheme, electrostatic Precipitators are being installed in Badarpur Power station. Besides

this, a handling ash plant is also being set up so as to certain pollution.

[*English*]

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN: Sir, out of the 66 coal based thermal power stations, the Minister has stated that work on 24 thermal stations is being taken up since September, 1984 and 13 thermal stations will be taken up in the Eight Plan. This adds to only 37 stations. I want to know what about the remaining 29 thermal power stations whether these are to be taken up in the Ninth Plan?

[*Translation*]

KALP NATH RAI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have already stated that work on 34 station and not 24 stations have been completed. Work is in progress in 70 units. Work on 13 units will be taken up in the Eighth Plan.

[*English*]

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : Sir, thermal station and thermal unit are different things. Only 24 thermal stations have been taken up since 1984 and thirteen thermal stations are being taken up in the Eighth Plan, out of 66 thermal stations.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KALP NATH RAI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are 134 units in 60 thermal power stations. I have already said that work is in progress in 70 units and completed irrespect of 34 units. Work in 13 units will be taken up in the Eighth Plan.

Funding of Suburban Railway Projects in Bombay

*760. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had proposed a tripartite arrangement among the Government of Maharashtra, IRCON (Indian Railways Construction Company) and

the Railways regarding commercial exploitation of Railway premises in Bombay for subsequent use of the earnings for funding the Suburban Railway projects in Bombay;

(b) whether the Government of Maharashtra has agreed to this proposal; and

(c) if so, the further action being taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) The proposal has not been finalised, because the modalities have not yet been worked out.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

SHRI RAM KAPSE : Sir, the Railway Board, in 1986, had decided not to spend in metropolitan cities for new railway projects and it expects that the Urban Development Department should spend for it. The Urban Development Department has no money for that. So, is it true that is is proposed to raise the funds in metropolitan cities by utilising air space over railway stations for construction of commercial complexes?

SHRI MALLKARJUN: Sir, it is in order to mobilise additional resources that since 1986, the Railways have decided to take up pilot project to utilise the piece of land in a metropolitan city, particularly to take up Bandra in Greater Bombay. In this connection, the Railways had a meeting with the Bombay Regional Development Authority (BMRDA) to agree for it because over for this land which we are going to use, the change of land use permission has to be taken from the State Government and the BMRDA has agreed for it. Certain modalities have also been worked out and ultimately a draft proposal, which had been agreed to by the Board, was also signed by the BMRDA. But, unfortunately, the BMRDA, after having signed it, has put a condition and the condition is that the surplus amount which we will get will not be deposited in the Consolidated Fund of India. In this connection, as you

know, Sir, we have to adhere to the Constitution and the Government revenues will have to be put in the Consolidated Fund of India.

Apart from that, the BMRDA'S condition was that there should be no Parliamentary control. But we have to here to the Constitution of India. Later what has happened is that since this is not going to be workable, a barter agreement has been made. IRCON which will be working on this piece of land, will construct the office-cum-commercial complex. The Western Railway will utilise the office portion and the IRCON will utilise the commercial portion. IRCON will construct the infrastructural things in the suburban railway. But this agreement had to be sent to the Finance Ministry and other Ministries. The Finance Ministry's comments have been that even this barter agreement is not reasonable. So, it has been turned down by them. Therefore, now we have to go back and decide about whatever the Board approves and the draft agreement which has been signed by the BMRDA.

SHRI RAM KAPSE: Sir, I have asked the question whether the Government of Maharashtra has agreed to this proposal and the reply of the Ministry is 'No, Sir'. But it is my personal knowledge that the Government of Maharashtra has agreed to this proposal. BMRDA has cleared the whole idea. The only problem with the Railways is whether they can spend the amount, and for that it was suggested the IRCON will keep the money derived from commercial exploitation and then use the same for further suburban railway project. So, will the hon. Ministry try with the Finance Ministry again and help the Bombay commuters to get a new railway project there?

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: Sir, As I have informed, there was only an agreement between the B.M.R.D.A. and the Railways. In fact, it has to be approved by the Mahar-

ashtra Government under its Act-Regional and Urban Planning Act, 1966. However, as has been mentioned, when this complication has come into picture, it has been referred to the Ministries and it is with the Ministry of Finance. It has not agreed for the barter agreement. Therefore, what is being suggested to B.M.R.D.A. is that it should not insist that the amount should be kept in a separate account. It will be in the Consolidated Fund of India. Only then further action will be taken....[Interruptions]

SHRI RAM KAPSE: My question is whether you will speak with the Ministry of Finance again to help the Bombay commuters.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: We will certainly speak with the Ministry of Finance again and again. If this is approved, it will be a viable solution for both B.M.R.D.A. and the Railways.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Rihand Dam

*757. SHRI RAM NIHORE RAI: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rihand Dam in Sonbhadra district of Uttar Pradesh has been constructed for power generation;

(b) if so, the number of thermal power stations to which water is provided from this dam and the number of private thermal power stations to which water is proposed to be provided from there;

(c) whether this dam is getting silted; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) At present, the following six thermal power stations with total installed capacity of 6827.5 MW are using water from the Rihand Dam Reservoir.

- (i) Obra of Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board (UPSEB)
- (ii) Anpara of UPSEB
- (iii) Singrauli of National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC)
- (iv) Rihand of NTPC
- (v) Vindhyachal of NTPC
- (vi) Renusagar of Renusagar Power Company (Private sector captive plant).

(c) and (d). The siltation taking place at Rihand Dam is as per its design.

[English]

Expansion of Visakh Refinery

*761. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY:
SHRI V. SOBHANADREES-
WARA RAO VADDE:

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

(a) whether there is any proposal to increase the refining capacity of the Visakh

Refinery of the Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited, Visakhapatnam; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) There is no such proposal with the Government.

(b) Does not arise.

Allotment of Wagons to Karnataka

*762 SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI:
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has been urging the Union Government to increase the allotment of wagons to that State;

(b) if so, the total number of wagons demanded and the number provided during 1990-91; and

(c) the steps being taken to fulfil the demand in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir, for cement.

(b) Statewise particulars are not maintained.

(c) Demand is being met currently.

Assistance from World Bank for Production of Natural Gas

*763 SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN:
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any financial assistance from

the World Bank for the production of natural gas; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKAR-ANAND): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The World bank has sanctioned loans of US \$ 139.3 million for the South Bassein Development Gas Project, US \$ 283.25 million for the Western Gas Development Project and US \$ 450 million for the Gas Flaring Reduction Project.

Coal Reserves in North Eastern Region

***764 SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHONSLE:** Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Mine Planning and Design Institute Limited has identified

coal reserves in the North Eastern region;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the category of coal found in the region; and

(d) the utilisation programmes proposed for these reserves?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (c). The Geological Survey of India (GSI) undertakes 'Regional Exploration' for the purpose of identification of coal reserves in the country. GSI has assessed a coal reserve of 864.78 million tonnes as on 1/1/91 in the North Eastern Region. The Central Mine Planning and Design Institute Limited (CMPDIL) undertake 'Detailed Exploration' for proving of coal reserves for the purpose of mine planning. The Category-wise coal reserves as on 1/1/91 in the North Eastern Region are:

Proved Category	257.03 million tonnes
Indicated Category	149.29 million tonnes
Inferred Category	458.46 million tonnes
Total	864.78 million tonnes

(d) The production of coal in the North Eastern Coalfields was 6.79 lakh tonnes during the year 1990-91. The targets of coal production for the years 1991-92 and 1994-95 has been fixed as 6.80 and 9.00 lakh tonnes respectively which will meet existing demand of the industries such as cement, paper, bricks, and other industries of the region. Some quantity of coal from Margherita area of Coal India Limited, are supplied to steel plants for blending purposes.

Late Arrival of Domestic Flights

***765. SHRI K. THULASIAH VAN-DAYAR:** Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all domestic flights are invariably delayed; and

(b) if so, the corrective measures taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). No, Sir. The punctuality of the operations is being closely monitored and timely remedial steps are taken to improve the on-time performance of the airlines. However, there are factors beyond the control of the airlines which often affect the punctuality of their operations. As a result of the steps taken, the punctuality rate of Indian Airlines has improved from an average of

about 52% in June, 1991 to about 75% in August, 1991.

Tourism Development in Tamil Nadu

*766 SHRI RAJAGOPAL NAIDU RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the details of sites selected by the India Tourism Development Corporation during the last five years in Tamil Nadu for promotion of tourism; and

(b) the progress made so far in the development of these sites?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). The ITDC had identified the following two sites for setting up a hotel in Madras either on its own or as a joint venture project in collaboration with the State Tourism Development Corporation.

In February, 89

A site measuring about 3 acres located 4 kms away from the Secretariat on the way to Airport.

For want of agreement on the joint venture terms with the State Tourism Development Corporation no progress could be made in the matter.

In April, 91

A site measuring about 3 acres located at Valluver, Kottam on Koddam Bhakkam Road.

ITDC has approached the Government of Tamil Nadu for allotment of the site for setting up a hotel either by ITDC its own scheme or as a joining venture project with the State Government.

[*Translation*]

Express Train from Patna to Delhi

*767 SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce a new direct express train from Patna to Delhi via Allahabad and Kanpur in view of density of passenger traffic on this route; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Purchase of Aircraft for Vayudoot

*768. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the aircraft proposed to be purchased for the Vayudoot, indicating their capacity, cost and other salient features; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) At present, Vayudoot has no plans to purchase new aircraft.

(b) Does not arise.

Hotel Accommodation in Metropolitan Cities

*769. SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH
SHRI RAMESH CHAND
TOMAR:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the total requirement of hotel accommodation in the approved sector in Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras;

(b) the total accommodation in the approved sector available at present;

(c) whether there is shortage of hotel accommodation in these cities; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). The position of hotel accommodation in the approved sector is as under:-

<i>Sl. NO.</i>	<i>City</i>	<i>Projected hotel room requirement by year 1996</i>	<i>Hotel room capacity available at present</i>
1	2	3	4
1.	Delhi	11,576	7,141
2.	Bombay	14,950	6,389
3.	Calcutta	2,380	1,658
4.	Madras	4,955	2,877

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Government is encouraging growth of hotel accommodation by giving fiscal incentives and providing loans through financial institutions. The State Governments/ Union Territories have also been requested to provide necessary infrastructure support in this regard.

[Translation]

Frequency of Jammu Tawi-Hapa Express

*770 SHRI SHIVLAL NAGJIBAHU VEKARIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Jammu Tawi-Hapa Express runs only once a week;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to run this train to and fro four days in a week in view of public demand; and

(c) when it is likely to be implemented; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Due to operational and resource constraints.

[English]

**Direct Train Between Delhi and
Kotdwara**

*771 SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a direct train between Delhi and Kotdwara was planned a few years back and trial runs were carried out in this regard;

(b) if so, the reasons for not introducing this train; and

(c) when it is proposed to be introduced now?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No such proposal is under consideration at present.

[Translation]

Collieries in Jharkhand, Bihar

*772. SHRI SIMON MARANDI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of collieries lying closed in Jharkhand area of Bihar;

(b) the reasons for the closure of these collieries;

(c) whether any efforts are being made by the Government to revive these collieries;

(d) if so, the action taken so far in this regard; and

(e) the names of collieries likely to be revived during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) Closed collieries fall in two categories:

(1) Those collieries taken over as closed and still continuing to remain closed.

(2) Those collieries taken over as working or opened new after nationalisation and which are now closed:

Number of closed collieries falling in the territory of State of Bihar is as follows:-

Category - I	27
Category - II	25

(b) Reasons for collieries of category I continuing to remain closed are:

(1) These could not be merged/re-grouped or amalgamated to form a reconstituted mine.

(2) Lack of infrastructural facilities on account of geographical location.

(3) Isolated patch deposit with very small reserves and seasonal work-ability.

(4) Insufficient geological data available for such mines.

(5) Non-availability of reliable working plans in respect of old workings.

(6) Not viable techno-economically.

Reasons for closure of mines of Category II

- (i) Exhaustion of extractable reserves.
- (ii) Highly uneconomic working without any potentiality for further viability.
- (iii) Adversely geo-mining conditions.

(c) & (d). Yes, Sir. Efforts are being made to re-open such of the closed mines where intensive exploration efforts have given indications of their potentiality for commercial exploitation.

Feasibility reports for opening some collieries have been approved by competent authority and are under process of implementation and some others are under planning stage.

(e) Nil.

[English]

Electrification of Sabarmati-Gandhinagar Line

*773. DR. K.D. JESWANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan for electrification of Sabarmati-Gandhinagar railway line; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) The electrification will cover 28 route kilometres between Sabarmati and Gandhi-

nagar and is estimated to cost Rs. 12.63 crores.

Shortage of Hindustan Petroleum Refills

6331. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for shortage of LPG refills of the Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited; and

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

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b). Generally there is no shortage in the supply of refills.

Regularisation of Contractual Workers in Coal India Limited

6332. SHRI HARDHAN ROY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of jobs declared under prohibitive category in coal mines operation;

(b) whether these jobs are being managed by the contractors in different subsidiaries of the Coal India Limited;

(c) if so, the reasons for awarding these jobs to contractors;

(d) whether the Government propose to regularise the workers engaged by the contractors on these jobs; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGUDA): Engagement of Contract Labour in the following categories of work in the Coal

Industry is prohibited by Government in the Ministry of Labour, under Sec. 10 (1) of Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970:

- (a)1. Raising or Raising-cum-Selling of Coal.
2. Coal Loading and unloading.
3. Overburden removal and earth cutting.
4. Soft-coke manufacturing.
5. Driving of stone drifts and miscellaneous stone cutting underground.
6. Sweeping, cleaning, dusting and watching of buildings.
7. Unloading of Raw Coal.
8. Charging of magnetite.
9. Plant cleaning including removal of spoilage, waste, muck cleaning, Magnetite removal etc.
10. Transport of middlings in coal washeries.
11. Removal of slurry in coal washeries.

(b) and (c). At times heavy earth moving machinery hired along with operators for meeting the demands on productions, as the coal companies are not in a position to invest substantially in Heavy Earth Moving Machinery. The jobs at No. (10) & (11) in reply to part (a) were prohibited by orders dated 11.12.1990 and the concerned coal companies expressed some difficulties in implementing the same. But for this, contractors are not engaged in prohibited categories of work.

(d) and (e). Abolition of engagement of contract labour does not confer any right on the existing contract labour for regularisation under the coal companies. The question of considering such work force for regularisation, subject to their suitability, and subject to requirement, can arise only in cases where the jobs done by the contract labour can not be managed by alternative mechanical means or the existing surplus work force in the companies can not be gainfully employed for doing such jobs.

[Translation]

Payment of Service Charges By ONGC

6333. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has to pay service charges to some companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the ONGC is likely to pay these charges?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) ONGC pays service charges to various companies for services including drilling, testing and repair of wells, transportation, pipeline maintenance, canteen services, etc.

(c) The payments are made in accordance with the terms and conditions of the contract.

[English]

Maintenance and Protection of Tracks

6334. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VERMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken for the proper and timely maintenance of tracks in the country and intensive training of railway officials with a view to preventing accidents and ensuring timely running of trains;

(b) whether there are certain sections where chain pulling for ensuring unauthorised stoppage and detention of trains almost at each door step is a regular feature; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to stop this menace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) The Railways have a well defined system of regular track maintenance as also of attention to occasional maintenance needs. The staff in select safety categories, are imparted initial training followed by periodic Refresher Courses and safety camps. Emphasis in these courses is on Safety aspects, technical knowledge and also on motivation about punctuality improvement.

(b) and (c). Sections which are more prone to alarm chain pulling (ACP) have been identified. Railways organise surprise checks in coordination with State Govts. on these sections to apprehend the miscreants. Simultaneously, educative campaign through various media is also undertaken. On badly affected trains, alarm chain apparatus is blanked off.

Penalty of imprisonment upto one year and/or fine upto Rs. 1000/- has been prescribed by the Railway Act, 1989 and a

minimum fine of Rs. 500/- for first offence and imprisonment for three months for second of subsequent offence have also been prescribed.

Issue of Licence to Commercial Pilot by Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Academi

6335. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether licences issued by the Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademi (IGRUA) are at par with the licences issued by flying academies of other airlines in the world;

(b) whether some of the commercial pilot licences issued by the Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademi (IGRUA) are endorsed with "not valid for commercial purposes" and "without night endorsement" whereas some are not;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether any assessment about the working of the IGRUA has been conducted in the recent past and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) IGRUA trains pilots for acquiring Commercial Pilot Licence. Such Licences are issued by the Director General of Civil Aviation. They are on par with similar licences issued in other countries.

(b) and (c). The whole matter is being reviewed by the Director General of Civil Aviation.

(d) Yes, Sir. IGRUA has achieved the broad objectives for which it has been established.

[*Translation*]

Chari Committee on "Issues in Coal"

6336. DR. JAYANTA RONGPI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the recommendations made by the Chari Committee regarding Issues in Coal and the action taken thereon;

(b) whether there is any proposal to modify its recommendations; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NAYAMA-GOUDA): (a) to (c). Briefly, the salient findings/recommendations of the report "Issues in Coal" submitted by Shri K.S.R. Chari to the erstwhile Advisory Board on Energy are:-

1. Though the coal production has increased, the objective of nationalisation cannot be said to have been fully achieved.
2. Massive investments in import of technology and equipment have not reduced cost of production.
3. Import of coking coal can and should be avoided by improving the performance of washeries and delinking the suspect sources of supply.
4. Quality base for statistical report should be in terms of standard coal.
5. Concept of OMS should include all inputs instead of manpower alone.
6. Undue emphasis on opencast

mining should be avoided.

7. Grade wise price structure needs to be rationalised.
8. Exploration should be demand-based and not project-based for creating a shelf of projects from which a choice could be made based on least cost options.
9. Getting land, sand for stowing, adequate power, timely supply of equipment, delay in environmental clearance are some of the major problems.
10. In order to achieve the desired production level by 2000 AD, the projects need to be planned from today, considering the long gestation period.
11. Jharia Reconstruction project should include proper definition of scope for proper utilisation of coals from lower seams.
12. 'Decontrol' of coal has certain positive aspects that may commend its adoption.
13. Board of Directors of Coal India Limited needs to be re-organised and subsidiary companies should be freed from interference by holding company. Executives should be permitted extension till the age of 65 years.

As per procedure prescribed the Sub-Committee of the erstwhile Advisory Board on Energy considered the report and submitted its recommendation to the Special Committee of Secretaries. The recommendations/observations made by the Special Committee of Secretaries are kept in view in deciding connected policy issues.

[English]

Cadre Review of Group 'B' Officers

6337. SHRI PURNA CHANDRA
MALIK:

SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state.

(a) whether the cadre review of Group 'B' officers of the Railways has been conducted since 1987;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) to (c). The channel of promotion for Group 'B' officers of the principal Departments of Railways (namely Civil Engineering, Traffic, Mechanical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Signal and Telecommunication, Stores, Accounts and Personnel) is through appointment to Group 'A' in Junior Scale. On such appointment to Junior Scale Group 'A' Group 'B' officers are assigned seniority in Group 'A' adding the benefit of a promotion of their Group 'B' service (not exceeding 5 years) as service in Junior Scale (Group 'A') are thus part of Group 'A' cadre and are on par with directly recruited Group 'A' officers in the matter of promotion to higher grades of Group 'A'. In view of this, the question of a separate Cadre Review for Group 'B' officers does not arise.

Transport Activities of ITDC

6338. SHRI LOKNATH CH-
OUDHURY:

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHER-
JEE:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to close down ITDC's all India Transport activities/services, in a phased manner;

(b) if not, the factual position in this regard;

(c) the list of transport unit/services alongwith the type of vehicles and man-power deployment, investment made etc. which were there at each transport unit/station during 1980-81 and as on March, 1991; and

(d) the aims and objectives of ITDC's Travel Agency (Ashok Travel and Tours) with details of man-power deployment and investment in the beginning, its aims/objectives, manpower, investment and achievements during 1985-86 and as on March, 1991?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRIMADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) ITDC has drawn an Action Plan which envisages a core fleet of at least 50 vehicles for its transport activity supplemented by hiring vehicles as and when required.

(c) The requisite information is given in the attached Statement II.

(d) ITDC's Travel Agency (called ATT) was set up in the year 1981 with a view to promoting and handling inbound tours to the country. The details of man-power deployment are contained in Annexure II. The details of investment (capital employed) and turn-over are as under:

(Rs. in Lakhs)

<i>Year</i>	<i>Capital</i>	<i>Turn-over employed</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
1981-82	5.82	1.89
1985-86	66.97	156.19
1990-91 (Prov.)	285.57	467.08

Despite adverse tourism scenario in the country during 1990-91 due to various reasons, the ATT agency earned a net profit of Rs. 9.73 lakhs.

<i>As on March, 81</i>		<i>As on March, 91</i>	
1.	Delhi	1.	Delhi
2.	Agra	2.	Agra
3.	Jaipur	3.	Jaipur
4.	Bombay	4.	Bombay
5.	Aurangabad	5.	Aurangabad
10.	Bangalore	10.	Bangalore
11.	Kovalam	11.	Kovalam
12.	Indore		
13.	Jabalpur		
14.	Khajuraho		
15.	Bhubneswar		
16.	Guwahati		
17.	Hyderabad		
Fleet Strength	288 Vehicles	109 Vehicles	

	<i>As on March, 81</i>	<i>As on March, 91</i>
Investment	Rs. 278.83 lakhs	Rs. 545.69 lakhs
Type of fleet	Ambassador cars, Imported cars, Mini Buses, Deluxe AC and Non AC Coaches	Ambassador cars, Imported cars, Deluxe AC and Non Ac Coaches.

NOTE: Unit-wise figures on investment cannot be given as the vehicles deployed at Units are transferred depending upon the need are purchased centrally.

STATEMENT - II

S. No.	Name of the Unit	Manpower Development	
		As on 31 Mar 81	As on 31 Mar 91
1	2	3	4
1.	Delhi	243	200
2.	Agra	22	3
3.	Varanasi	10	15
4.	Indore	6	—
5.	Jabalpur	7	—
6.	Khajuraho	2	—
7.	Jaipur	17	3
8.	Patna	21	18
9.	Bhubneshwar	9	—
10.	Calcutta	18	26

S. No.	Name of the Unit	Manpower Development	
		As on 31 Mar 81	As on 31 Mar 91
1	2	3	4
11.	Bombay	30	49
12.	Aurangabad	10	14
13.	Bangalore	20	21
14.	Kovalam	5	1
15.	Madras	41	48
16.	Hyderabad	14	—
17.	Guwahati	7	—

Expenditure on Non-Conventional Energy Sources in A&N Islands

6339. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA :
Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount spent for harnessing of the non-conventional energy sources in Andaman and Nicobar Islands and the achievement made so far in this regard;

(b) whether any monitoring machinery

exists to review the progress of different schemes; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) The total assistance extended by Central Government for the harnessing of non-conventional energy sources in Andaman and Nicobar Islands programme-wise and the corresponding achievements are as follows:

		(Rs. in lakhs) (Financial)	Achievements (Physical)
1	2	3	4
1.	Biogas (1981-91)	2.47	77 biogas plants installed.
2.	improved Chulha (1987-91)	1.30	16520 Chulhas have been installed.
3.	Biomass	6.432	Gasifiers & Stirling engines in installed with a capacity of 181 KW.
4.	Solar Thermal (1985-91)	5.27	18 nos. solar water heating systems with a capacity of 4000 litres per day at 60° were installed.
5.	Solar PV Systems PV modules	135.8 53.14	St. Lighting 265 Villages/hamlet covered by St. lighting 149 Water Pumping 16 Dom. Lighting 330 Com. Lighting 2 Power Plant 1 (9.12 KW) PV modules 1170

1	2	3	4
(Rs. in lakhs) (Financial)	Achievements (Physical)		
6.	Wind Energy Energy Survey Wind Mills Battery Chargers	11.27 5.00 4.00	A wind survey project was undertaken for setting up 5 wind monitoring stations. 24 water pumping wind mills have been installed under Wind Pump Demonstration Programme. 8 Wind Battery Chargers have been installed with 2 x 4 KW, 5 x 50 Watts and 1 x 250 Watts respectively.
Total	224.682		

(in Addition, the approved 7th Plan outlay in the State sector for New and Renewable Sources of Energy was Rs. 60 lakhs against which an expenditure of Rs. 130 lakhs was incurred during 7th Plan. The various programmes/implemented during the Seventh Plan were : wind generators (5 Nos.), wind pumps (24 Nos.), SPV street lighting (27 Nos.), solar water heating systems (22 Nos.), Biomass gasifiers (4 Nos.) and improved chullah (8000 Nos.). The approved State Plan outlays for 1990-91 and 1991-92 are Rs. 115 and Rs. 150 lakhs respectively.)

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. The local administration and the various divisions of the Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources are regularly monitoring the installation/propagation of various New and Renewable Sources of Energy devices/Systems. Remedial measures, wherever considered necessary, are taken to put the system back in operation.

Review of Rural Electrification Programme

6340. SHRI GOPINATH GAJAPATHI:
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rural Electrification Corporation has been directed to make a review of progress with regard to the Rural Electrification Programme;

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

(c) the achievements made in rural electrification of Ganjam district of Orissa till July 31, 1991; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b). The progress of Village Electrification and Pumpset Energization is reviewed periodically by the Central Government. State-wise details are given in the attached Statements. I & II.

(c) and (d). Orissa State Electricity Board has reported energisation of 7570 pumpsets and electrification of 2849 villages upto 31.7.1991 out of a total of 4185 inhabited villages (as per 1981 Census) in Ganjam district of Orissa.

STATEMENT-I

Progress in Electrification of Villages Upto July, 1991

S. No.	State/UTs	Total No. of Villages (1981 Census)	Total achievement as on 30.7.91 (Tentative)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	27379	27358
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3257	1505
3.	Assam	21995	21344
4.	Bihar	67546	46762
5.	Goa	386	377
6.	Gujarat	18114	17892
7.	Haryana	6745	6745
8.	Himachal Pradesh	16807	16761
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	6477	6155

S. No.	State/UTs	Total No. of Villages (1981 Census)	Total achievement as on 30.7.91 (Tentative)
1	2	3	4
10.	Karnataka	27028	26483
11.	Kerala	1219	1219
12.	Madhya Pradesh	71352	63187
13.	Maharashtra	39354	39106
14.	Manipur	2035	1500
15.	Meghalaya	4902	2287
16.	Mizoram	721	457
17.	Nagaland	1112	1099
18.	Orissa	46553	31671
19.	Punjab	12342	12342

S. No.	State/UTs	Total No. of Villages (1981 Census)	Total achievement as on 30.7.91 (Tentative)
1	2	3	4
20.	Rajasthan	34968	27100
21.	Sikkim	440	405
22.	Tamil Nadu	15831	15815
23.	Tripura	856	2839
24.	Uttar Pradesh	112566	82565
25.	West Bengal	38024	27714
Total (States)		578009	480688
Total (UT s)		1123	1120
Total (All-India)		579132	481898

STATEMENT-II

Progress in the Energileation of Electric Pumpsets/Tubewells upto July 1991.

S. No.	State/UTs	Estimate ultimate potential in term of electric plumpsets	Total achievement as on 30.7.91 (Tentative)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	160000	1212891
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—
3.	Assam	200000	3514
4.	Bihar	1000000	256284
5.	Goa	—	4102
6.	Gujarat	700000	46752
7.	Haryana	430000	360706
8.	Himachal Pradesh	10000	3522

S. No.	State/UTs	Estimate ultimate potential in term of electric plumpsets	Total achievement as on 30.7.91 (Tentative)
1	2	3	4
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	15000	2356
10.	Karnataka	850000	744045
11.	Kerala	300000	226079
12.	Madhya Pradesh	1300000	903087
13.	Maharashtra	1800000	1627017
14.	Manipur	10000	45
15.	Meghalaya	10000	65
16.	Mizoram	—	—
17.	Nagaland	10000	172

S. No.	State/UTs	Estimate ultimate potential in term of electric plumpsets	Total achievement as on 30.7.91 (Tentative)
	2	3	4
18.	Orissa	500000	53823
19.	Punjab	700000	609778
20.	Rajasthan	600000	392047
21.	Sikkim	5000	—
22.	Tamil Nadu	1500000	132589
23.	Tripura	10000	1418
24.	Uttar Pradesh	2400000	654893
25.	West Bengal	500000	90342
	Total (States)	14450000	883947
	Total (UTs)	50000	32645
	Total (All-India)	14500000	8972292

Use of Stamping technology in Collieries

6341. SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether stamping technology has improved the production of coal in Jama Doba colliery;

(b) if so, whether it is proposed to be introduced in other coal mines; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) to (c). Jama Doba colliery belongs to M/s Tata Iron and Steel Company (TISCO), and they have informed that the "Stamping" technology is not applied for production of coal. This technology has been introduced for making of coke for the use in their Steel Plant.

Development of Tourism at Simliphal Hill in Orissa

6342. SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Orissa has requested the Union Government for

financial assistance for development of the Simliphal Hill ranges; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). On the basis of proposal received from the Government of Orissa, the Central Department of Tourism has extended financial assistance for construction of forest lodge and purchase of mini buses and elephants for the wild life sanctuary at Simliphal.

Expenditure on Public Relations by Air India

6343. SHRI RAM CHANDRA VEERAPPA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of expenditure incurred by the Air India during the last three years in foreign exchange and in Indian currency on public relations other than advertisements etc.; and

(b) the details of expenditure thereof, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). Air India has incurred the following expenditure during the last 3 years on public relations except advertisements:

<i>Year</i>	<i>India</i>	<i>Foreign</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>(Rupees in Lakhs)</i>			
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>
1987/88	1.77	8.04	9.81
1988/89	3.84	11.98	15.82
1989/90	7.72	24.04	31.76

[*Translation*]

Daily Running of Train No. 2381/2382

6344. SHRI LALIT ORAON: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the decision to operate the train No. 2381/2382 via Gaya daily and reservation for Gaya and Delhi had also started in the said train earlier has now been changed effective from January-February, 1991;

(b) if so, the reasons for changing the earlier decision; and

(c) the time by which the Government propose to operate the said train daily via Gaya and to extend any new train to be operated between Bombay and Varanasi upto Gaya?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There was strong resentment by the passengers against the withdrawal of the train from the existing route of 2303/2304 A.C. Express.

(c) There is no such proposal at present.

Corruption in ITDC

46345. SHRI KALKA DAS: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the names of officers of the India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC) against whom enquiry has been conducted by the management during last five years; and

(b) the action taken by the Government against erring officials?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Departmental enquiries have been conducted by ITDC in 31 cases involving 26 officers during 1986 to 1990.

(b) Necessary action has already been taken in 16 cases.

[*English*]

Repair of Bridges in Baroda

6346. SHRI NARANBHAI JAMLABHAI RATHVA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the damage caused last year to the small Dhokalia railway bridge at Bodli Tal Sageda:

(b) if so, the steps taken to process the proposed repairs; and

(c) the steps taken to repair the damage caused to the major railway bridge Bharaj at Tehsil Pavijetpur district Baroda due to floods last year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). There is no proposal, at present, to repair the damaged bridges in view of the meagre traffic on this NG section and availability of adequate alternate road services.

Covered Godown at Basti Station

6347. SHRI SHYAM LAL KAMAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is no covered godown at Basti station for protection of customers' goods particularly cement and lime during rains; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps proposed to be taken to construct godowns there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) There are four covered godowns available at Basti Station. Moreover, adequate number of tarpaulins have also been provided to cover the goods like Cement and lime during rainy season.

(b) Does not arise.

Stoppage of Trains at Bhusawal

6348. SHRI MAHENDRA KUMAR SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to reply given on August 20, 1991 to Unstarred Question No. 3629 regarding extension of train running between Surat and Bhusawal and state:

(a) the reasons for such a long stoppage of trains at Bhusawal;

(b) the remedial measures being taken to mitigate the difficulties of passengers at that station; and

(c) the reasons for not extending this train upto Khandwa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) to (c). Train Nos. 113/114, 75/76 and 77/78 have been provided time at Bhusawal for their essential repair and maintenance. Extension of these trains to Khandwa will cut down this period of maintenance which is not desirable from the point of view of safety.

No difficulties are being faced by the passengers at Bhusawal as this is a terminating/originating station for these trains.

Complaints for Leaking LPG Cylinders

6349. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "LPG dealer's apathy may cause serious mishap" appearing in the 'Indian Express' dated August 21, 1991;

(b) if so, the facts thereof and the action taken in the matter;

(c) whether the Government have made any foolproof arrangements to attend to the complaints of leaking gas cylinders to avoid any accidents mishaps;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the oil companies against the erring LPG dealers who do not attend to such complaints immediately?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The news item mainly covers delay in attending to leakage complaints and the attend behaviour of the distributor. Government has ordered an investigation into the incident.

(c) and (d). Distributors are under instruction to attend to leakage complaints on priority on all days including holidays.

(e) The erring distributors are being dealt under the Marketing Discipline Guidelines.

LPG Connections and Petroleum Products Dealerships in Gujarat

6350. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of places where LPG agencies and petrol/diesel outlets have been opened in Rajkot district of Gujarat during the last three years;

(b) the number of LPG connections released in Jamunanagar district during the last three years;

(c) the number of persons on the waiting for LPG connections in Jamunanagar,

Junagarh, Rajkot, Bhavnagar, Amereli, Porbandar, Kutch and Surendranagar; and

(d) when they are likely to be provided with LPG connections?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKAR-ANAND): (a) The information provided by the oil companies is as follows:-

<i>LPG Distributorships</i>	<i>Petrol/Diesel R.O. Dealerships</i>
1. Rajkot	1. Kotada Sanghavi
2. Jasdan	2. Rajkot
	3. Bhalgam
	4. Kuvadava
	5. Kalavad Road
	6. Jetpur
	7. Bhayavadar

(b) 10136.

(c) Releasing LPG connection is a continuous process and therefore it is difficult to give the definite district-wise figures.

(d) Efforts are of to give LPG connections to as many applicants as early as possible.

Expenditure on Litigations by Air India

6351. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MADAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news items captioned "Pilots' stir tans AI image" appear-

ing in the "Indian Express" Bombay dated May 29, 1991;

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

(c) the measures taken by the Government to minimise infructuous expenditure on litigations on staff matters being incurred during the present financial stingency of the Air India; and

(d) whether there exists any machinery for redressal of grievances of both the Officers and staff in the Air India and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government does not agree with the observations in the news item as they are not factually correct. The strike was withdrawn by the IPG without any reservation.

(c) The management of Air India is often compelled to respond to litigation initiated by employees. It is the constant endeavour of the management to keep harmonious relations with the employees and avoid unnecessary litigation.

(d) There is a Grievance Procedure in Air India which provides for redressal of grievances of employees at various levels.

[*Translation*]

Amenities at Stations in Orissa

*6352. SHRI GOVIDA CHANDRA MUNDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether complaints have been received regarding mis-management in providing electricity, water and catering facilities to the passengers at different stations in Orissa;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to improve and streamline the facilities provided to the passengers especially on Rourkela and Jaipur-Keonjhar Road Stations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) and (b). Complaints in respect of failure of electricity supply on platform and inadequate water supply at Balasore were received which have been attended to.

(c) As regard Rourkela and Jaipur-Keonjhar Road stations, electric and water supply arrangements at these stations are considered adequate. Rourkela refreshment centre has been renovated.

Supply of Electricity at Kashtha station

*6353. SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any provision of electricity at Kashtha station on Grand Chord Line;

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to provide electricity there; and

(c) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) to (c). Kashtha station building is already electrified since September, 1984 through traction supply. However, electrification of station complex by taking power supply from Bihar State Electricity Board is in progress and likely to be completed during 1991-92.

[*English*]

Stoppage of Express Trains at Chandauli Majhwar

6354. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether stoppage of express trains at Chandauli Majhwar and Tulsi Ashram stations in Varanasi district has been cancelled;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to provide halt of more express trains there;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) and (b). Stoppage of no express train at Chandauli Majhwar has now been withdrawn. Stoppage of 49/50 (New No. 3049/3050) Howrah-Amritsar Express at Tulsi Ashram was withdrawn with effect from 10.7.1981 due to lack of commercial justification.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Commercially not justified.

[*Translation*]

Maharajganj-Dronda Section

*6355. SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Maharajganj in Bihar was connected with Dronda railway station on Barauni-Gorakhpur main line (NER);

(b) whether a survey was conducted to extend Dronda-Maharajganj rail section and connect it with Sidwalia station of Chapra-Thabi rail section;

(c) whether at the time of conversion of this main line from metre gauge to broad gauge Daronda-Maharajganj rail section was suddenly stopped;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to reopen the Dronda-Maharajganj rail section; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Survey was conducted only for conversion of Duraundha Maharajganj isolated branch line from M.G. to B.G. However, a fresh survey for gauge conversion from Duraundha to Maharajganj M.G. line into B.G. and provision for a new B.G. line from Maharajganj to Masrakh has been included in the Budget 1991-92.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e). Decision for re-opening conversion to B.G. would depend on results of the survey and availability of resources.

[*English*]

Modernisation of Sealdah Station

6356. SHRISATYAGOPAL MISRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to modernise Sealdah Station; and

(b) if so, the details therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Sealdah is one of the 67 Railway Stations selected to be developed as Model Stations. The development scheme is estimated to cost Rs. 249.39 lakh. An amount of Rs. 133.03 lakh has been spent upto March, 1991 and the allocation for 1991-92 is Rs. 15.14 lakh.

Out of Turn Allotments of Petrol/Diesel Retail Outlets and LPG Agencies in Delhi and U.P.

6357. SHRIRAJNATH SONKARSHASTRI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of petrol/diesel retail outlets and LPG agencies sanctioned out of turn in Delhi and Uttar Pradesh during the last three years; and

(b) the criteria adopted therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKAR-ANAND): (a) and (b). Dealerships/distributorships allotted at the discretion of the Government during 1988-91 (Upto March 1991):-

Retail Outlet Dealerships

Delhi	18
Uttar Pradesh	20

LPG Distributorships

Delhi	13
Uttar Pradesh	22

The allotments since December, 1989 are under review.

Malpractices in Releasing LPG Connections

6358. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state the steps taken by the Government to check the distribution of LPG connections in black-market by the LPG dealers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKAR-ANAND): All complaints against the LPG distributors are investigated and action is taken in accordance with the Marketing Discipline Guidelines.

Modernisation of Trivandrum Station

6359. SHRI A. CHARLES: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent so far for the modernisation of the Trivandrum Station; and

(b) the target fixed for its completion as per existing schedule?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) Rs. 138.25 lakh upto March, 1991.

(b) December, 1992, subject to availability of funds.

Augmentation of Track from Silchar to Badarpur

6360. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the track between Silchar and Badarpur stations on North East-Front Railway have become very weak due to inundation by flood water and non-repair of that section for last several years; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to repair the track soon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does to arise.

Baggage Delivery at Patna Airport

6361. SHRI RAMNARESH SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOUR-ISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the difficulties being experienced by passengers in collecting their baggages on arrival at Patna Airport; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) National Airports Authority has plans to instal a conveyor belt at the arrival hall of the Patna airport.

Setting up of Diesel Based Power Station in Madhya Pradesh

6362. SHRI BHEEM SINGH PATEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a diesel based power station in Rewa District in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c). At present there is no proposal to set up a Diesel based Power Station in Rewa District of Madhya Pradesh.

[*Translation*]

Air linking of Each District with capital in U. P.

6363. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the names of districts in Uttar Pradesh which have not been linked with the State Capital by air service so far;

(b) whether there is any proposal to air link each district with the State Capital during 1991-92;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) At present Kanpur and Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh are air linked with the State Capital.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) does not arise.

(d) Places are airlinked not on the basis of their being district headquarters but on the basis of the economic viability of providing air services to them.

[*English*]

Oil and Gas Exploration in Godavari Basin

6364. SHRI G.M.C. BALAYOGI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of rigs working in Godavari Basin;

(b) the results achieved so far from them;

(c) the quantity of oil and gas available there; and

(d) how the oil and gas being produced from the basin is being utilised?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) 11.

(b) So far 18 prospects have been found to be only gas bearing and 7 prospects have been found to be oil and gas bearing.

(c) As on January 1, 1991, the total

recoverable reserves were estimated to be about 17 million metric tonnes of oil and oil equivalent of gas.

(d) While oil produced from the Basin is being utilised for refining, natural gas has been allocated to various consumers.

Model Stations in Tamil Nadu

6365. DR. (SMT.) K.S. SOUNDARAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of stations in Tamil Nadu to be remodelled during 1991-92 and the amount to be spent thereon;

(b) whether Erode Junction and Sankini Durg station in Tamil Nadu are proposed to be taken up for remodelling during the current year; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) Remodelling of Madras Central, Madurai Jn., Tiruchirappalli Jn., and Coimbatore Jn., Railway Stations in Tamil Nadu have been taken up under Model Station scheme at a total estimated cost of Rs. 448.75 lakh.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Remodelling of Railway Stations is done on a need based programme depending on availability of funds. Amenities available at Erode and Sankaridurg Railway Stations are considered adequate for the present level of traffic dealt with.

Pending Petroleum Projects in Gujarat

6366. KUMARI DIPIKA CHIKHLIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Petroleum projects of Gujarat pending clearance with the Union Government for more than three years;

(b) the number of such projects cleared during the current year;

(c) whether the cost of the pending projects has escalated, if so, to what extent, project-wise; and

(d) the reasons for delay in giving approval and the time by which the remaining proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Nil.

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

Power Failure in East Delhi

6367. SHRI PIUS TIRKEY: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for frequent power failures for 4 to 5 hrs. daily in East Delhi, particularly, in GTB Enclave; and

(b) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure regular supply there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b). According to DESU, the problem of power break-downs in East Delhi is mainly due to overloading of the system on account of the unplaced load growth and existence of large number of unplanned load growth and existence of large number of unauthorised colonies in the area. Power supply in the GTB Enclave was affected due to a fault in the sub-station and

the supply was restored within the minimum possible time. DESU is improving/augmenting the transmission and distribution system within the available resources to improve the power supply position in East Delhi. Drive to check the theft/misuse of power has also been intensified.

Engines for Boing 747-400

6368. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Air India propose to purchase engine for Boing 747-400 aircraft;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether some other companies have offered fresh bids for supply of engines;

(d) if so, the details of such companies; and

(e) the estimated amount to be involved for the purchase of engines?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) The aircraft is offered with three alternative choices of engines. The question of any other engine manufacturer offering bids does not arise.

(d) and (e). Do not arise.

[*Translation*]

Rural Electrification in Bareilly and Badaun Districts, Uttar Pradesh

6369. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rural electrification scheme has not been fully implemented in the various villages of Bareilly and Badaun districts of Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the time by which the remaining villages in both the districts are likely to be electrified?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b). The Rural Electrification Programmes are formulated and executed by the respective State Electricity Boards. Districtwise rural electrification activities are undertaken by the State Electricity Boards according to the priority fixed and funds made available by the State Authority within the plan allocation. However, as per information available, by the end of March, 1991, the number of electrified villages in the Bareilly and Badaun districts of Uttar Pradesh are as under:-

<i>Name of the district</i>	<i>No. of inhabited villages as per 1981 census</i>	<i>Villages electrified as on 31.3.1991</i>
1	2	3
1. BAREILLY	1901	1373
2. BADAUN	1785	1362

[English]

Rail Lines in Madhya Pradesh

6370. SHRI SATYNARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the details of action taken and proposed to be taken in regard to proposals forwarded by the Government of Madhya Pradesh for constructing rail lines in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): The Government of Madhya Pradesh have requested for construction of Dallirajhara-Rowghat-Jagdarpur new BG line. This proposed line is a single user line required by Steel Authority of India Limited for movement of iron ore to Bhilai. Survey has been completed and cost advised to Minister of Steel. Work can be taken up as and when Ministry of Steel/ SAIL arrange funding for this line.

Overbridge at Aligarh

6371. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to construct an overbridge at the Ramghat Road railway crossing, Aligarh, U.P. in view of the traffic congestion there;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Railway has not so far received from the State Government any firm pro-

posal for the facility dully consenting to bear the cost as per rules.

Complaints Against Releasing LPG Connections

6372. PROF. PREM DHUMAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received complaints from the Members of Parliament that LPG connections have been issued on forged signatures of MPs.;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKAR-ANAND): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The matter is being looked into.

[Translation]

Fire In HPCL Plant at Chembur

6373. SHRI MOHAN RAWLE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether fire had broken out in lubricant plant of the Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited at Chembur on July, 1, 1991;

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

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken to fix responsibility for the lapse?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKAR-ANAND): (a) to (c). There was a fire in the Dwaxing Unit of the Lube Plant in the Bom-

bay Refinery of HPCL on 28th June, 1991. A Committee has been set up by the Government to enquire into the Causes of the fire.

[English]

Agreement Signed by Ashok Group of Hotels

6374. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:

SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH:
SHRI LOKANATH CH-
OUDHURY:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ashok Group of Hotels (ITDC) entered into an agreement with M/s. Radisson Group of Hotels;

(b) the details of the terms and conditions of the agreement;

(c) the quantum of business generated by M/s. Radisson Hotels for the particular

ITDC hotels and after the tie-up with them during 1990 and upto July 1991, hotel-wise and payment made by the ITDC for the service rendered by M/s. Radisson Hotels;

(d) whether the Government have examined the performance of M/s. Radisson Hotels in view of the unsatisfactory functioning in generating the required business for ITDC;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) whether the Government propose to terminate the agreement as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of broad terms and conditions of the agreement are given in the attached Statement.

(c) The quantum of business generated hotel-wise 16.10.90 to 31.7.91 is given below:-

Name of Hotel covered under the agreement	Business received from RHC	Room Nights sold
Ashok Hotel, New Delhi.	Rs. 27,135.00	15
Ashok Radisson Lalitha Mahal Hotel, Mysore	Nil	Nil
Ashok Radisson Hotel, Bangalore	Rs. 4,711.20	4
Ashok Radisson Kovalam	Nil	Nil
	Rs. 31,846.20	19

The payments made to M/s RHC upto 31 July, 91 have been as follows:

(Rs. in lakhs)

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Paid to M/s RHC</i>	<i>Income Tax deducted at source</i>	<i>Total</i>
1	2	3	4
-Lumpsum Know-how fee	12.79	5.45	18.24
-Franchise fee for the period 16.10.90 to 31.12.90	8.15	3.49	11.64

(d) to (f). ITDC has not received much business from M/s RHC as per expectations on account of various reasons which inter-alia include disturbed conditions in some parts of the country and the situation in the Middle East culminating in the Gulf War. The arrangement with M/s Radisson is under examination.

STATEMENT

Broad terms of agreement entered into by ITDC with M/s Radisson Hotel Corporation

The broad terms of agreement entered into by ITDC with M/s Radisson Hotels Corporation are given below:

- The agreement is for a period of ten years;
- It covers provision of marketing, technical and consultancy services by M/s Radisson Hotels Corporation of Minneapolis USA;
- The benefit under the agreement will be for the following properties of ITDC:-

- (1) Ashok Hotel, New Delhi, which will be an affiliate hotel of Radisson Hotels Corporation;
- (2) Hotel Ashok Bangalore, Bangalore
- (3) Lalitha Mahal Palace, These properties will be designated Mysore Ashok Radisson.
- (4) Kovalam Ashok Beach Resort Kovalam

TERMS OF AGREEMENT

The fee payable to Radisson Hotels Corporation as envisaged in the agreement will be as follows:

- (i) US\$ 100,000 in lump sum for Management Development (Training) on-going expenses and for technical and operational consultancy services.

- (ii) 3% of room revenue, as franchise fee, generated by the four hotels covered under the agreement.
- (iii) US \$ 6 as booking fee for every materialised reservation on reciprocal basis.

Circular Rail between Vijayawada Tenali-Guntur

6375. PROF. UMMA REDDY VENKATESWARALU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have approved the project of operating circular railway between Vijayawada-Tenali and Guntur;

(b) if so, whether the project has been implemented and the trains operated; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Vijayawada-Tenali, Tenali-Guntur-Vijayawada sections are adequately served by passenger trains.

Theft of Railway Property

6376. DR. S.P. YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any incident of theft of railway property has come to the notice of the Government in Moradabad division;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken in this regard?

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

(b) The total number of cases of thefts of Railway Property reported on Moradabad Division during the year 1990 and 1991 (upto June) are as under:—

Year	No. of cases	Value of Property		Persons arrested
		Stolen	Recovered	
1	2	3	4	5
1990	677	783242	276629	423
1991	329	783343	545856	223

(c) As soon as any theft of Railway property comes to notice, immediate action is taken to work out the case, recover the

stolen property and to arrest the accused persons.

[*Translation*]

Tourist spots at mountains and sea beaches

6377. SHRI KANSHIRAM RANA:
SHRI A. CHARLES:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to give financial assistance to set up tourist resorts at hilly areas, on sea shores and at places of pilgrimage including the Kovalam Beach;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRIMADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c). With a view to encourage development of tourism infrastructure it is proposed to grant income tax concessions and relief from Expenditure Tax in respect of new hotels in a hilly area or a rural area or a place of pilgrimage or such other places as the Central Government may specify. There so also a scheme for providing interest subsidy on loans sanctioned by certain financial institutions for approved hotel projects.

[*English*]

Export Industry Status to Tourism

6378. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to grant Export Industry Status to tourism industry;

(b) if so, the steps taken to implement the proposal and to give incentives to tourism industry that are admissible to export industry; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRIMADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c). The view taken on the recommendation of the National Committee on Tourism in this regard was that the incentive available to export oriented industries are mostly being made available to tourism industry.

Concealment of Gold in Air India Aircraft

6379. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether gold worth Rs. 40 lakhs concealed in the cavities of the wall panels of Bombay bound Air India flight from Tokyo was recently detected at the Indira Gandhi International Airport;

(b) whether any inquiry has been conducted by the Government in this regard; and

(c) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRIMADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). One person has been arrested and a show cause notice has been issued to him on 26.7.91 No Air India employee is involved in this case.

[*Translation*]

Supply of Wagons for Akola City

6380. SHRI PANDURANG PUNDLIK FUNDKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the industries in M.I.D.C. area of Akola City in Maharashtra are facing difficulties in regard to the supply of wagons;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in the supply of wagons; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to meet the demand of the industries there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) to (c). There is no difficulty in meeting the demand of traffic from the industries in M.I.D.C. area of Akola City for major destinations like Shalimar, New Delhi, Kankaria, Chitpur etc. which can be clubbed to form block rakes. However, with competing demands from various sectors for Piece-meal movement, there is some time lag between placement of demands and supply of wagons. All efforts are being made to supply wagons to the industry by clubbing the indents even from adjoining stations and form them in block rakes to ensure prompt supply and quicker movement.

LPG Agencies in Pilibhit

6381. DR. P.R. GANGWAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to open LPG agencies in Pilibhit district of Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, when and where the said agencies are likely to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKAR-ANAND): (a) LPG dealerships are already existing in Pilibhit District.

(b) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Power Plants in Orissa

6382. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether proposals have been received from the Government of Orissa regarding renovation and modernisation of Hirakud power station and the Transmission Scheme for the upper Indravati Hydro-Electric project;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken on these proposals so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c). Four proposals have been received for renovation and modernisation of Hirakud Power Station by Central Electricity Authority. Three proposals have been cleared by the Central Electricity Authority and the Planning Commission. The fourth one, received in August, 1991, is under examination in CEA.

The proposal regarding transmission scheme for the Upper Indravati Project has been recommended by the Department of power to the Department of Economic Affairs for seeking World Bank assistance.

Purchase of Ground Handling Equipments by Air India

6383. SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been alleged that brand new ground handling equipments procured a few months ago exclusively for the Air India flights are lying idle at Thiruvananthapuram airport;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount involved therein;

(c) whether the Air India has also purchased fresh equipments from the open market for the same purpose; and

(d) if so, the estimated cost involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) At Thiruvananthapuram airport, Indian Airlines has not positioned any ground handling equipment exclusively for handling of Air India flights as alleged.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Debts against Vayudoot

6384. SHRI BHOY KRISHNA HANDIQUE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the debts owed by the Vayudoot to the Air India and the Indian Airlines have been written off; and

(b) if so, the total amount written off?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Power Grid

6385. SHRI RABI RAY : Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state the steps proposed to be taken to improve the functioning and efficiency of regional and national power grids?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): The regional grids comprise of load despatch and communication facilities at State level and regional level. The facilities at State level are operated by respective States and at regional level are operated by Central Electricity Authority. The Government is taking steps to augment these facilities at Load Despatch Centres and to improve communication facilities. In addition, steps are also being taken to improve the grids management technique which is an on-going process. Schemes to augment the above facilities at the Load Despatch Centres, both at the Regional and State levels, have been drawn up for the Northern, Eastern, Southern and North-Eastern region. While the scheme for the Northern region is under advance stage of implementation, the schemes for Eastern, Southern and North-Eastern regions are in various stages of processing. The National Power Grid is in the process of development with the continued augmentation of extra High Voltage lines in the Central Sector and creation/strengthening of the Inter-State and Inter-Regional transmission links, and the load despatch facilities.

Bridge at Kumbar Taleo (Solapur)

6386. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was any proposal to construct an overbridge near Kumbar Taleo two km. from Solapur on Solapur-Bijapur road (N.H. 13);

(b) whether the Government of Maharashtra and his Ministry have decided to provide funds for this project; and

(c) the present status of the project and the steps being taken in this regard?

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

(b) Not yet Sir.

(c) The proposal for the work is, at present, in planning stage with respect to finalisation of plans/estimate and apportionment of cost between the State Government and the Railways.

Export of Coal

6387. DR. P. VALJAL PERUMAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of coal exported during 1990-91; and

(b) the total earnings therefrom?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) and (b). According to information furnished by Coal India Limited, the total quantity of coal exported by them during the year 1990-91 was 95.3 thousand tonnes and the total earning from this export was Rs. 1085 lakhs.

Power projects of Orissa

6388. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the power projects in Orissa sanctioned during the last two years; and

(b) the total amount involved in these projects including the central share?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Power and Non-Conventional Energy Sources (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) No power project has been sanctioned in Orissa during the last two years.

(b) Does not arise.

Production of coking coal by CIL

6390. SHRI ANIL BASU:
SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) total production of coking coal by the Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries during each of the last three years, subsidiary-wise;

(b) whether the Coal India Limited has taken any step to improve the standard of coking coal as required by the steel industry;

(c) if not, whether the Government plan to import coking coal for the steel industry; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) Subsidiary-wise production of coking coal by Coal India Ltd. (CIL) during last three years is given below:-

(In million tonnes)

Company	1988-89			1989-90			1990-91		
	Total	Metal-	Total	Metal-	Total	Metal-			
	coking coal	urgical Grade coking coal	coking coal	urgical Grade coking coal	coking coal	urgical Grade coking coal			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7			
Eastern Coalfields Limited	1.42	0.23	1.40	0.21	1.55	0.52			
Bharat Coking Coal Limited	21.82	11.19	22.10	10.10	23.30	9.26			
Central Coalfields Limited	14.29	8.65	15.81	9.25	16.31	9.35			
Western Coalfields Limited	0.70	0.70	0.62	0.54	0.74	0.65			

(in million tonnes)

Company	1988-89		1989-90		1990-91	
	Total coking coal	Metal-urgical Grade coking coal	Total coking coal	Metal-urgical Grade coking coal	Total coking coal	Metal-urgical Grade coking coal
	2	3	4	5	6	7
1						
South Eastern Coalfields Limited	0.09	—	0.10	—	0.11	0.11
Total CIL	38.32	20.77	40.03	20.10	41.01	19.89

(b) to (d). With a view to improve the quality of washed coking coal being supplied to the steel plants, Coal India Limited have undertaken major modification in most of the existing washeries. The modification is expected to be completed by 1992-93. With the implementation of modifications scheme the ash content in the coking coal is expected to come from existing level of 19.3% to 17.0 + 0.5%.

Grievance of LPG consumers

6391. DR. C. SILVERA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any time limit has been fixed by the Oil Companies to deal with the grievances of LPG consumers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c). The oil companies are expected to deal with the grievances expeditiously.

Cancellation of Vayudoot services

6392. SHRI ARVIND TULSHIRAM KAMBLE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Vayudoot service between Bombay-Osmanabad-Solapur have been cancelled;

(b) if so, when these services are likely to be restored;

(c) whether there is any proposal to commence Vayudoot service between Latur and Bombay; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Due to commercial and operational reasons, Vayudoot Limited has been forced to reduce its network drastically in various States of the country. It is not in a position to restore these services at the present moment.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Due to heavy losses being sustained by it, the airlinking of new stations is not a feasible proposition for Vayudoot at the present moment.

[*Translation*]

Rail Passes to Freedom Fighters

6393. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the number of freedom fighters to whom rail pass facility has been provided from January 1991 to August 1991, Zone-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

Compensation to displaced persons of Deepika Coal Mine, Madhya Pradesh

6394. SHRI BHAWANI LAL VERMA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the locations and names of the villages where land is being acquired for Deepika Coal Mine by the South Eastern Coalfield Limited, Korva in Madhya Pradesh and the area thereof;

(b) the number of persons being affected therefrom;

(c) whether the affected persons have been adequately compensated for their acquired land; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) 1701.36 hectares of land was acquired in 10 villages named below, situated at about 20 kms. from Pali village and Korea town in District Bilaspur (Madhya Pradesh).

1. Chainpur
2. Sirki
3. Beltikri
4. Dipka
5. Suwabhandi
6. Jhingatpur
7. Ratija
8. Jhabar
9. Malgaon
10. Banki

(b) 1443 families were affected.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) A sum of Rs. 14 crores has been sanctioned as compensation for the the lands acquired. A sum of Rs. 8.02 crores has already ben disbursed and the disbursal of the balance is pending because of some disputes.

[English]

Faking of records of Dornier Aircrash

6395. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:
DR. LAXMI NARAYAN PANDEYA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Engineering staff faking records" appearing in the Times of India dated March 15, 1991;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the Government have enquired into the matter; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof, and the steps taken in this regards?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVARAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). The report of the Committee of Inquiry that investigated the crash of the Dornier aircraft of Vayudoot near Pune on 23 September, 1989 does not indicate that any record of the aircraft had been tampered with.

Small Hydel Power Projects

6396. SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI : Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to lay emphasis on small hydel project in the Eighth Five Year Plan to cater to the needs of small States like Sikkim; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CON-
VENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI
KALP NATH RAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

Schemes to cater to power requirements in remote and hilly areas and to avail canal drops is being given importance. A number of small hydel schemes aggregating to 146.85 MW are proposed for the 8th Plan. The details are given in the attached statement.

(b) Development of Small Hydel

STATEMENT

Programme of the Commissioning of Small H.E. Schemes during 8th Five Year Plan (1992-97)

S. No.	Name of the Project	State	Capacity (MW)	Benefits in 8th Plan (MW)	Expected year of Commissioning
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Dadupur	Haryana	4 x 1.5	6	1995-96
2.	Baner	Haryana	3 x 4	12	1992-93
3.	Gaj	H.P.	3 x 3.5	10.5	1992-93
4.	Thirot	H.P.	3 x 1.5	4.5	1993-94
5.	Kargil	J & K	3 x 1.25	3.75	1992-93
6.	Chenani - II & III	J & K	2 x 1 + 2 x 2	6	1995-96
7.	Sewa St. III *	J & K	3 x 2	6	1996-97
8.	Sobia	U.P.	3 x 2	6	1993-94

S. No.	Name of the Project	State	Capacity (MW)	Benefits in 8th Plan (MW)	Expected year of Commissioning
1	2	3	4	5	6
9.	Dhimbe	Mah.	1 x 5	5	1993-94
10.	Guntur Canal - I	A.P.	2 x 2	4	1992-93
11.	Guntur Canal-II	A.P.	2 x 2.25	4.5	1995-96
12.	Mallapur	Ktk.	2 x 4.5	9	1992-93
13.	Varahi (Mani Dam)	Ktk.	2 x 4.5	9	1992-93
14.	Muvattypuzha	Kerala	2 x 3.5	7	1992-93
15.	Lower Bhavani	T.N.	2 x 4	8	1994-95
16.	Eastern Gandak Canal	Bihar	3 x 5	15	1992-93
17.	Sone Western Canal	Bihar	4 x 1.65	3.3	1992-93

S. No.	Name of the Project	State	Capacity (MW)	Benefits in 8th Plan (MW)	Expected year of Commissioning
1	2	3	4	5	6
18.	Sone Eastern Canal	Bihar	4 x 1.65	3.3.	1992-93
19.	Chandil	Bihar	2 x 4	8	1993-94
20.	Upper Rongnichu	Sikkim	4 x 2	4	1992-93
21.	Pottern	Orissa	2 x 3	6	1994-95
22.	Nuranang *	Ar. Pradesh	3 x 2	6	1995-96
Total				146.85 MW	

* CEA cleared schemes.

Production of locomotives at Chittaranjan Locomotives Works

6397. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA:
DR. A.K. PATEL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the targets fixed and actual production of diesel and electric locomotives by the Chittaranjan locomotive Works during 1988-89 and 1990-91;

(b) the number of such locomotives targeted for production during 1991-92;

(c) whether CLW exports any of its products;

(d) if so, the value and quantity thereof during each of the last three years; and

(e) the future plans in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) The information is as under:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Targets fixed</i>	<i>Actual Production</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
1988-89	144	141
1989-90	144	147
1990-91	144	154

(b) 149.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) There are no such plans in the near future.

Wind energy in eighth plan

6398. SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to State:

(a) whether the power produced through Atomic and Thermal Energy is costlier than power produced through wind energy; and

(b) if so, the target of power production through wind energy in the Eighth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) The cost of generation from thermal, nuclear and wind power projects depends on their respective technological characteristics and number of variables, such as location, type and size of plant and equipment, the size of projects, extent of civil works, and the cost and availability of fuel, etc. The average cost of generation from three demonstration wind power projects of 20 MW aggregate capacity taken up recently is estimated to be Rs. 1.17 per unit. However, cost data available from such small size demonstration projects is not strictly comparable with large scale thermal or

nuclear power projects. Cost of large scale wind power projects is likely to be comparable with thermal and nuclear power projects if due consideration is given to the facts that wind power is renewable and has no fuel cost; is environmentally benign; has short gestation and is modular.

(b) The Eight Plan has not been finalized.

Power production from different sources

6399. SHRI BHOGEN德拉 JHA: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the total installed capacity and the actual generation of power from thermal, hydel, nuclear and other sources and the estimated power generation by the end of the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) the steps proposed to be taken to bring Bihar and other States at par with the national level with regard to both actual generation and installed capacity; and

(c) the estimated generating capacity of hydel in the country particularly from the Himalayan rivers and the steps proposed to be taken to harness?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Total installed capacity in the country as on 31.3.1991 in respect of thermal, hydel and nuclear stations is 66,066.01 MW. During 1990-91, the generation from these sources was to the extent of 264231 million units. The 8th Plan has not been finalised so far.

(b) Various measures taken to improve availability of power in the country including

Bihar, are (i) expediting commissioning of new generating capacity (ii) implementation of short gestation projects (iii) improving the performance of existing power stations (iv) reduction of T & D losses (v) implementation of demand management and energy conservation measures and (vi) arranging transfer of energy from surplus to deficit areas.

(c) As per the Hydro-electric potential assessment by Central Electricity Authority (CEA), the hydro-electric potential of the country has been assessed as 84044 MW at 60% load factor. The Hydro-electric Potential of the Himalayan rivers (generally comprising Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Sikkim, West Bengal, Arunachal Pradesh) is estimated as 59689 MW at 60% load factor. Based on the above assessment, detailed feasibility/project reports are prepared by the respective States and are techno-economically cleared by the CEA. The implementation of the schemes depends upon the availability of resources and other inputs.

[*Translation*]

Irregularities of trains from Samastipur to Narkatiaganj

6400. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that trains running between Samastipur to Narkatiaganj always remain irregular and daily passengers have to face great difficulties as a result thereof;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to run local trains regularly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) and (b) Sometimes, the

trains run late on Samastipur-Narkatiaganj section due to equipment failures, accidents and agitations by public.

(c) Intensive chasing and monitoring to eliminate detentions within the control of railways.

[*English*]

Budge-budge Thermal Power Plant

6401. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposed 500 MW Thermal Power Plant at Budge-Budge, West Bengal has not yet been cleared by the Union Government; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) the finance plan and the coal linkage are to be tied up for the proposed 500 MW Thermal Plant at Budge-Budge, West Bengal.

[*Translation*]

Blackmarketing and Adulteration of Petroleum Products in Uttar Pradesh

6402. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR:
SHRI RAM BADAN:
SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV:

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

(a) the number of cases of blackmarketing of LPG, irregularities and adulteration of petrol and diesel detected in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the action taken in each case; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to prevent such cases in future?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKAR-ANAND): (a) to (c). Information as provided by the oil companies is as follows:-

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of complaints</i>
1988-89	158
1989-90	156
1990-91	269

Appropriate action is taken in accordance with the Marketing Discipline Guidelines wherever the complaint are established. The Weight and Measures Deptt. of the State Governments are also taking actions under various Acts.

[*English*]

Accidents in Coal Mines

6403. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of accidents in the Coal mines in the country during each of the last three years and upto July, 1991;

(b) the reasons of these accidents;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to prevent their recurrences; and

(d) the amount of compensation given to the affected persons during these years?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*Translation*]

Crossings in Churu District

6404. SHRI RAM SINGH KASHWAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether representations have been received to increase the number of railway crossings in Churu district for the convenience of rural people;

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

(c) the action proposed to be taken to construct more railway crossings in that district?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) A few representations have been received in respect of Ratangarh area of Churu district.

(b) and (c). The Railway can take action in the matter only after the State Government/Civil authorities sponsor firm proposals for the desired facilities, duly consenting to bear the cost, as per rules. No firm proposals in this regard have been received by the Railway so far.

[*English*]

Alleppey-Kayankulam Rail Line

6405. SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN:
SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent so far on the Alleppey-Kayankulam broad gauge line, year-wise;

(b) the amount required for the completion of the project;

(c) whether the Union Government have received any complaint from the Government of Kerala that progress of work on this line is very slow; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to speed up the work and to complete it within the specified period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) The amount spent upto 31.3.1991 is Rs. 37.50 crores, details of which are under:

1982-83: 49.47 lakhs, 1983-84: 0.82 lakhs

1984-85: 12.23 lakhs, 1985-86: 15.92 lakhs

1986-87: 551.11 lakhs, 1987-88: 243.50 lakhs

1988-89: 423.31 lakhs, 1989-90: 856.15 lakhs

190-91: 1598.36 lakhs.

(b) About Rs. 15 crores.

(c) The Government of Kerala had complained that the progress of the work during the last one year was very slow.

(d) Enough funds have been provided to complete the work in 1991-92.

[*Translation*]

Setting up of a Hydrel Project in Bihar

6406. SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH
YADAV:
SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN:

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

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a 710 MW hydrel power project in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which this project is likely to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) and (b). There is a proposal to set up Koel Karo Hydro-electric Project, with an installation of 710 MW, in Bihar in the Central Sector through the National Hydro-electric Power Corporation Ltd. The cost estimated of the project have already been cleared by the public investment Board and are being processed for the ac-

cord of investment approval by the Government.

(c) The project is likely to be commissioned within 8 years of the investment approval.

Consultative Department in ITDC

6407. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI:
Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ITDC has entered into any trade agreement with the Hanimain family of Germany in June 1990;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the place in and outside the country where the consultative department of the Corporation has rendered the consultative services so far for the tourism promotion and the amount of domestic currency and foreign exchange earned thereby?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) ITDC concluded an agreement with M/s Heinemann of Germany on 26.5.1990.

(b) The information is given in the attached statement-I

(c) The details of consultancy services being rendered by ITDC are given in the attached statement-II

The year-wise income earned (turnover) as consultancy fee is given below:

Year	<i>Consultancy Income Rs. in lakhs</i>
1988-89	6.42
1989-90	66.54
1990-91 (Prov.)	24.11

Statement-I

The agreement inter-alia envisages:

(1) Payment of an amount of US \$1.50 lakhs by ITDC to Heinemann subject to tax in India, over a period of 5 years in equal quarterly instalments.

The services to be rendered by M/s Heinemann are broadly as under:-

- (i) Provision of consultancy services to ITDC in respect of feasibility studies of duty free market.

(ii) Layout drawings and designs etc. for duty free shops as and when required.

(iii) Suggestions for merchandising, procurement plans, warehousing layouts and inventory control, movement, sale promotions.

(iv) Training of ITDC'S personnel in the duty free shopping business.

(v) Supply of material to ITDC for its duty free shops, with ITDC's discretion to procure such items as are available/offered cheaper elsewhere than their rates.

STATEMENT - II

Consultancy Assignments Completed by ITDC During the Last Three Years

Assignment	Centres
Techno-Economic Feasibility Reports	— Hotel projects at Hyderabad, Nainital, Rishikesh, Nagpur, Pune, Varanasi, Lucknow, Partapur (Meerut), Jaipur, Bombay, Dzulekiema and Dimapur.
Special Studies	— Restaurants at Varanasi, Jammu and Partapur (Meerut)
Master Plans for	— Review Reports for Hotel Khasa Kothi, Jaipur and Hotel Imphal Ashok, Imphal.
Technical Services	— Negaland and Hilly Areas of Punjab
	— Forest Lodge at Betla and Simlipal,
	— Youth Hostel at Itanagar
	— Restaurants at Mussoorie, Varanasi, Jammu
	— Kitchen for the Officers Mess at College of Combat, Mhow.
	— Hotel at Hyderabad and Joint Venture hotels at Itanagar, Bhopal & Pondicherry
	— Restaurant at Wellington (Newzealand)

[English]

**LPG connections and agencies in
Karnataka**

6408. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the district-wise number of LPG connections released so far in Karnataka;

(b) the district-wise number of applications pending for new connections;

(c) the steps being taken for the immediate release of LPG connections; and

(d) the number of persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes to whom the LPG agencies have been allotted in Belgaum, Dharwad and Bijapur districts as on March 31, 1991?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKAR-ANAND): (a) and (b). As on 1.4.91 there were 8.42 Lakhs LPG consumers and 2.62 lakhs persons were on the waiting list in Karnataka.

(c) Efforts are on the given LPG connections to as many applicants as early as possible.

(d) Seven.

**Memorandum of Understanding for
Wage Settlement**

6409. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Memorandum of understanding lying with the Government for wage settlement;

(b) the stages at which they are pending; and

(c) when they are likely to be settled?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKAR-ANAND): (a) to (c). There Memoranda of Understanding for wage settlement are under examination.

Sale and Reservation of Fake Tickets

6410. SHRI JANARDAN MISRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply given on 4 September, 1990 to Unstarred Question No. 4439 and state:

(a) whether the enquiry into the sale and reservation of fake tickets by reservation clerks working in the reservation office at Allahabad junction has been completed;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken against the persons found responsible?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The allegations made in the complaint against the railway staff have not been substantiated. However, an outsider who was involved in the sale of fake ticket at Allahabad, had been arrested by the Government Railway Police. A criminal case has been filed in the Allahabad Court under sections 420/467/468/471 of I.P.C.

[Translation]

Loss in Catering Units in Railways

6411. SHRI RAM BADAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the catering department of Railways is running in losses despite the continuous increase in the sale;

(b) the details of the profit earned/loss incurred by the department during last three years;

(c) whether the catering unit at Varanasi station is running in losses continuously from 1984 to 1990;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the action taken against the persons found responsible for it and the steps taken to streamline the system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) and (b) The sales turnover and profit/loss of Departmental Catering on Indian Railways for last three years are as under:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Sales Turnover (Rupees in crores)</i>	<i>Profit/Loss (Rupees in crores)</i>
1987-88	56.33	(-) 0.30
1988-89	65.71	(-) 0.71
1989-90	72.18	(-) 0.23

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The losses are mainly due to increase in input costs as well as staff costs. The staff costs have gone up because Commission Vendors are being paid the same salary as regular employee under Court orders.

(e) Question of fixation of responsibility does not arise in view of above. Steps taken/proposed to be taken to reduce/eliminate losses include strict monitoring of expenditure, sales promotion, intensive inspections and de-departmentalisation.

(b) whether the contract labourers are being exploited; and

(c) whether the Government have taken a decision to do away with this system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir. In certain establishments/operations.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

[English]

Contract Labour System in Railways

6412. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether contract labour system is still going on in the Railways;

Transfer of Pune-Miraj Section

6413. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from various public

representative from South Western Maharashtra regarding transfer of Pune-Miraj Kolhapur broadgauge section from the South-Central zone to Central Railway; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal has been examined in the light of operational and administrative requirements and not found to be feasible.

[*Translation*]

Ban on Supplying Diesel in Drums and Canes

6414. SHRI HARPAL PANWAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ban imposed by the Government on supplying diesel in drums and canes is still in force and if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether farmers are facing great difficulties as a result thereof; and

(c) if so, the action being taken by the Government for lifting this ban?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Halt of Puri and Nilachal Express at Tundla Station

6415. SHRI SURESHANAND SWAMI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether halt of Puri and Nilachal Express at Tundla Junction has been cancelled;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to restore halt of these two trains there; and

(d) if so, when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Operational exigencies.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) In order to avoid increasing the total running time of the train.

[*English*]

Magneto-Hydro-Dynamic Project

6416. SHRI RADHIKA RANJAN PRAMANIK: Will the MINISTER OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the coal based MHD Pilot Power Project has achieved its objective;

(b) if so, the manner in which this technology is utilised in the conventional Thermal Power Plants; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) The coal based MHD Pilot power plant has successfully demonstrated, at the experimental level, the technical feasibility of generating electricity using MHD technology.

Commercial generation of electricity based on this technology was not the immediate objective of the research and development project.

(b) MHD technology can be utilised, with further development, in conventional thermal power plants at the top-end of the cycle thereby increasing the possibility of obtaining higher efficiency.

(c) Does not arise.

Contracts of Book-stalls

6417. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether M/s A.H. Wheeler & Co. has been allotted a large number of book-stalls on railway stations against payment of about 3 per cent royalty;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to run these book-stalls by itself or to allot to other priority categories or to float tenders on maturity of the present contract; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) No decision has yet been taken in this regard.

(c) Does not arise.

Doubling of Jolarpettai-Bangalore Section

6418. SHRI C.P. MUDALAGIRIYAPPA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the railway line between Jolarpettai and Bangalore is proposed to be doubled; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Doubling on Jolarpettai-Bangalore (143 km) has been taken up in phases. Doubling between Bangalore city-Whitefield (23 km) and Jolarpettai-Kuppam (39 km) has already been completed. Doubling on balance portion between Kuppam and Whitefield (81 km) will be taken up in phases depending on operational requirements and availability of resources in the coming years.

[*Translation*]

Allotment of Triple Petroleum Agencies to one person in Bihar

6419. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to the reply given on March 5, 1991 to Unstarred Question No. 1386 regarding allotment of petrol, diesel and kerosene agencies in Bihar and state:

(a) whether still there are cases of allotment of triple petroleum products agencies to one person in the name of various firms;

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

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken against the erring officials in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) No such fresh allotments are being made.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

[English]

**Upgradation of Pant Nagar Airstrip,
U.P.**

6420. SHRI V.N. SHARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to upgrade Pant Nagar airstrip in Uttar Pradesh in the near future in view of heavy flow of tourists to hill areas; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRIMADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Shortfall in Power Generation

6421. SHRI UTTAMRAO DEORAO PATIL: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a big shortfall in achieving the target for additional power production in 1990-91; and

(b) if so, the quantum of shortfall and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b). During the year 1990-91, the total energy generation was 264231 million units, as against a target of 271250 million units, which represents a shortfall of 7019 million units. The main reason for shortfall were short supply of coal, low system demand and long duration outage of units due to equipment failure.

Profit earned by IRCON

6422. DR. G.L. KANAUIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the profit earned by the Indian Railway Construction Company Limited during each of the last three years;

(b) the details of the railway projects undertaken by the company abroad during the last two years; and

(c) the time schedule within which these are to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) The profit earned by IRCON during the three years is:-

(Rupees in Crores)

Year	Pre-Tax	Post-Tax
1987-88	26.28	14.31
1988-89	26.87	13.77
1989-90	20.46	17.88

Audit of accounts for 1990-91 is not yet over and Profit figure has not been worked out.

(b) and (c). The details of Railway Projects under execution by the Company abroad during the last two years i.e. 1989-90 and

1990-91, and the time schedule within which these are to be completed is given in the following table.

STATEMENT

Sr. No.	Name of Project	Date of Award	Value of Contract (Rs. in Crores.)	Date of Completion Targetted
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Saudi Arabia			
—	Detailed Design and Construction of Major Maintenance Workshop at Dammam.	16.2.83	20.00	Sept. '89
2.	Bangladesh			
—	Supply of 4.2 million c.f.t. track ballast to Bangladesh Railways.	26.7.87	3.29	30.11.91
—	Setting up of Model Room for Railway Staff Academy at Chittagong in Bangladesh	14.1.91	0.63	Jan. 1992

Sr. No.	Name of Project	Date of Award	Value of Contract (Rs. in Crores.)	Date of Completion Targetted
1	2	3	4	5
3.	Malaysia			
—	Track Rehabilitation of 327 kms.	10.10.88	100.00	9.4.92
—	Turnkey Doubling Project between Rawang to Seremban	10.8.90	90.00	9.2.93
—	Construction of Bridges from Rawang to Kajang in Malaysia "Package B".	25.2.91	9.9	15.7.92
—	Design, Construction, completion and commissioning of railway bridges, overhead road bridges, underpass and tunnel from Station Kajang to Seremban in Malaysia Package C"	25.2.91	25.35	24.2.93

Sr. No.	Name of Project	Date of Award	Value of Contract (Rs. in Crores.)	Date of Completion Targetted
1	2	3	4	5
4.	Zambia			
	— CTC Radio Block Signalling System on Zambia Railways.	30.3.88	9.45	31.5.90
5.	Turkey			
	— Electrification of Eskisehir-Sincan Section of Turkish State Railways.	9.9.88	38.00	29.6.91
6.	Indonesia			
	— DC Electrification of Central Line Track additive Phase IV, - Jakarta Railway Project Indonesia.	09.7.89	7.59	31.10.91

Sr. No.	Name of Project	Date of Award	Value of Contract (Rs. in Crores.)	Date of Completion Targetted
1	2	3	4	5
—	DC Electrification of Jatinegara-Bekasi Section in Indonesai.	17.11.90	7.02	30.9.92
7.	Iraq — Construction of a Standard Gauge siding to Fertilizer Factory No. 4 at Baiji in Iraq.	19.8.89	9.75	10.10.90. The work on Baiji Project in Iraq has been suspended due to Gulf war and it will be restarted when normalcy returns in Iraq.

Note : The value of contract in rupees is based on the conversion rate of Foreign Exchange at the time of signing/securing Contract.

[*Translation*]

Hindi Salahkar Samiti

6423 SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) The number of meeting of Hindi Advisory Committee held during the last three years and the norms laid down for this purpose;

(b) the reasons for not holding adequate number of meetings;

(c) whether the post of Director, Official Language in his Ministry has been lying vacant for the last three years and the use and expansion of Hindi in his Ministry has been discontinued due to this reason; and

(d) if so, the action taken to fill it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) 5 meetings of Railway Hindi Salahkar Samiti have been held during the last three years, while 4 meetings are required to be held in a year as per the norms.

(b) 5 meetings were held during the year 1988 and 1989 but no meeting could be held thereafter due to some unavoidable circumstances.

(c) Consequent on the retirement of the incumbent of the post of Director (official language), the Joint Director (Official Language), Railway Board, has been fully discharging the current duties of the post of Director (Official language), Railway Board, pending revision of the Recruitment Rules, and there has been no discontinuance in the expansion of the use of Hindi in the Ministry.

(d) Revised Recruitment Rules for the appointment of Nideshak (Rajbhasha) have since been notified and applications from eligible candidates have been invited for selection of a suitable person for this post.

[*English*]

LPG Agencies and Petrol Pumps in Madhya Pradesh

6424. SHRI BARE LAL JATAV:
SHRI SATYANARAYAN
JATIYA:

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

(a) the number of petrol pumps and LPG agencies in Gwalior, Ujjain, Ratlam, Bhind, Datia, Shivpuri, Morena and Guna districts of Madhya Pradesh, district-wise;

(b) the number out of them allotted to persons belonging to Scheduled Castes;

(c) if no dealership has been allotted to Scheduled Castes, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the number of LPG agencies and petrol pumps likely to be allotted in these districts, district-wise during 1991-92?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c). Reservations and allotment for different categories including SC/ST are made State-wise and not districtwise. Information as provided by the oil companies is as follows:

(d) No fresh marketing plan for 1991-92 has been prepared.

STATEMENT

District	Petrol Pumps		LPG Agencies		
	Total	SC	Total	SC	SC
1	2	3	4	5	5
Gwalior	30	—	12	—	—
Ujjain	—	—	—	—	—
Ratlam	—	—	—	—	—
Bhind	8	—	1	—	—
Datta	2	—	1	—	—
Shivpuri	12	1	1	—	—
Morena	13	—	2	—	—
Guna	16	1	3	1	1
Total	81	2	20	1	1

(d) No fresh marketing plan for 1991-92 has been prepared.

Repair of Meters

6425. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the repair of Meters installed in factories having sanctioned load of more than 100 KWS needs prior approval of General Manager of Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking;

(b) if so, the number of days it takes to rectify the fault; and

(c) the extent of loss incurred by DESU and exporters on account of delay in removing the fault?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Time taken in rectification of faults depends on the type of fault that has occurred as well as completion of commercial formalities by the consumer.

(c) According to DESU, the loss in-

curred by DESU or by the consumer on this account cannot be quantified.

[*Translation*]

Hopping Flights

6426. SHRI YASHWANTRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of hopping flights out of the daily flights of the Indian Airlines and the places where they are halting;

(b) whether it is proposed to increase the number of direct hopping flights;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Out of 224 flights, Indian Airlines operates 69 hopping flights. A list of the hopping flights indicating their halts is attached as a statement.

(b) to (d). Indian Airlines is yet to finalise its winter schedule, 1991. Therefore, it is not possible to indicate at this stage the likely increase in the number of direct/hopping flights.

STATEMENT
List of Hopping flights

<i>Flight No.</i>	<i>Route</i>	<i>Frequency</i>
1	2	3
IC-133	Bombay-Ahmedabad-Indore	3.6
IC-134	Indore-Ahmedabad-Bombay	3.6
IC-167	Delhi-Bombay-Trivandrum	1.2.3.4.5.6.7.
IC-168	Trivandrum-Bombay-Delhi	1.2.3.4.5.6.7.
IC-255	Calcutta-Silchar-Imphal	1.2.3.4.5.6.7.
IC-256	Imphal-Silchar-Calcutta	1.2.3.4.5.6.7.
IC-287	Calcutta-Portblair-Carnicobar	1.
IC-288	Carnicobar-Portblair-Calcutta	1.
IC-421	Delhi-Jammu-Srinagar	3.5.7
IC-422	Srinagar-Jammu-Delhi	3.5.7.
IC-423	Delhi-Amritsar-Srinagar	1.2.3.4.5.6.7.
IC-424	Srinagar-Amritsar-Delhi	1.2.3.4.5.6.7.
IC-439	Delhi-Hyderabad-Madras	1.2.3.4.5.6.7.
IC-440	Madras-Hyderabad-Delhi	1.2.3.4.5.6.7.
IC-467	Delhi-Goa-Cochin	1.2.3.4.5.6.7.
IC-468	Cochin-Goa-Delhi	1.2.3.4.5.6.7.
IC-497	Delhi-Varanasi-Bhubaneswar	1.3.5.7.
IC-498	Bhubaneswar-Varanasi-Delhi	1.3.5.7.
IC-517	Madras-Bangalore-Pune	3.5.7.
IC-518	Pune-Bangalore-Madras	3.5.7.

<i>Flight No.</i>	<i>Route</i>	<i>Frequency</i>
1	2	3
IC-523	Madras-Bangalore-Goa	2.4.6.
IC-524	Goa-Bangalore-Madras	2.4.6.
IC-529	Madras-Trivandrum-Cochin	3.5.7.
IC-530	Cochin-Trivandrum-Madras	3.5.7.
IC-531	Madras-Bangalore-Cochin	1.4.6.
IC-532	Cochin-Bangalore-Madras	1.4.6.
IC-533	Madras-Bangalore-Coimbatore	1.2.3.4.5.6.7.
IC-534	Coimbatore-Bangalore-Madras	1.2.3.4.5.6.7.
IC-541	Madras-Vizag-Calcutta	1.2.4.6.
IC-542	Calcutta-Vizag-Madras	1.2.4.6.
IC-559	Madras-Bangalore-Mangalore	2.3.5.7.
IC-560	Mangalore-Bangalore-Madras	2.3.5.7.
IC-879	Delhi-Guwahati-AGartala	2.4.7.
IC-880	Agartala-Guwahati-Delhi	2.4.7.
IC-889	Delhi-Guwahati-Imphal	1.3.5.6.
IC-890	Imphal-Guwahati-Delhi	1.3.5.6.
IC-929	Madras-Bangalore-Trivandrum	1.2.4.6.
IC-930	Trivandrum-Bangalore-Madras	1.2.4.6.
IC-951	Madras-Bangalore-Ahmedabad	3.5.7.
IC-952	Ahmedabad-Bangalore-Madras	3.5.7.
IC-147	Bombay-Jamnagar-Bhuj-Bombay	1.3.4.6.

<i>Flight No.</i>	<i>Route</i>	<i>Frequency</i>
<i>J</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
IC-195	Bombay-Varanasi-Lucknow-Bombay	2.5.7.
IC-199	Bombay-Ranchi-Patna-Bombay	1.4.
IC-213	Calcutta-Tezpur-Jorhat-Calcutta	2.3.4.5.7.
IC-257	Calcutta-Imphal-Dimapur-Calcutta	1.3.5.7.
IC-269	Calcutta-Bhubaneswar-Nagpur-Hyderabad	3.5.6.
IC-270	Hyderabad-Nagpur-Bhubaneswar-Calcutta	3.5.6.
IC-407	Delhi-Agra-Khajuraho-Varanasi	1.2.3.4.5.6.7.
IC-408	Varanasi-Khajuraho-Agra-Delhi	1.2.3.4.5.6.7.
IC-417	Delhi-Ahmedabad-Vadodara-Delhi	1.2.3.4.5.6.7.
IC-419	Delhi-Kanpur-Gorakhpur-Delhi	1.4.
IC-421	Delhi-Chandigarh-Jammu-Srinagar	1.2.4.6.
IC-422	Srinagar-Jammu-Chandigarh-Delhi	1.2.4.6.
IC-465	Delhi-Kanpur-Allahabad-Delhi	2.6.
IC-469	Delhi-Nagpur-Raipur-Delhi	1.3.5.7.
IC-477	Delhi-Raipur-Bhubaneswar-Delhi	2.4.6.
IC-479	Delhi-Bagdogra-Guwahati-Dimapur	2.4.6.
IC-480	Dimapur-Guwahati-Bagdogra-Delhi	2.4.6.
IC-489	Delhi-Bagdogra-Guwahati-Dibrugarh	1.3.5.7.
IC-490	Dibrugarh-Guwahati-Bagdogra-Delhi	1.3.5.7.
IC-501	Madras-Trichy-Madurai-Madras	1.3.4.5.6.7.
IC-409	Delhi-Lucknow-Patna-Ranchi-Calcutta	1.2.3.4.5.6.7.
IC-410	Calcutta-Ranchi-Patna-Lucknow-Delhi	1.2.3.4.5.6.7.

<i>Flight No.</i>	<i>Route</i>	<i>Frequency</i>
1	2	3
IC-433	Delhi-Gwalior-Bhopal-Indore-Bombay	1.2.3.4.5.6.7.
IC-434	Bombay-Indore-Bhopal-Gwalior-Delhi	1.2.3.4.5.6.7.
IC-491	Delhi-Jaipur-Udaipur-Aurangabad-Bombay	1.2.3.4.5.6.7.
IC-492	Bombay-Aurangabad-Udaipur-Jaipur-Delhi	1.2.3.4.5.6.7.
IC-493	Delhi-Jaipur-Jodhpur-Udaipur-Bombay	1.2.3.4.5.6.7.
IC-494	Bombay-Udaipur-Jodhpur-Jaipur-Delhi	1.2.3.4.5.6.7.

[English]

Dalli-Rajhara to Rowghat Rail Link

6427. SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction of a new railway line from Dalli-Rajhara (District Durg) to Rowghat Iron Mines (district Bastar) has been sanctioned;

(b) if so, the estimated cost of the project; and

(c) when the construction work is likely to start?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The cost of this 95 km line is estimated to be Rs. 88.35 crores at 1987-88 price level. The present day cost would be about Rs. 120 crores.

(c) This proposed line is a single user line required by Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL), for movement of iron ore to Bhilai. Survey has been completed and cost advised to Ministry of Steel. Work can be taken up as and when Ministry of Steel/SAIL arrange funding for this line.

Catering in the North-Eastern sector flights

6428. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether inflight catering in North-Eastern Sector is below standard as being maintained in advanced sectors like Bombay, Delhi and Madras; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to improve the menu and its quality in this sector also.

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Shuttle service between Wardha and Nagpur

6429. SHRI RAMCHANDRA MAROTRAO GHANGARE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce a shuttle train from Wardha to Nagpur and vice-versa for the convenience of employees of that area and to reduce congestion in long distance trains; and

(b) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Misuse of Power in Delhi

6430. SHRI MORESHWAR SA SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA MUNDA:

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

(a) whether DESU has conducted any survey to detect excess load, misuse, theft and other violations by consumers in domestic and industrial sectors;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken against the defaulters and the measures proposed to be taken to prevent the recurrence of such incidents in future;

(d) whether D.E.S.U. has received complaints regarding supply of electricity to illegal industries in various parts of the Capital;

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

(f) the action proposed to be taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH): (a) to (d). DESU has checked 29,321 connections during 1st April, 1991 to 22nd August, 1991 and detected 19, 837 cases of theft of power, besides 3840 cases of violations of the Delhi Electricity control Order relating to use of air conditioners, neon signs during prohibited hours, mis-use of power and peak load violations. 314 FIRs were lodged during this period. Theft of power has been made a cognizable offence under the Indian Electricity Act. DESU is continuing its drive against the theft and misuse of power.

(e) and (f). The complaints received by DESU regarding alleged supply to illegal industries are looked into by DESU and if any such case is established, appropriate action under the relevant rules is taken against such consumers. According to DESU, location-wise record of such complaints is not kept.

Fast Train from Ernakulam to Kozhikode

6431. SHRI K. MURLEE DHARAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a demand has been made to introduce a fast train from Ernakulam to Kozhikode; and

(b) if so, when it is likely to be introduced; and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Examined but not considered justified as adequate number of fast train services are already available on the section.

[*Translation*]

Corruption in Coal Production in Argadda

6432. PROF. ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the quality of coal produced in Ar-adda in Bihar during the last year;

(b) whether complaints of corruption cases have come to the notice of the Government in the production of coal in Argadda;

(c) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon; and

(d) the number of persons found guilty in this connection and the action taken against them?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMGOUDA): (a) The grade-wise production of coal in Argadda area during the year 1990-91 is as under:-

(Figures in '000 tonnes)

<i>Grade</i>	<i>Production</i>
B	2078
C	166
Total	2244

(b) to (d). Same stocks of coal have been written off in Argadda. Govt. has requested the Comptroller and Auditor General to take up this case alongwith same other similar cases for audit.

[*English*]

Power Generation by DESU

6433. SHRI N.K. BALIYAN: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVEN-

TIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of electricity generated by the DESU during 1989 and 1990 and the quantum obtained/purchased from the other State during this period; and

(b) the quantum of electricity sold by DESU and the revenue earned therefrom during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKAR-ANAND): (a) and (b). Since the accounts are maintained by Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking on the basis of the financial year, the requisite details for the years 1989-90 are as follows:-

STATEMENT

Particulars	1989-90	1990-91
(i) Energy generated by DESU (million units)	1521	1884
(ii) Energy purchased from out side sources (million units)	5962	6423
(iii) Total energy available (million units)	7483	8307
(iv) Energy sold (million units)	5853	6672
(v) Revenue from sale of energy	Rs. 505.71 Crores	Rs. 608.41 Crores

Power Projects in Seventh Five Year Plan

6434. SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the first 50 major power projects (Hydro-Electric, Thermal and Nuclear) completed in Seventh Plan and Seventh plan project still under execution on 1st January, 1991 with the installed capacity (M.W.);

(b) the approximate cost of the project as on completion;

(c) the percentage of escalation in cost from the original estimates; and

(d) the other major projects to be taken up in 1991 and later in 8th Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATHRAI): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Overbridge at Moradabad Station

6435. SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to construct an over-bridge at Moradabad station for two wheelers; and

(b) if so, when the construction is proposed to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Airport at Kudal/Kunda, Maharashtra

6436. SHRISUDHIR SAWANT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to construct an airport at Kudal/Kunda in Sindhudurg District, Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, when it will be constructed?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Enquiry in Airbus A-320 Deal

6437. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the enquiry being conducted regarding technical lacuna in Airbus A-320 has since been completed;

(b) if so, the time by which its report would be available;

(c) whether the Government have completed the investigation into payment of commission in Airbus A-320 deal; and

(d) if so, the action being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No such enquiry is being conducted.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). The matter is still under investigation by the Central Bureau of Investigation.

[English]

Facilities at Bombay Airport

6438. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether international airlines have threatened to withhold the rent for July, 1991 due to inadequate facilities available to them at Bombay Airport; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in the matter.

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Because of unprecedented rains there was a total breakdown of power at Bombay airport on 8th and 9th June, 91. Detailed discussions have already been held with BSES to improve operational coordination particularly at such times. The Airlines Operators Committee is also satisfied with the steps taken to restore the Airport facilities. Out of 34 International airlines, 30 have already paid the rent for July, 1991.

[Translation]

Power Projects In Eighth Plan

6439. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work on setting of an additional unit of 500 megawatts in Vindhyachal thermal power station, the Kawas gas-based power project and the Gandhar gas-based power project are likely to be completed during the period of Eighth Plan; and

(b) if so, the extent of power likely to be given to Madhya Pradesh out of the installed capacity of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a)

(i) Vindhyachal Super Thermal Power Project Stage-II (2x500 MW).

The project consists of 2 units of 500 MW each. The first 500 MW unit is scheduled to be commissioned within 60 months from the date of signing of supply agreement with Soviets and the second 500 MW unit of 12 months thereafter. The project will require investment approval by the Government.

(ii) Kawas Gas Based Power Project (644 MW).

Various units under the project are scheduled for commissioning as under:-

Gas Turbine Unit- I (106 MW)	March, 1992
Gas Turbine Unit- II ((106 MW)	May, 1992
Gas Turbine Unit- III (106 MW)	July, 1992
Gas Turbine Unit- IV (106 MW)	Sept, 1992

Steam Turbine unit-I (110 MW)

March, 1993

Steam Turbine unit-I I (110 MW)

July, 1993

The project will require investment approval by the Government.

(iii) Gandhar Gas Based Power Project- (650MW)

The commissioning schedule are as follows:-

Gas Turbine Unit-I: 24 months after date of award of main plant.

Subsequent gas turbines at 2 months intervals each thereafter.

Steam Turbine Unit-I: 36 months from the date of award of main plant and Steam Turbine Unit-II, 4 months thereafter.

(b) The allocation of Power from the Central Sector generating stations amongst the beneficiary State/UTs is decided in accordance with the Central formula for allocation of power. Allocation of power to Madhya Pradesh from these projects will be decided in due course according to this formula.

[English]

Shortage of Petrol and LPG in Andhra Pradesh

6440. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU:
SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR:

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

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of petrol and LPG in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to meet the shortage?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) No, Sir.

(a) and (c). Does not arise.

Funds for Development of Sabarimala and Erumely, Kerala

6441. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria for allotment of central funds for tourism to States;

(b) whether there is any limit for total amount that can be allotted for any tourism project approved by the State Governments;

(c) the details of projects for which central funds have been allotted for tourism projects of Kerala during the last three years; and

(d) whether the Union Government have allocated funds for development of Sabarimala and Erumely the famous pilgrimages in Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) The Central Department of Tourism extends financial assistance on the basis of specific proposals received from the State Governments for development of tourism infrastructure, subject to availability of funds, their merit and inter-se priorities.

(b) There is no limit for total amount that can be allotted for any tourism project. However, availability of funds, merit and

inter-se priorities are the guiding principles.

(c) During the last three years, the Central Department of Tourism have sanctioned funds for the following projects in Kerala:-

1988-89

Wayside amenities at five places, a beach resort at Varkala and forest lodge at Neyyar Dam.

1989-90

Wayside amenities at two locations, a tourist resort at Athirapally, Yatri Niwas at Cannanore and support to organise Elephant March.

1990-91

Visitor's centre at Trivandrum, tourist lodge at Vaikom, purchase of tents, upgradation of properties, signage system, flood-lighting of monuments, support for Nishagandhi dance festival and Elephant March.

(d) No, Sir.

Taking over Printing and Publicity Jobs carried from ITDC

6442. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Tourism has taken back the job of printing and publicity from India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC) in contravention of the recommendations of the Committee on Public Undertakings and the earlier decision taken by the Government in regard to the transfer of publicity activities of the Tourism Department to the ITDC; and

(b) if so, the factual position in this regard and the details of steps taken in matter and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). No Sir. From 1985-86, assistance of other agencies has also been enlisted to undertake the printing and publicity work of the Department, as ITDC could not single-handedly manage the quantum of work within the time schedules and specifications prescribed due to increased work load and budgetary allocation.

Bridge at Karimganj

6443. SHRI DWARAKA NATH DAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to construct an overbridge at station road Karimganj (Assam) in view of high density of traffic there; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise. However, the Border Roads Task Force Authorities have proposed a by-pass road near Karimganj Station which provides for construction of two road-overbridges at the points where the by-pass road will cross the railway lines.

[Translation]

Gas based Power Plant at Patna

6444. SHRI SURYA NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up gas based power plant at Patna in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

[*English*]

Tourism Development in Kota

6445. SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to provide financial assistance to beautify Kota City in Rajasthan; and

(b) if so, the efforts being made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) There is no scheme with Central Department of Tourism for providing financial assistance to the State Governments for beautification of cities.

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Observation of Tourism fortnight

6446. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the desired success has not been achieved in the number of domestic

tourists due to inadequate development of tourism facilities;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to observe Tourism fortnight through railways and State transport corporations for the domestic tourists; and

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to provide concessional travel facility in railways and in bus fares to them during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) At present there is no such proposal,

(c) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Production cost of Electricity in Uttar Pradesh

6447. SHRI RAM NIHORE RAI: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the cost per unit production of electricity being generated by power projects of Obra, Anpara and Shakti Nagar of U.P.;

(b) the supply rate per unit of electricity to Commercial and Non-Commercial consumers of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh;

(c) the rate at which the electricity is supplied to the Hindustan Aluminium Company (HINDALCO) and high Tech Carbon Industries at Renukoot since 1980-86; and

(d) the outstanding dues on account of supply of electricity against HINDALCO and high Tech Carbon Industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*Translation*]

Regularisation of Employees

6448. DR. JAYANTA RONGPI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply given on March 20, 1990 to Unstarred Question No. 1140 regarding regularisation of Railway Staff and state:

(a) the details of railway employees regularised so far on the basis of rulings of the Central Administrative Tribunal delivered on May 23, 1989 in case of Km. Usha Kumari Anand; and

(b) the various measures adopted to implement the said rulings comprehensively and the details of outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(b) With a view to implement the said rulings comprehensively, necessary instructions were issued to Railway Administrations in February, 1990.

[*English*]

Passenger amenities at Palasa Station, SE Railways

6449. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether passenger amenities available at the Palasa Station, South Eastern Railway need improvement; and

(b) if so, the details of the steps taken/proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) and (b). Improvement to passenger amenities is a continuous process. Adequate amenities already exist at Palasa Station and no work is proposed for the present.

Dues OF N.T.P.C.

6450. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has expressed serious concern over the arrears due to the National Thermal Power Corporation; and

(b) if so, the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken in finding a solution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Yes, Sir. The World Bank has expressed serious concern about the outstanding dues of National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC). As on 31st July, 1991, the outstanding dues of NTPC from various State Electricity Boards stands at Rs. 1733.93 crores.

(b) The Central Government has been advising the State Governments/State Electricity Boards to clear the over dues of the Central Undertakings. It has been decided by the Central Government to recover the outstanding dues as on 31.5.90 in 4 annual instalments. The instalments of 1990-91

amounting to Rs.255 crores have already been received in three instalments viz. August, 1990, September, 1990 and October, 1990. A sum of Rs.84.39 crores pertaining to the instalments due in 1991-92 has been received in August, 1991. Further, the concerned State Government have been requested that the balance of the overheads from their State Electricity Boards to Central Undertakings may be cleared early. The position is being closely monitored.

Umrongso Ousters in Assam

6451. DR. JAYANTA RONGPI: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES BE pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons displaced from the project area at Umrongso in N.E. Hills District of Assam; and

(b) the number of persons provided employment and rehabilitated out of them, community-wise and category-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES(SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Eight hundred ninety four families have been directly or indirectly affected due to construction of Kopili HEP at Umrongso in North Cachar Hills district of Assam.

(b) Apart from being paid cash compensation as assessed by District Council of North Cachar Hills, these persons have been settled on land provided by District Council. One high school building with teachers' quarters and public play ground were constructed by the NEEPCO. A number of small contracts were also given to affected persons during construction of the project.

The total number of tribal persons employed at Umrongso at present is 54. Category-wise details of these persons are as under:

- Grade III (Ministerial):	12
- Grade IV :	42

Community-wise details are not being maintained by the Corporation.

Transfer of Transmission work to NPTC

6452. DR. JAYANTA RONGPI: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES BE pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are proposing to entrust the transmission works of projects under North Eastern Electric Power Corporation to the National Power Transmission Corporation Limited;

(b) if so, whether the State Governments as well as North Eastern Electric Power Corporation, Assam State Electricity Board were consulted in this regard;

(c) if not, whether the Government propose to consult them now; and

(d) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES(SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) The work relating to transmission lines and associated sub-stations will be taken over by NPTC in a phased manner from various Central generating organisations including North Eastern Electric Power Corporation. The modalities for such transfer will be finalised in consultation with the concerned Organisations.

[*Translation*]

Railway contract System

6453. DR. JAYANTA RONGAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply given on March 20, 1990 to Unstarred Question No. 1301 regarding terms of railway contract and state:

(a) the action taken on the recommendations made by the Committee comprising three senior administrative Grade Officers constituted in Jan. 1990 to look into the general conditions of railway contract system; and

(b) the outcome achieved therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) and (b) The recommendations of the Committee have not yet been received.

[*English*]

Coal Supply to Farmers

6454. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether tobacco growers require coal for curing of vargenia tobacco;

(b) whether there are complaints of coal that is being supplied to farmers is having huge quantities of boulders, shawls, stones etc. causing loss to the growers in Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to supply good quality of coal to tobacco growers in Andhra Pradesh?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B.NYAMAGOUDA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. (SCCL) is supplying coal to the Tobacco Board and Andhra Pradesh State Trading Corporation for further distribution among tobacco growers. SCCL have reported that they have not received any specific complaint about the quality of coal being supplied to tobacco growers. The coal company has however, issued instruction to the concerned areas to maintain quality of coal.

SC/ST Employees in DESU

6455. SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK :
SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS:

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

(a) the total number of employes in the categories of Junior Engineer, Assistant Engineer, Executive Engineer and Assistant Legal officer in the Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking as on April 1, 1989 and July 31, 1991 and the number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes out of them;

(b) the total backing of reserved posts as on April 1, 1989 and July 31, 1991;

(c) the details of efforts made to clear the backlog;

(d) whether officials are working on ad-hoc basis in the legal department of DESU; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor and the efforts proposed to be made to regularise them?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CON-
VENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI
KALP NATH RAI) (a)and (b). The category
of Junior Engineer does not exist in DESU.**

**The requisite information in respect of the
categories of Assistant Engineer, Executive
Engineer and Assistant Legal Officer is as
follows:-**

STATEMENT

Position	Total No. of employees	No. of SC/ST amongst them (including adhoc appointments)		Backlog of reserved vacancies (including ad-hoc appointments)			
		SC	ST	SC	ST	SC	ST
1	2	3	4	5	6		
1.4.89	662	79	3	55	59		
31.7.91	683	90	8	45	52		

(c) The process of filling up the various posts including the reserved vacancies is a continuous process and action in this regard is taken from time to time in accordance with the relevant Recruitment & Promotion Regulations and in consultation with the UPSC wherever necessary.

(d) and (e). Some of the posts in the Legal Department of DESU are filled on an ad-hoc basis due to the proposed amendment in the relevant Recruitment & Promotion Regulations. The matter regarding finalisation of the R & P Regulations has already been taken up with the Union Public Service Commission.

[*Translation*]

Allocation of Coal in Bihar

6456. SHRI LALIT ORAON : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of coal allocated from coal mines in Bihar on the recommendations of Members of Parliament since January, 1988 to Jun, 1991;

(b) the quantity of coal lifted out of the allotted quantity; and

(c) the places and the quantity of coal despatched ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA) : (a) to (c) : Coal India Ltd. and its subsidiary companies receive very large number of request and recommendations for allocation of coal including those from the Hon'ble Members of Parliament. Such requests are dealt with and disposed of according to the distribution policy of the company. The present information system of the

company does not provide for compiling of separate information about coal released on the recommendations of Hon'ble Members of Parliament. Collection and compilation of this information will be a very cumbersome and time consuming task and the time and effort required for the task may not be commensurate with the purpose sought to be achieved.

[*English*]

ITDC Restaurants Run by Private Agencies

6457. SHRI LOKANATH CH-
OUDHURY :
SHRI RAM SARAN YADAV :
SHRI RAM TAHAL CH-
OUDHARY :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the India Tourism Development Corporation signed a number of contracts with private agencies for running its restaurants and other services in different premises of ITDC and its hotels; and

(b) if so, the details of ITDC properties/restaurants given on lease/contract to various private agencies from time to time and are being run/carried out by them as on June 30, 1991?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) ITDC has entered into agreements, on sharing basis with four private parties for serving speciality food.

(b) The details are given in the attached Statement.

STATEMENT

S. No.	Name of the Hotel	Name of the Restaurant	Speciality	Name of the private party
1	2	3	4	5.
1.	Ashok Hotel New Delhi	China Town	Chinese Cuisine	M/s. Szechwan Kitchen Caterers
2.	Lodhi Hotel New Delhi	(a) Wanchai	—do—	M/s. Wanchi Caterers
		(b)	Pure Vegetarian South Indian	M/s Sagar Food Home
3.	Ashok Yatri Niwas New Delhi	Coconut Grove	Non-Vegetarian South Indian	M/s. KS Kumar & Co.
4.	Hotel Agra Ashok Agra	** Chinese Restt.	Chinese Cuisine	M/s. Delling & Co.

* Earlier operated by M/s Woodlands. The contract has now been given to M/s Sagar Food Home.
The Restaurant has not yet Started operation.

** The Restaurant is still to be commissioned.

Cases Pending in C.A.T.

6458. **SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI** : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of the railway employees pending in these C.A.T. and since when these are pending;

(b) the number of cases in which orders of the C.A.T. were to be implemented and the contempt proceedings had to be filed thereon;

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to decide those cases expeditiously; and

(d) the steps taken to implement the orders of the C.A.T.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAY (SHRI MALIKARJUN) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Role of Department of Tourism, Tourism Development Council etc.

6459. **SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY** :
SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the role of the India Tourism Development Corporation Department of Tourism, Tourist Development Council, State Tourist Departments and Corporations, Indian Embassies abroad and other private agencies working towards the Development of Tourism the Country;

(b) whether there has been any deviation in the specific role assigned to different bodies/agencies in the subsequent years, till March, 1991;

(c) if so, the reasons and justification therefor;

(d) whether the Union Government maintained any coordination among these bodies/agency to avoid over-lapping in role and activities of each while maintaining healthy competition ; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Both Central Department of Tourism and State Tourism Departments are responsible for development and promotion of Tourism in the country. In order to supplement the efforts, the State Tourism, Corporations and ITDC perform the role of expansion and development of various facilities. The overseas offices of the Department of Tourism, Embassies and other Consulates are primarily responsible for the promotion of international tourism to India.

The Ministry of Tourism from time to time have also appointed Advisory Bodies like Tourism Development Council Tourism Think Tank, etc. to advise the Government in the Development and promotion of tourism in the country.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e). All these organisations supplement the efforts of each other in the development and promotion of tourism in the country.

[*Translation*]

**Transfer of Ranger Helicopter to
Aparna Aviation**

6460. **SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH** : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Bell Jet Ranger Helicopter was gifted under the United Nations Development Programme for conducting survey of forests resources;

(b) if so, the details there of;

(c) whether there was any agreement to transfer this helicopter from Vayudoot to M/s Aparna Aviation after taking rupees one lakh;

(d) if so, the terms on which it has been given to M/s Aparna Aviation and how the balance amount will be recovered from the Company;

(e) whether the Pawan Hans Limited had demanded this helicopter before the agreement; and

(f) if so, the reason for not giving it to the Pawan Hans Limited?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). A Bell Jet Ranger Helicopter VT=DYP was procured in 1967 by the Government in the Ministry of Agriculture under UNDP assistance for Pre-Investment Survey of Forest Resources. On completion of the Project, the ownership of this Helicopter was transferred to the then Directorate of Agro=Aviation, Ministry of Agriculture in 1976. This Helicopter was then transferred to Vayudoot alongwith the transfer of functions and assets of the then Directorate of Agro=Aviation under the Ministry of Agriculture. The ownership of the helicopter now vests with Vayudoot.

(c) and (d) Vayudoot Limited have entered into an agreement with M/s Aparna Aviation to hire out the helicopter on dry lease basis for a period of one year from the date of the commencement of lease, against a payment of Rs. 20 lakhs to be recovered,

in equal monthly instalments, in advance. A sum of Rs. 1 lakh has already been paid to Vayudoot Limited, by way of advance. The certificate of airworthiness of the helicopter is yet to be renewed.

(e) and (f) . Yes, Sir. Pawan Hans Limited were interested in the wet lease of the helicopter. The terms offered by Pawan Hans were not found acceptable by Vayudoot Limited.

[English]

Safety for Workers at Bombay High Platforms

6461. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI :
SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA :

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

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Bombay High officer missing" appearing in the Hindustan Times dated August 8, 1991;

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

(c) the efforts made or are likely to be made to trace the person, and

(d) the number of such incidents in the past and the measures taken to safeguard the lives of the workers working on the Bombay High Off-shore Platforms?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKAR-ANAND) : (a) to (c): Shri Ajay Kumar Gupta, Assistant Executive Engineer (Mechanical), ONGC who was on 14 day

shift duty on BHS Platform from 12.7.1991 was found missing in the early hours of 23.7.1991. Immediately a through search of the entire complex and the adjoining area of 20 miles radius was made, but neither Sh. Gupta nor his body could be found. The matter was reported immediately to the Yellow Gate Police Station and the father of Shri Gupta was also informed over telephone on the same day. In addition to the investigation of the incident by police, ONCG have appointed a departmental enquiry committee to enquire into the incident.

(d) Only one such incident had taken place in the past. All possible safety measures are taken to safeguard the lives of persons working in offshore installations of ONGC. Safety devices such as safety boats, safety rinks, escape ladders, life rafts, life jackets and life vests are provided on each of the offshore installations/rigs. In addition, the engaged on offshore duty are also imparted training in sea survival and fire fighting. A thorough medical check-up is also conducted before they are posted on offshore duty.

[Translations]

Hiring out of Helicopters

6462. SHRI SIMON MARANDI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of apprentices at present receiving training for flying helicopters, the minimum period of training fixed for them and the number of trained pilots available in the country at present;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to look after the work of hiring out the helicopter itself; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRIMADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Presently, eight trainee pilots-six Vayudoot and two from Pawan Hans - are undergoing flying training at Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Urban Akademi. They are required to undergo 100 hours of flying on helicopters for obtaining the Commercial Pilot Licence. The number of trained helicopter pilots in Vayudoot and Pawan Hans is three and ninety respectively.

(b) and (c) Hiring of helicopters is done on commercial and operational considerations by their owners, namely, Vayudoot and Pawan Hans.

Catering Department at New Delhi Station

6463. SHRI SIMON MARANDI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Railway ke khaan pan vibhag ko lakihon ka ghata" appearing in Hindi daily 'Jansatta' dated August 11, 1991;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the catering department of Rail Yatri Nivas near New Delhi Railway are running in losses;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the action taken to improve catering department?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALIKARJUN) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Certain facts and figures contained in the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on Railways for the year ended 31.3.1990 have been quoted in the news item.

(c) Though some units are incurring losses but departmental catering on Northern Railway as a whole is showing profit.

(d) The losses are mainly due to increase in input cost including staff cost.

(e) Action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard include strict monitoring of expenditure, sales drives, re-deployment of staff, intensive inspections and de-departmentalisation.

[English]

Extension of ESI Scheme in ITDC

6464. SHRI LOKANATH CH-
OUDHURY:
SHRI KALKA DAS:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the medical reimbursement facility available to the employees and their dependents in various departments of ITDC has since been withdrawn by the Corporation on the recommendations of the Mishra Commission;

(b) if so, whether the scheme of ESI has been extended to the ITDC employees;

(c) if so, whether the post of Chief Medical and Health officer in the ITDC still continues and the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether it is proposed to discontinue the post of CM & HO in the interest of economy in the ITDC?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) (a) No, Sir.

(b) There is no change in the policy regarding ESI coverage of the employees of ITDC.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

[Translation]

Frequency of Trains of Jaipur-Toda Rai Singh Route

6465. SHRI RAM NARAIN BERWA: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the train on Jaipur- Toda Rai Singh route runs up and down only once in 24 hours;

(b) whether the Government propose to run trains on this route twice a day in view of density of passenger traffic; and

(c) if so, by what time ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Conversion of Manmad-Aurangabad Rail Line

6466 SHRI RAM NARAIN BERWA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) The original estimated cost of the scheme for conversion of Manmad-Aurangabad railway line at the time of approval of the project;

(b) whether the cost of construction of the project has since escalated manifold;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the reasons for escalation in cost;

(e) whether the Government propose to conduct any inquiry in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) The original estimated cost of construction of Manmad-Parbhani Parli Vajjnath from MG to BG was Rs. 28.00 crores (1973-74). Detailed estimate of Rs.13.00 crores for Manmad-Aurangabad Phase-I was sanctioned in 1981.

(b) and (c) The latest approved cost of the Manmad-Aurangabad conversion is Rs. 51.05 crores.

(d) The increase in cost is mainly on account of :-

- (1) escalation i cost of labour and materials
- (2) Use of superior track structures as per latest standards.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Power Plants in Uttar Pradesh

6467. SHRI RAM NIHORE RAI : Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of thermal and hydel power plants in Uttar Pradesh district-wise;

(b) the number of electrified and unelectrified villages in these districts; and

(c) the time by which the remaining villages are likely to be electrified in these district?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Details of Thermal and Hydro Power Stations in Uttar Pradesh is given in the attached statement-i.

(b) and (c) District-wise details of village Electrification in Uttar Pradesh is given in the attached statement -II. The electrification of the remaining villages in these districts will depend upon the allocation made by the State Government for these districts within the overall allocation for the State.

STATEMENT - I

Details of thermal and Hydel power stations in Uttar Pradesh

<i>Name of the Station</i>	<i>Installed Generating Capacity (M W)</i>
1	2
<i>Thermal</i>	
Obra	1482
Panki	274
Harduaganj 'A'	90

<i>Name of the Station</i>	<i>Installed Generating Capacity (M W)</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>
Harduaganj 'B'	425
Paricha	220
Anpara	630
Tanda	330
R.P.H.(Kanpur)	65
Others U.P.	33.5
Unchahar (UPVUN)	420
<i>Central Sector</i>	
Singrauli (NTPC)	2050
Rihand(NTPC)	1000
Auraiya G.T.(NTPC)	652
<i>Hydro</i>	
Rihand(H)	300
Obra (H)	99
Ram ganga	198
Matatila	30
Khatima	41.4
Ganga Canal	45.2
Dhakrani	33.8
Dhalipur	51.0
Kulna!	30.0
Chibro	240.0
Khodri	120.0
Chilla	144.0
Maneri Bhali	90.0

STATEMENT

Statement showing district wise total number of villages and villages electrified as on 31.3.1991 in the State of Uttar Pradesh

S. No.	Districts	Total No. of Village (1981 census)	Villages electrified as on 31.3.1991
1	2	3	4
1.	Saharanpur	1700	1627
2.	Meerut	920	1039 (*)
3.	Ghaziabad	704	754 (*)
4.	Bulandshahar	1365	1404 (*)
5.	Muzaffarnagar	927	929 (*)
6.	Aligarh	1704	1701
7.	Mathura	867	867
8.	Agra	1174	1121
9.	Mainpuri	1371	1136
10.	Etah	1510	1088

S. No.	Districts	Total No. of Village (1981 census)	Villages electrified as on 31.3.1991
1	2	3	4
11.	Bareilly	1901	1373
12.	Bijnor	2154	1659
13.	Budaun	1785	1362
14.	Moradabad	2473	2223
15.	Rampur	1092	807
16.	Shahjahanpur	2124	1113
17.	Pilibhit	1198	757
18.	Farrukhabad	1577	1386
19.	Etawah	1462	940
20.	Kanpur	1885	1204
21.	Fatepur	1349	1095

S. No.	District	Total No. of Village (1981 census)	Villages electrified as on 31.3.1991
1	2	3	4
22.	Allahabad	3514	3040
23.	Jhansi	759	513
24.	Lalitpur	683	320
25.	Jalaun	939	628
26.	Hamirpur	917	532
27.	Banda	1207	741
28.	Varanasi	3662	2597
29.	Mirzapur	3024	1244
30.	Jaunpur	3245	2954
31.	Ghazipur	2540	2543 (*)
32.	Gorakpur	4110	2630

S. No.	Districts	Total No. of Village (1981 census)	Villages electrified as on 31.3.1991
1	2	3	4
33.	Ballia	1920	1722
34.	Deoria	3538	2265
35.	Basti	6929	3101
36.	Azamgarh	4935	4528
37.	Lucknow	899	916 (*)
38.	Rae-Bareilly	1731	1749 (*)
39.	Unnao	1687	918
40.	Sitapur	2330	998
41.	Hardoi	1881	913
42.	Kheri	1699	1275

S. No.	Districts	Total No. of Village (1981 census)	Villages electrified as on 31.3.1991
1	2	3	4
43.	Faizabad	2645	2165
44.	Gonda	2809	1559
45.	Behraich	1884	1335
46.	Sultanpur	2492	2396
47.	Pratapgarh	2185	1533
48.	Barabanki	2043	944
49.	Nainital	1806	1784
50.	Almora	3019	2320
51.	Pithoregarh	2174	1316
52.	Dehradun	743	707

S. No.	Districts	Total No. of Village (1981 census)	Villages electrified as on 31.3.1991
1	2	3	4
53.	Uttarkashi	669	596
54.	Chamoli	1516	1075
55.	Pauri-Garhwal	3237	1847
56.	Tehri-Garhwal	1953	1276
Total		112566	82565

(*) — Includes unclassified villages already declared electrified.

[English]

**Footbridge at Bhayander Station
(Bombay)**

6468 SHRI RAM KAPSE Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received representations regarding the difficulties being faced by the public in crossing railway lines at Bhayander station in the absence of a foot overbridge there;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to construct a foot overbridge there;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Two foot overbridges already exist at Bhayander Railway Station for use by bonafide railway passengers.

Construction of foot overbridge for the public can be undertaken by the Railways if a proposal therefor is sponsored by the Municipal/Civic Authority, duly consenting to bear the cost, as per rules.

[Translation]

Popularisation of Tubelights

6469. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether efforts are being made to popularise the use of tubelights in homes instead of bulbs to bring down consumption of electricity;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to instal tubelights alongwith bulbs in the Government quarters in Delhi;

(c) if so, the time by which this work is likely to be completed; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). It has been decided, as an energy saving measure, to provide tube light fixtures in all future constructions of Type I Type III Government quarters; the tubes will, however, be supplied by the occupants. There is presently no proposal to provide these in existing residences in view of financial constraints.

[English]

**Supply of Natural Gas to Industries in
Visakhapatnam**

6470. SHRIM.V.V.S.MURTHY Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications pending for the supply of natural gas to industries in Vishakapatnam; and

(b) when gas is likely to be made available to these industries?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Two.

(b) the entire gas presently estimated to become available in the K-G basin has already been committed to other consumers

Black-marketing of Tickets In Karnataka

6471: SHRIMATIBASAVARAJESWARI
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of black-marketing of railway tickets are on the increase in the country;

(b) if so, the number of such cases that came to notice in Karnataka during the last two year; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to check this trend?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-
LIKARJUN) : (a) No, Sir. However, some cases have come to notice from time to time.

(b) As a result of raids by Southern Railway Vigilance, 1137 touts were booked. This includes 41 unauthorised travel agencies also. Out of these, 19 touts have been apprehended in Bangalore.

(c) Some of the steps taken to curb such unhealthy practices are as under :—

- i) Surprise checks/raids are conducted by the Railways in coordination with the local police, wherever necessary.
- ii) Under the Railways Act, 1989, the punishment for touts and passengers who travel on unauthorised tickets has been substantially increased.
- iii) Public are educated/exhorted through Press, T.V., Posters etc.;

not to buy tickets from touts/un-
authorised sources.

- iv) Special concerted drives to check black-marketing in Railway tickets are also undertaken at least twice a year during summer rush holidays and the Pooja/Dussehra/Diwali periods.

Restoration of Train between Palghat and Shoranur

6472. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN
: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the passenger trains running between Palghat and Shoranur (Southern Railway) have been cancelled for the last few month;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to restore these trains; and

(d) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-
LIKARJUN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Due to lack of commercial justification.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Air Services Between Bombay and Kuwait

6473. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN :
Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND
TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any

proposal to resume the air service between Bombay and Kuwait; and

(b) if so, when; and

(c) if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) and (b). Effective 14.8.1991, Air India has resumed its regular operations between Bombay and Kuwait.

(c) Does not arise.

Rail Museum

6474. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHONSLE : Will the Minister of RAILWAY be pleased to state :

(a) whether some rail museum have been set up in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith their locations and special features;

(c) whether some photographers have been appointed for these museums;

(d) if so, the criteria for such appointments and the purpose thereof;

(e) whether the Government propose up some regional rail museums also; and

(f) if so, the details thereof with objectives behind such a step ?

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

(b) A National Rail Museum was set up in Chanakyapuri, New Delhi in 1977 to depict the technical and historical development of Railways in India. Exhibits of National importance have been preserved in this Mu-

seum. A Regional Rail Museum functions at Mysore where objects of Regional importance have been preserved and displayed.

(c) Yes, Sir. Only in National Museum, New Delhi.

(d) A photographer has been appointed only at National Rail Museum, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi for preservation of negatives of all display items, preparing transparencies, taking photographs of objects for preparing transparencies, taking photographs of objects for preparing brochures and publicity material and cataloguing various display items of the museum.

(e) and (f). Yes, Sir. At Varanasi and Perambur subject to availability of funds. The objective for setting up of the museums is preserving Railway heritage of Regional importance.

Vigilance Cases Against ITDC Officers

**6475. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :
SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI :**

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to refer to the reply given on September 7, 1990 to Unstarred Question No. 5036 regarding vigilance cases against ITDC officers and State :

(a) whether the investigation has since been completed in each case;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations made;

(c) the action taken by the Government/ITDC Management against each of the officers as on date; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION
AND TOURISM (SHRIMADHAVRAOSCIN-
DIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). The requisite information is
given in the attached statement.

STATEMENT

Statement Showing Details of Recommendations Made by CBI/and Action taken/Present position in regular Cases Registered by CBI against ITDC Employees in Delhi and Bombay as a result of raid conducted at the Places of Work/Residence during Jan. 1988-August 1990 (upto 13.8.1990)

S.No.	Designation of the official	Date of registration of regular case by CBI	CBI's Recommendation brief against ITDC official	Action Taken/ Present position
1	2	3	4	5

DELHI

1. Jr. Assistant
Ashok Hotel
New Delhi

Resigned and left the service

RC dated
11.11.88

2. Area VP (K)

RC dated
11.12.89

Since the officer has retired, the CBI did not pursue the case against him. However, they have asked the Excise Department to look into

S.No.	Designation of the official	Date of registration of regular case by CBI	CBI's Recommendation brief against ITDC official	Action/Taken/ President position
1	2	3	4	5
3.	General Manager Hotel Janpath	RC dated 11.12.89	RDA for major penalty and suspension after charge sheeting.	certain violation of Excise laws. Since the case involves alleged violation of the Income Tax Act the CBI has been requested to intimate action taken in the matter by the Income Tax Department.
4.	General Manager (Personnel)	RC dated 28.12.89	RDA for major penalty and suspension after charge sheeting.	Issued charge Sheet-cum-suspension order.

S.No.	Designation of the official	Date of registration of regular case by CBI	CBI's Recommendation brief against ITDC official	Action/Taken/ President position
1	2	3	4	5
5.	Sr. Manager (MM&D) Sr. Manager (AVCs) Supdt. Stores Samrat, New Delhi	RC dated 11.4.90	RDA for major penalty and suspension after charge sheeting.	The CBI's recommendations have been conveyed to the disciplinary authority for initiating necessary action. The same in being
6.	VP (Project Engineering)	RC dated 25.6.90	On review, the CBI recommendation the no action be taken against the official.	
BOMBAY				
1.	Two Sales Assistants	RC dated 16.5.90	RDA for major penalty and suspension after charge sheeting.	

S.No.	Designation of the official	Date of registration of regular case by CBI	CBI's Recommendation brief against ITDC official	Action/Taken/ President position
1	2	3	4	5
2.	Five Sales Assistants	RC dated 16.5.90	RDA for major penalty and suspension after charge sheeting.	Charge sheeted enquiry under progress.

[*Translation*]

Supply of Adulterated Petrol in Maharashtra

6476. SHRI PANDURANG PUNDLIK FUNDKAR : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Petro/diesel retail outlets on National Highway No. 6 in Maharashtra are supplying adulterated petrol to the consumers;

(b) whether the Government have conducted any raids in this regard;

(c) if so, the number of such raids conducted so far and the outcome thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) to (d). The oil Companies conducted 545 inspections during April, 1990 - July, 1991. MS sample failed in two cases. Action was taken as per Marketing Discipline Guidelines.

[*English*]

**Rail Link From Dindigul to Gudalur
(Tamil Nadu)**

6477. SHRI RAJAGOPAL NAIDU RAMASWAMY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether survey has been conducted twice for a rail route from Dindigul to Gudalur in Tamil Nadu; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) No, Sir. Survey for Dindigul-Theni-Gudalur (131 kms.) MG line was conducted only once in 1949. In 1952, the survey for part of section from Theni to Gudalur (46 kms.) was updated.

(b) On the basis of the survey reports, the cost of Dindigul-Gudalur was then estimated at Rs. 1.93 crores. The project was financially unremunerative not be sanctioned.

**Complaints Regarding Misbehaviour
By AIR Hostesses**

6478. SHRISHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received complaints regarding alleged misbehaviour by the air-hostesses;

(b) if so, the number of details thereof during 1991, till date; and

(c) the action taken by the Government on these complaints?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

**Extension of Rajkot Express from
Bhopal to Jabalpur**

6479. SHRISHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to extend Rajkot Express from Bhopal to Jabalpur;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALIKARJUN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Due to operational and resources constraints.

Casual Workers of S&T Deptt. (N.R.)

6480. SHRI SHIVLAL NAGJIBHAI VEKARIA:
SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL:
SHRI NARANBHAI JAMLABHAI RATAVA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether representations have been received for the regularisation of casual workers/labour engaged in the construction organisation of Signal and Telecom Department of Northern Railway; and

(b) if so, the action so far taken or proposed to be taken thereon?

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

(b) The representation substantially deals with demand of regularisation/absorption of casual labour in regular cadres on Indian Railways, following supreme Court's Judgment dated 18.4.1985 and give them temporary status and certain privileges as directed by Supreme Court on 2nd December, 1987. Instructions have since been issued to implement these Supreme Court's Judgments.

Extension of Gandhinagar-Ahmedabad Route to Baroda

6481. DR. K.D. JESWANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to extend Gandhinagar-Ahmedabad railway line up to Baroda;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALIKARJUN)

(a) Gandhinagar-Ahmedabad line extends to Baroda and beyond upto Bombay Central.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Doubling of Khurda Road-Puri Railway Line

6482. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether there is any proposal for doubling the railway line between Khurda Road and Puri on South Eastern Railway in view of traffic congestion; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) No, sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Badarpur Power Station Delhi

6483. SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Badarpur Power station, Delhi had to draw its Power supply from Obra and Anpara plants in August, 1991 due to the shortage of Coal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for Delhi drawing its power supply from Obra and Anpara Power plants

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) to (c). Power from various generating stations, including Badarpur, Obra and Anpara Thermal Powers Stations, is fed into the Northern Regional grid from where it gets distributed among the beneficiary states/Systems.

Power requirements of Delhi during August, 1991 were met from DESU's own generation and its share/assistance from the Northern Regional Grid.

Air Accidents

6484. **SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK :**

SHRIBHAGEY GOBARDHAN:
Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of air accidents of Boeing 747, Boeing 737, Airbus 300 and the Vayudoot aircraft from 1980 to August 1991 and the number of people killed in each accident;

(b) whether the government have any plan to provide instrumental flight rating facility at the domestic airports to facilitate landing in bad weather conditions, and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRIMADHAVRAD SCINDIA): (a) A Statement is attached.

(b) and (c) . National Airports Authority has plans to provide Instrument Landing system (ILS) at 11 domestic airports in addition to the 18 airports where this facility has already been provided.

STATEMENT

Fatal Accidents to Aircraft From 1980 to August 1991

S. No.	Type of aircraft	Regn. No.	Date of Accident	Place of Accident	Number of Fatalities
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Boeing 747	VT - EFD	23.6.85	Atlantic Ocean	329
2.	Boeing 737	VT - EDR	10.5.80	Ram Pur Hat	2
3.	Boeing 737	VT - EGI	2.10.84	Ahmedabad	1
4.	Boeing 737	VT - EAH	19.10.88	Ahmedabad	133
5.	Boeing 737	VT - EFL	16.8.91	Impal	69
6.	A - 300	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
7.	A - 320	VT - EPN	14.2.90	Bangalore	92
Accident to Vayudoot Aircraft					
8.	Dornier	VT - EIO	17.7.85	Rajamundhry	1
9.	F-27	VT - DMC	1910.88	Guwahati	34
10.	Dornier	VT - EJJ	23.9.89	Pune	11

Delhi Energy Development Agency

6485. SHRI MATI VASUNDHARA
RAJE:
SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH
YADAV:

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

(a) the main functions of the Delhi Energy Development Agency;

(b) the amount spent by this Agency on different schemes since its inception;

(c) whether the entire fund earmarked for these schemes have been properly utilised;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to check financial irregularities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALPNATH RAI) : (a) The primary functions of Delhi energy Development Agency is the development and promotion of non-conventional /energy conservational devices in the Union Territory of Delhi. In this regard, the Agency carries out the following functions:

(a) To identify the beneficiaries and their problems with regard to energy in the Union territory of Delhi;

(b) draw up model plans for the invest-

ments, and execution of integrated energy programmes;

(c) Execute various pilot projects of no-conventional and conventional energy sources;

(d) Organise and arrange supplies of energy devices like solar cookers, wind mills, biogas plants and other energy saving equipments; and

(e) Arrange and organise extension and demonstration services to educate the public about uses and working of different types of energy systems and devices.

(b) to (d). The scheme-wise receipt of funds during various years, from the inception of the Agency, is given in the attached statements. The funds earmarked for various schemes have been utilised on the development/popularisation of the schemes and on the required infrastructure. To some extent, the funds have been carried forward to subsequent years, to meet the liabilities of the uncompleted works of the previous years or to satisfy performance operation of the systems installed before release of funds, etc.

(e) For checking the financial irregularities about the expenditure of various schemes, yearly internal audit is being conducted by the Chartered Accountant. The report of the Chartered Accountant is discussed among the governing Body members of the Agency in its meetings for proper utilization of funds.

Folding up operations by Air Taxi Operators

6486. SHRI RABI RAY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of private air taxi operators are folding up their operations; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Flag Station between Tlalti to Akkalkot

6487. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYA SADUL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria laid down for the sanction of a flag station;

(b) whether there is a long standing demand for the sanction of a flag station between Tlalti to Akkalkot on Central Railway ; and

(c) if so, the action proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALIKARJUN) : (a) A new flag/halt station is sanctioned only when it is found feasible from operating and engineering point of views and justified financially or on passenger amenity grounds.

(b) Some representations were received in the past.

(c) The proposal was examined more

than once and found not justified either financially or on passenger amenity grounds.

Widening of bridge at Solapur

6488. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYA SADUL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposal for widening of over bridge on South Central Railway, three kilometres away from Solapur on National Highway No. 13 is pending with his Ministry for the last few years;

(b) if so, the present status of the proposal;

(c) whether his Ministry has carried out a survey for widening the over-bridge in near future; and

(d) if so, details therefor and if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALIKARJUN) : (a) No overbridge exists at the said location on South Central Railway. There is only a level crossing in the area.

(b) to (d). The Railway had undertaken a survey to examine the feasibility of diverting the Metre Gauge track so as to take it through the existing over bridge on Broad Gauge track nearby but found it not feasible due to the area being heavily built up.

Superfast Train in Tamil Nadu

6489. DR.P.VALLAL PERUMAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government have any proposal for running a super-fast train during day time between Tiruchi-Tanjore-Mayuram-Villupuram and Madras on the main line;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-
LIKARJUN) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Due to operational constraints and
lack of resources.

**Restoration of express Train
Between Madras and Qullon**

6490. DR. P.VALLAL PERUMAN: Will
the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to
state:

(a) whether the government have re-
ceived representations for the restoration of
a day-time Express train via chord line be-
tween Madras Central and Quilon;

(b) if so, the decision taken in this re-
gard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-
LIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Examined but not found feasible.

(c) due to poor patronisation.

**Stoppage of Sethu and Pearl City
Express at Pennadm Station**

6491. DR.P.VALLAL PERUMAN: Will
the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to
state:

(a) whether there is a long standing
demand for the stoppage of Sethu Express

and Pearl City Express and Pearl City Ex-
press at Pennadam Station;

(b) if so, the decision taken in this re-
gard;

(c) whether the old damaged building at
the station is proposed to be reconstructed
and; and

(d) if so, when it will be taken up for
execution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-
LIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Examined but not found feasible.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

**Expansion of airport in Aizawl,
Mizoram**

6492. DR. C.SILVERA: Will the Minister
of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be
pleased to state:

(a) whether the government have re-
ceived requests from the Government of
Mizoram for expansion of the existing airport
in Aizawl to enable landing of all types of
aircraft;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have pro-
posal to upgrade this airport to national stan-
dard; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in this regard
and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION
AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCIN-
DIA): (a) and (b). The Government of Mizoram

had requested for extending the existing runway at Aizawl (Tural) airfield to enable it to receive F-27 aircraft.

(c) and (d). In view of the high cost and terrain constraints, the gradation of the Tural (Aizawl) airport is not a viable proposition. The feasibility of constructing an airstrip at Lengpui suitable for receiving aircraft larger than Dornier 228 is receiving attention.

Tourism Development in A and N Islands

6493. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any plan for development of tourism in Andaman and Nicobar Islands;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM. (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) The following two circuits have been identified for phased development by the Government:-

1. Wandoor-red Skin-Grub-Jolly Bouy-Cinque Island-Chiriyá Tapu
2. Port Blair-Rangat-Mayabandar

Complaints Against LPG and Petrol Pumps in Delhi

6494. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: SHRI C.P. MUDALA GIRI-YAPPA:

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

(a) the number of complaints received against the LPG and Petrol pump dealers in Delhi for various irregularities including supply of unsealed LPG cylinders and charging more price than the printed on the M.oil tins, etc. during the last 18 months;

(b) the number of LPG and petrol pump dealerships terminated, suspended, cancelled and in how many cases warnings were issued;

(c) the number of agencies/dealerships who were found again resorting to the same offence for which they were punished earlier;

(d) the limit of the gas connections authorised per agency and the number of agencies holding more connections than the authorisation; and

(e) the steps taken to open more LPG agencies in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c). According to oil companies 1806 complaints against the LPG distributors and 36 against the retail outlets dealers were received. There LPG distributorships were terminated and fifty five were cautioned/warned. In the case of Retail outlets, two were suspended and ten cautioned/ warned.

(d) No minimum/maximum number of consumers have been prescribed for an LPG distributorship.

(e) New LPG distributorships are opened in different places as per Marketing Plans and policy from time to time.

Street Lights in South Delhi

6495. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is inadequate arrangement of street lights in the various areas of the South Delhi:

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the number of street light poles found dead at night during the last three months, area-wise and the action taken or proposed to be taken to make them alive?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b). The existing street lighting system in South Delhi is, by and large, adequate and is being maintained by DESU satisfactorily. Any scheme for augmentation/improvement of the street lighting system is required to be sponsored and financed by the concerned colonising agency viz. the Municipal Corporation of Delhi, the Delhi Development Authority, Delhi Administration etc.

(c) 11119 defective street light points were attended to and made functional by DESU in the various areas of South Delhi during the last three months (June to August, 1991)

Crash of Dornier Aircraft

6496. SHRI ATAL BIHARI
VAJPAYEE:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PAN-
DEYA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) Whether on September 2, 1989, a Dornier 228 aircraft of the Vayudoot on a flight from Hyderabad crashed near Pune resulting in the death of all passengers and crew member;

(b) if so, whether investigation report of

the accident has been submitted to the Government;

(c) if so, a copy thereof proposed to be placed on the table of the House; and

(d) if not, the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir. The flight was operating from Pune to Hyderabad.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) As per the normal practice, a copy of the report will be sent to the Parliament Library.

(d) Does not arise.

Compensation to Victims of Boeing 737 crash

6497. SHRI M. V. CHANDRA
SHEKARA MURTHY:
SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA
RAJE:
SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:
SHRIBHAGEY GOBARDHAN:
SHRI P.C. THOMAS:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state: (a) whether the Government have since ordered an enquiry into the causes of the crash of Indian Airlines Boeing 737 near Imphal on August 16, 1991;

(b) if so, when the enquiry is likely be completed and report submitted to the Government;

(c) the details of compensation paid to the family members of the victims;

(d) the steps the Government propose to give exhaustive training to pilots and to

avoid recurrence of such accidents in future;

(e) whether there are instructions to pilots/co-pilots not to fly aircraft in the bad weather conditions; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRIMADHAVRAO SCINDIA) (a) and (b). An inquiry by Inspector of Accidents has been ordered by the D.G.C.A. A Court of Inquiry under a Judge of the High Court is also being constituted.

(c) Indian Airlines will pay compensation at Rs. 5 lakhs per adult passenger and Rs. 2.5 lakhs for the child passenger who lost their lives in the accident.

(d) The pilots are already being given exhaustive training. Improvement in such training is a continuous process.

(e) and (f). Meteorological minima are laid down for each airport which are based on visibility, cloud ceiling, type of navigational aids available at the particular airfield, etc. The commander of an aircraft makes his decision taking into account the laid down minima and current weather conditions.

Close-Circuit T.V. Sets at Station.

6498. SHRIRAJNATH SONKARSHASTRI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of railway stations in the country where close-circuit televisions have been installed and the income being earned there from;

(b) whether it is proposed to offer contracts for the installation of these televisions to unemployed local youths; and

(c) if so, the criteria and conditions laid down for offering such contracts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) Close Circuit Televisions (CCTVs) have been installed at 38 Railway stations. Earnings from these contracts during 1990-91 was Rs. 31.12 lakhs.

(b) and (c) Contracts for installation and operation of CCTVs at stations are allotted to the highest bidder on inviting tenders for which unemployed youth can also apply.

Bakreshwar Thermal Power Plant

6499. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government of West Bengal has applied for loans from the power Finance Corporation for implementation of the Bakreshwar thermal Power Project; and

(b) if so, the response of the Corporation thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Preliminary discussions were held recently regarding sanction of loan to West Bengal Power Development Corporation.

Rural Electrification in Karnataka

6500. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of electrified and unelectrified villages in Karnataka;

(b) the time by which the remaining villages are likely to be electrified; and

(c) the number of villages proposed to be electrified during 1991-92 in Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) to (c). The Karnataka State Electricity Board has reported that the State reached cent percent electrification by the end of March, 1989. The total number of electrified villages in Karnataka comes to 26,483.

Requirement of Power In Karnataka

6501. SHRI S.B.SIDNAL: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state to the quantum of power supplied to Karnataka every year from the Central sector power stations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): The details of entitlement vis-a-vis the actual drawal of energy by Karnataka from the various Central Sector stations in the Southern Region during 1990-91 and the period April, 1991-August, 1991 are as under:-

(All Figures in MU)

	<i>April, 90 - March, 91</i>	<i>April, 91 - August, 91</i>
Entitlement	2467.6	1073
Actual drawal	2729.5	1071

Modernisation of Power Plants in Karnataka

6502. SHRI S.B.SIDNAL: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state: (a) whether there is any proposal for the modernisation and renovation of power plants of Karnataka during 1991-92; and

(b) if so, the proposed amount therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Proposed amount for renovation and Modernisation works for Hydrel Power Plants of Karnataka during 1991-92 is Rs. 48.54 crores.

Level Crossings in Karnataka

6503. SHRI S.B.SIDNAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the unmanned level crossings in Karnataka; and

(b) the action being taken to convert these level crossings into manned ones expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) There are 1099 unmanned level crossings in Karnataka state.

(b) The Railways undertake manning of the unmanned level crossings only after a firm proposal for the same is sponsored buy the state Government/Local authority, duly

consenting to share/bear the cost thereof, as per rules. However, the railways on their own also have been undertaking manning of such of the unmanned level crossings, where warranted on account of traffic density of visibility considerations. Accordingly, 11 level crossings have been identified for manning during 1991-92.

[*Translation*]

Supply of Wagons in Bihar

6504. SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of wagons supplied from Barkakana of Eastern Railway to Chhipadohar, Latehar, Richughuta, Tori, Mahuamilan, Ray and Khilari Station for piece meal loading;

(b) whether this supply has been stopped since March, 1991;

(c) whether Railways have decided that now piece meal loading will not be undertaken and in its place goods will be sent by rake; and

(d) if so, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) to (d) During the period March '91 demand for 2394 piecemeal wagons were met from these stations. 2306 wagons were moved by clubbing the supplies in block rakes and 88 wagons were loaded in piecemeal. Piecemeal loading has to be regulated frequently to meet the demand of movement of essential commodities like foodgrains, fertiliser, cement etc. in block rakes. Railways have not eschewed

piecemeal traffic as such. Due to heavy demand for loading of foodgrains, fertiliser, sugar, salt and other core sector traffic, piecemeal wagons are collected for formation of block rakes. Block rake movement ensures transportation of higher quantum of traffic at faster speeds thus meeting the requirement of essential commodities in all parts of the country.

Catering Facilities at stations

6505. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the manner in which the catering facility provided at railway stations is reviewed;

(b) Whether any survey has been conducted to ascertain that Public are satisfied with the present standard of catering; and

(c) whether there is any proposal for improvement in the catering system and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) Regular/surprise checks are conducted by officers/inspectors of Zonal Railway during which requirement of passengers vis-a-vis, facilities available are reviewed.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Railways always strive to improve the quality of food and service. This is an ongoing and continuous process. Steps taken/proposed to be taken include use of standard raw materials, use of modern kitchen appliances, training to catering staff, frequent inspections, etc.

[*English*]

**Provision of coach for Gaya In Train
Nos. 1172 and 2062**

6506. SHRI LALIT ORAON: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a proposal to provide a separate coach for Gaya in 1172 (Shipra Express) and Train No. 2062 also as per official letter No. G.439/DGMG/332/C/90 dated November, 29, 1990 and T.T./582/6/3/RVI dated August, 10, 1990 (CPTS) E.R.;

(b) if so, whether it has been implemented; and

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

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

(b) A coach on trains ex-Howrah with change of destination board at Gaya on 1171, 2159, 2181 from Gaya to Indore/Gwalior/Agra has been provided with effect from 1.7.91.

(c) similar arrangement of a coach on 1172, 2160 2182 from Indore/Gwalior/Agra to Gaya is being implemented with effect from 31.10.91.

Gas Cylinder Accidents

6507. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether attention of the government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Grant of Rs. three lakhs compensation to gas cylinder accident" appearing in the Jansatta (Bombay edition) dated July 14, 1991; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Information is being collected and will be placed on the table of the house.

Allotment of Quarters in Delhi/New Delhi

6508. SHRI RAMESH CHAND TOMAR:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the replies given to Unstarred Question No. 4299 and 3546 on September 4, 1990 and August 20, 1991 respectively regarding allotment of quarters in Delhi/New Delhi and state:-

(a) whether the established practice of making allotment of residential accommodation on the basis of seniority has been revised by his Ministry and allotment is now made on the basis of priority of registration if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether the change in the policy for allotment was circulated and whether the staff working outside the Headquarters of Water Supply Department were given any relaxation for getting them registered for allotment; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) The practice of allotting houses on the basis of seniority, as followed by Water Supply Department of Northern Railway has been revised to bring it at par with other employees. Now the allotments

are done on the basis of priority of registration.

(b) All the employees of Water Supply Department of Northern Railway are headquartered at Delhi/New Delhi only and they are sent out on duty as and when required. The decision regarding change of policy was conveyed to all the staff on 16.3.1991 when they were available at Headquarters.

(c) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Recruitment of Lower Category Posts

6509. SHRI LALIT ORAON Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sanctioned posts in Class-I, II, III and IV respectively in various Railway zones as on January 1, 1980 and January 1, 1990;

(b) whether the increase and the number of posts in higher categories is proportionately higher in comparison to those of the lower categories; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and whether the Government propose to increase the number of posts in the lower categories proportionately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

Air Taxi Service

6510. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to

start private air taxi service to the place where the vayudoot services have been cancelled;

(b) if so, the detail thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c). Air taxi services are run by private operators and they can operate to all the airports open to scheduled operations in the country. There is no need for them to take the approval of the Government to operate on any particular route.

[*English*]

Change in Logo of Air India

6511. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government have any proposal to change the present logo "Maharaja" of Air India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the estimated cost including the foreign exchange component to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

[*Translation*]

Basic Facilities to Members of Parliament

6512. SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any provision/direction to provide facility of free bed roll (one blanket, two sheets, one pillow and one towel) in trains to Members of Parliament;

(b) whether the same facility is also provided to the companions of the Members of Parliament; and

(c) whether the Government also propose to provide the same facility to the freedom fighters and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) and (b). No, Sir. Except where bed roll charges are included in the fare.

(c) does not arise.

Direct Train from Gaya to Madras

6513. SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government propose to introduce a direct train from Gaya junction to Madras or to extend train running between Madras and Bokaro upto Gaya; and

(b) if so, when and if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Due to operational and resource constraints.

[English]

Time Bound Promotions for Railway Employees

6514. SHRI LALIT ORAON. Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:-

(a) the criteria for time bound promotion in category-I, II, III and IV in the Indian Railways, separately;

(b) whether there is no provision of time bound promotion in category III and IV whereas such provision exists for category-I;

(c) whether employees in category IV under N.E. Railway, eastern railway and N.F. Railway are working in the same pay-scale for the last twenty years;

(d) whether the government propose to make provision of time bound promotion in category III and IV of all the Railways; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS: (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) and (b). There is no provision for time bound promotion in any group of Indian Railways.

(c) There are some cases where promotion could not be made due to unsuitability or for want of vacancies.

(d) No, Sir,

(e) This depends upon the general policy of the Government and Railways cannot take a unilateral decision.

[Translation]

Houses for Tehri Dam Project Oustees

6515. SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI: Will be the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) Whether large number of houses are being constructed for the rehabilitation of the Tehri Dam Project oustees,

(b) if so, whether cracks have developed in those houses; and

(c) if so, the action proposed to be taken against the persons found guilty in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES:(SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Release of LPG Connections in Delhi

6516. SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA MUNDA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state the reasons for not releasing LPG connections in Delhi to those persons who have registered their names in 1982 to 1985 while the persons who have registered their names after 1985 have already got LPG connections?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS:(SHRI B. SHANKAR-ANAND): The period of waiting varies from distributor to distributor depending on the product availability, pending waiting list and annual programme for enrolment of customers.

Congestion on Howrah-Kharagpur Section

6517. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS please state:

(a) whether there is congestion on the railway movements on Howrah-Kharagpur section on South-Eastern Railway;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to overcome the problem of over congestion on this section?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS: (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Daily Train Between Agra and Delhi

6518. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce a daily super-fast train between Agra and Delhi to cater to the needs of the daily passengers; and

(b) if so, the time by which it is proposed to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS: (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Superfast Train From Delhi to Visakhapatnam

6519. SHRI G.M.C. BALAYOGI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government have any proposal to introduce daily super fast train from Delhi to Visakhapatnam; and

(b) if so, when it is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Utilisation of Windmills in Andhra Pradesh

6520. SHRI G.M.C.BALAYOGI: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) Whether there is any proposal to harness windmills for Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including the subsidy given for the promotion of wind-power in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Loss of Petroleum Products in train Accident

6521. SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether attention of the GOVERNMENT has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "Fire breaks out in special oil train" appearing in the Indian Express dated August 27, 1991;

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

(c) the extent of loss suffered;

(d) whether any inquiry has conducted to fix the responsibility;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) On 25.8.91 at 12.35 hours, when Up Bilaspur Oil Tank Goods train was on run between Mahadevsal and Posoita stations of south Eastern Railway, 26 Oil tank loads containing petroleum products derailed. Out of these, 20 caught fire and got burnt.

(c) The estimated loss suffered is as under:-

1.	Railway Property	= Rs.	42.25 lakhs.
2.	Petroleum Products	= Rs.	19.5 lakhs.

(d) and (e) A Committee comprising senior railway officers is inquiring into the accident.

(f) Does not arise.

LPG Agencies and Petrol/Diesel Outlets in East Godavari

6522. SHRI G.M.C.BALAYOGI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of LPG agencies and

petrol/diesel outlets in East Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the number out of them allotted to SC/ST;

(c) whether the allotment to SC/ST is according to the reserved quota;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps taken in this regard;

(e) the location where it is proposed to allot more LPG agencies and petrol/diesel

outlets in East Godavari during 1991-92; and

(f) the number out of them reserved for SC/ST?

<i>LPG distributorships</i>		<i>Retail Outlet dealerships</i>	
Total	S.C	Total	S.C
25	2	86	8

(c) and (d). Reservation for SC/ST is provided for on a state-wise basis in the marketing plans which are drawn up from time to time.

(e) and (f). No fresh marketing plan for 1991- 92 has been drawn up.

New Terminal at Colmbatore Airport

6523. DR. (SMT.) K.S. SOUNDARAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new Terminal at Coimbatore Airport has been completed;

(b) if not, the reasons for the delay; and

(c) when it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The work has been delayed due to shortage of required materials in the market.

(c) by 31st of October, 1991.

Commission to Petrol Pump and LPG Dealers

6524. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS: (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b). Information as provided by the oil companies is as follows:-

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Petrol pumps to be closed on September 2" appearing in the Hindustan Times dated August 30, 1991;

(b) if so, the rate of commission given to the petrol pump and L.P.G. dealers in Delhi and elsewhere;

(c) the quantity of petrol and L.P.G. cylinders supplied on an average to a dealer in Delhi and elsewhere; and

(d) the details of other items sold by the petrol and L.P.G. dealers and the likely profit made out of them?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) A Statement is enclosed.

(c) and (d). According to the oil companies, in Delhi, for 1990-91, the average throughput per month was 178 KLs for petrol dealer and 5758 cylinders for LPG dealers. The petroleum dealer may sell lubes and greases, automobile accessories, spares, batteries, tyres etc. The LPG dealer may sell hot plates, spares, rubber tubes etc. Profits made by the petrol and LPG dealers are not maintained by Government.

STATEMENT

The commission payable to the petrol pump dealers and LPG dealers are indicated below. These are uniform throughout India.

- i) LPG Commission payable to LPG dealer is Rs. 5.70/per 14.2 Kg cylinder.
- ii) Petrol and Diesel

Rates (Rs/KL)

<i>Throughout level per annum (KL)</i>	<i>MS-87</i>	<i>MS-93</i>	<i>HSD</i>
0-360	308	346	145
361-600	229	264	101
601-1080	204	233	77
above 1080	172	195	70

For the dealers who are not paying anything towards bank draft charges/cheque collection charges an amount of Rs. 15 per KL for MS and Rs. 7 per KL on HSD from out of the above commission is deducted.

Rural Electrification and Energisation of Pumpsets in Uttar Pradesh

6525. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of irrigation pumps energised in Jaunpur in 1990, in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the number of villages electrified and irrigation pumps energised in Saidpur region in 1990;

(c) the manner in which these figures compare with the previous three years; and

(d) the time by which the remaining villages in Saidpur region are likely to be electrified?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) The Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board has reported the energisation of 485 pumpsets during the year 1990-91 in Jaunpur district of Uttar Pradesh.

(b) As per available information, 577 pumpsets were energised in Ghazipur district including Saidpur Tehsil of Uttar Pradesh during 1990-91. However, no village electrification was undertaken in Ghazipur district during 1990-91 since all the 2540 villages had already been declared as electrified.

(c) and (d). District-wise rural electrification programmes are finalised by the State Electricity Boards on the basis of available resources and the inter-se priority fixed by the State Government. However, the number of villages electrified and pumpsets energised in the Ghazipur district including Saidpur Tehsil during the last three years are given below:-

<i>Years</i>	<i>Pumpsets energised</i>
1987-88	354
1988-89	744
1989-90	575

Earning of Railways

6526. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN:
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the total amount of income earned by the Railways during the last three years,

year-wise, and zone-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-
LIKARJUN): The information is given be-
low:-

STATEMENT

Net Traffic Receipts

(In lakhs of Rs.)

	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90
1	2	3	4
Name of Railway			
Central	301.32	351.85	374.69
Eastern	(-) 110.34	(-) 79.85	(-) 93.63
Northern	282.40	188.48	248.59
North Eastern	(-) 181.66	(-) 207.85	(-) 233.90
Northeast Frontier	(-) 195.60	(-) 215.91	(-) 207.11
Southern	(-) 160.30	(-) 134.08	(-) 168.72
South Central	69.46	78.60	99.88
South Eastern	377.98	368.77	474.67
Western	251.47	280.34	362.87

[*Translation*]**LPG Connections in Uttar Pradesh**

6527. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cooking gas connections released so far in Bareilly and Badaun districts of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the number of cooking gas connections released in Faridpur, Dataganj, and Aholia; and

(c) the number of persons on waiting list at present for getting gas connections at above places and the time by which the LPG connections are likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKAR-ANAND): (a) to (c).

	<i>No. of Customers (Approx)</i>	<i>No. of Waiting list (Approx)</i>
Bareilly	76190	29860
Badaun	10020	8770
Faridpur	1610	5890
Ahola	1270	1820

At Present LPG is not marketed at Dataganj.

Efforts are on to give LPG connections to as many applicants as early as possible.

[*English*]**Doubling of Wadi-Daund Section**

6528. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYA SADUL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to conduct a survey for doubling of Wadi-Daund Section (C.R.) in view of high density of traffic on the route;

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

(c) if not the reasons therefor and alternative measures proposed to be taken to meet the traffic demand on the section?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) to (c). Shahabad-Gulbarga block section of Wadi-Daund Section has already been doubled. Following block sections on Wadi-Daund Section have been identified for doubling in the coming years:

- (1) Solapur-Hotgi
- (2) Daund-Bhigwan
- (3) Solapur-Pakni
- (4) Bhigwan-Parewadi
- (5) Hotgi-Akalkot Road
- (6) Gulbarga-Savalgi

Electrification of Pune-Wadi Section

6529. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYA SADUL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for electrification of Pune-Wadi section on South Central Railway; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Due to relative priorities for electrification of other high density sections and financial constraints.

[*Translation*]

Halt of Express Trains at Nagaria Sadat Station

6530. SHRISANTOSH KUMARGANGWAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received representations for halting of Kisan Express and Delhi-Balamau Express at Nagaria Sadat station in Bareilly district; and

(b) if so, the decision taken thereon and when it is likely to be implemented?

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

(b) Stoppage of 3307/3308 Ganga-Satlaj Express and 4047/4048 Delhi-Balamau Express at Nagaria Sadat has not been found justified.

Proposal for rebate in tickets from Bareilly to Delhi

6531. SHRI SANTOSH KUMARGANGWAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received suggestions for giving the rebate of 250 Kms. in the ticket to the passengers from Bareilly going to Delhi; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) and (b). Suggestion for reducing the distant restriction for travel in Second Class by Shramjeevi train from 300 Kms. to 250 Kms. has been received. Since this is a superfast Express train, primarily for long distance passengers, it has not been found possible to relax the existing distance restriction.

[*English*]

Newsitem Agra Plans Mughal Extravaganza

6532. SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:
SHRI RAMESH CHAND TOMAR:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government have been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Agra Plans Mughal Extravaganza" appearing in the Indian Express dated August 7, 1991;

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

(c) whether Government are aware that women were sold in Meena Bazar and screening of such type of scenes will be a great insult to them and will also encourage the exploitation of women by unsocial elements;

(d) if so, whether Government propose to ban the proposed feature of dancers depicting the glory of the famous Meena Bazar; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e). In order to provide a tourist attraction in the form of evening entertainment to foreign visitors, a Sound and Light Show depicting the cultural and historical highlights of Agra is proposed to put up by the Song and Drama Division of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting with the support of the State Government and Tourism Guild of Agra. No scenes that are derogatory of Indian cultural heritage are proposed to be shown.

[*Translation*]

Superfast Trains from Barddhaman to Delhi

6533. SHRI SIMON MARANDI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to start a superfast train from Barddhaman station of West Bengal to Delhi via Bhagalpur, Jamalpur, Kiul and Patna junction; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and when it is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Train Services Between Mughalsarai and Howrah

6534. SHRI SIMON MARANDI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is heavy rush of passengers in trains running between Mughalsarai and Howrah;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to increase the number of coaches in the existing trains and also to start additional trains on this route; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) Some passengers remain on the waiting list.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) All the trains running between Mughalsarai and Howrah run with maximum permissible load. Additional trains cannot be introduced at present due to resource constraints.

[*English*]

Diamond Crossing at Sadar Bazar, Delhi

6535. DR. G.L. KANAUJIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to diamond crossing at Sadar Bazar, Delhi, of metre gauge and broad gauge tracks, if one gauge train is detained due to any reason on diamond crossing the other trains also get held up; and

(b) if so, the measures proposed to be taken to solve this problem to avoid delay to other trains and save the time of passengers?

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

(b) There is no proposal at present to change the existing arrangement.

Task Force for Power Plants

6536. DR. G.L. KANAUIA: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any task force has been constituted in Power sector;

(b) if so, the nature and objectives thereof;

(c) whether some power plants are running behind schedule; and

(d) if so, the remedial measures proposed to be taken to commission them on schedule?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b). The Central has established a Task Force to periodically review the power supply position in Delhi and the measures necessary for meeting the same.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The implementation of power is closely monitored by the Department of Power and the Central Electricity Authority. Timely assistance is rendered, where ever

necessary, to the project authorities to remove any bottlenecks in supply of equipments, materials etc. For this purpose, joint coordination meetings are held by the CEA with the project authorities, contractors and manufacturers.

[*Translation*]

Rural electrification in Aligarh District Uttar Pradesh

6537. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of electrified and non-electrified villages, in Aligarh district of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the names of the places in the district where 'Kutir Jyoti' scheme has been implemented; and

(c) the names of the places proposed to be provided this facility in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) The Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board has reported that 1701 villages in the Aligarh district have been electrified upto 31st March, 1991 leaving a balance of 3 villages yet to be electrified.

(b) and (c). The Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board has reported release of about 2539 single-point light connections under Kutir Jyoti Scheme in the Aligarh district of Uttar Pradesh. Under the scheme, which was financed from central grants during 1988-89 and 1989-90, the task of identifying the beneficiaries was left to the State Government.

LPG Agencies in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh

6538. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications received for the allotment of gas agencies and petrol pumps from Varanasi district of Uttar Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) the number out of them allotted in each category; and

(c) the number of gas agencies and petrol pumps proposed to be allotted during 1991-92 and the locations thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKAR-ANAND): (a) As informed by the oil companies a total of 226 applications were received for LPG distributorship and 496 for retail outlet dealerships covering various categories.

(b) Only 2 retail outlet dealerships have been allotted.

(c) No fresh marketing plan for 1991-92 has been prepared.

[English]

Incidents of Thefts in Railways

6539. SHRIMATI DILKUMARI BHANDARI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the incidents of theft in trains and within railway boundaries are on increase during the last three calendar year;

(b) if so, the details thereof, separately during each year, Statewise and Union-territory-wise;

(c) whether claims for these losses have been filed by the people with the railway authorities;

(d) if so, the details of these claims received during each year state-wise and union-territory-wise;

(e) the total number of claims finalised, state-wise and union-territory-wise and the remaining pending claims as on August 31, 1991;

(f) whether the Government propose to take some measures to check these incidents in future; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e). A Statement is attached.

(f) and (g). Taking necessary steps to check thefts on the Railways is a continuous process.

STATEMENT

Statistics of claims are maintained Railway Zone-Wise

The information is given below :

Railway	Year	No. of Claim Received	Amount claimed (in crores of Rs.)	No. of Claims Settled by Payment	Amount Paid (In Crores of Rs. on account of thefts/Losses and damages etc.
1	2	3	4	5	6
Central	1988-89	33029	24.19	20319	2.51
	1989-90	28286	40.20	13508	1.94
	1990-91	31328	21.81	18090	2.39
Eastern	1988-89	51079	46.78	41147	9.45
	1989-90	44422	39.96	28267	6.87
	1990-91	38124	54.89	19030	4.31
Northern	1988-89	61029	38.88	36460	7.60
	1989-90	61293	42.67	31918	6.46
	1990-91	62608	43.71	29090	6.34

<i>Railway</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of Claim Received</i>	<i>Amount claimed (in crores of Rs.)</i>	<i>No. of Claims Settled by Payment</i>	<i>Amount Paid (In Crores of Rs. on account of thefts/Losses and damages etc.)</i>
	2	3	4	5	6
North Eastern	1988-89	17170	8.22	9139	0.94
	1989-90	18234	9.26	9571	0.97
	1990-91	19198	12.33	8987	0.97
Northeast Frontier	1988-89	30501	60.20	13635	4.90
	1989-90	29209	70.74	13541	6.60
	1990-91	22865	85.86	9859	3.25
Southern	1988-89	28734	70.07	6731	1.81
	1989-90	21486	41.65	4222	1.45
	1990-91	21207	42.22	3279	1.78
South Central	1988-89	9024	4.93	2428	0.58
	1989-90	8710	4.28	2191	0.55
	1990-91	8703	7.68	2165	0.71
South Eastern	1988-89	40149	45.31	15115	3.01
	1989-90	44389	50.08	18565	3.79

Railway	Year	No. of Claim Received	Amount claimed (In crores of Rs.)	No. of Claims Settled by Payment	Amount Paid (In Crores of Rs. on account of thefts/Losses and damages etc.
	2	3	4	5	6
	1990-91	41558	50.67	14793	4.82
Western	1988-89	24075	31.82	9723	2.92
	1989-90	26369	35.56	7915	1.96
	1990-91	24327	48.71	6609	1.81
Total	1988-89	294790	329.50	154707	33.81
	1989-90	282369	334.40	129698	30.29
	1990-91	269918	368.88	111702	26.36

Statistics are not maintained on losses/thefts separately.

Communication network at Calcutta airport

6540. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the communication network at Calcutta airport and city office is inadequate;

(b) whether there is no tele-booking facility at Calcutta airport; and

(c) the effective steps taken to improve functioning at Calcutta airport by providing tele-booking facility?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Tele-booking facility is available round the clock at Calcutta Airport.

Movement of Timber Logs ex-Dimapur

6541. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been inordinate delay in the movement of timber logs Ex-Dimapur Station to various railways workshops;

(b) whether the empties of BKC and BFR wagons are allowed to return without load via Dimapur station upto transshipment point at NBO and thus causing return of most of the BG open wagons Ex-NBO causing loss of revenue; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) to (c). The movement of

timber logs from Dimapur requires BFR and BKC type of wagons and the loading process is very slow and tortuous. As a result there is unavoidable time lag between the placement of indents and supply of wagons. Only some rejected BFRs & BKC, negligible in number are returned without loading. Timber logs are already being cleared from Dimapur Station and supply of suitable wagons will be stepped up.

Setting up of Baggasse-Based Power Station in Karnataka

6542. SHRIMORESHWAR SAVE: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a baggasse based power station in Karnataka; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b). The information is being collected which will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*Translation*]

Muzaffarpur Bihar

6543. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to open LPG agencies and petrol/diesel outlets in Sitamarhi and Muzaffarpur districts in Bihar in near future;

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

(c) whether any survey has been conducted in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (e). Retail outlets are opened as per marketing plans and policy in force from time to time.

[English]

Karappara Hydrel Power Project, Kerala

6544. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any delay in giving clearance to Karappara hydrel power project in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTRY OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b). The modified Project Report of Karappara-Kuriarkutty multi-purpose Project was received from the project authorities in October, 1990. It was examined by Central Water Commission and discussed by the Screening Committee in April, 1991. The Project Report was re-

turned to the project authorities with a request to modify is taking into consideration the observations of the Screening Committee and the Central Water Commission.

Supply of Paraffin Wax to Kerala

6545. SHRI K. MURALEE DHARAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the annual production of paraffin wax in the country;

(b) the State-wise allocation made during 1991-92;

(c) whether the Government have received request from the Government of Kerala to increase the quota; and

(d) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Estimated production of Paraffin Wax in the refineries during 1991-92 will be about 47000 tonnes.

(b) allocation is made on quarterly basis. A statement indicating allocation of paraffin wax to various States/UTs. during the first two quarters of 1991-92 is enclosed.

(c) and (d). Allocation is made keeping in view the indigenous availability and the imports.

STATEMENT

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Name of the State/UT.</i>	<i>Total allocation from April-September, 1991 (Figures in MTs)</i>
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1138
2.	Assam	1870

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Name of the State/UT.</i>	<i>Total allocation from April-September, 1991 (Figures in MTs)</i>
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	20
4.	Bihar	828
5.	Gujarat	1075
6.	Haryana	70
7.	Himachal Pradesh	20
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	2231
9.	Karnataka	1050
10.	Kerala	1910
11.	Maharashtra	5275
12.	Madhya Pradesh	438
13.	Manipur	210
14.	Meghalaya	10
15.	Nagaland	350
16.	Orissa	513
17.	Punjab	1208
18.	Rajasthan	263
19.	Sikkim	16
20.	Tamil Nadu	4670
21.	Tripura	175
22.	Uttar Pradesh	2275
23.	West Bengal	4340
24.	Andaman & Nicobar Island	20

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Name of the State/UT.</i>	<i>Total allocation from April-September, 1991 (Figures in MTs)</i>
25.	Chandigarh	53
26.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	20
27.	Delhi	1444
28.	Goa	140
29.	Daman & Diu	35
30.	Mizoram	79
31.	Pondicherry	281
32.	Lakshadweep	10
Total:		32037

Acquisition of Darbhanga House by CCL

6546. PROF. ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Darbhanga House in Ranchi has been acquired by the Central Coalfields Limited for its Head office; and

(b) if so, when and the amount paid by Central Coalfields Limited?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) and (b). Darbhanga House was purchased by National Coal Development Corporation on 25.7.1957 for a consideration of Rs. 7,20,000/- from Dr. Kameshwar Singh, Maharajadhiraj of Darbhanga.

Construction of Stations between Korilla and Machol Trombay

6547. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to construct two suburban railway stations between Korilla and Machol Trombay; and

(b) if so, whether it is also proposed to start train service between these two stations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Reservation Quota at Ahmednagar Station

6548. SHRI YASHWANTRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that quota fixed for Ahmednagar in Jhelam Express, Karnataka Express and Goa Express is in adequate to meet the demand of passengers;

(b) whether Government propose to provide one boggie for each express train from Ahmednagar;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) The reservation quotas available at Ahmednagar by these trains are generally adequate to cater to the present level of demand.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The existing quotas are adequate to meet the demand of traffic from Ahmednagar.

[*Translation*]

Local Trains of Lonawala and Pune Route

6549. SHRI YASHWANTRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether local trains running between Lonawala and Pune remain overcrowded;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to run more local trains on this route;

(c) if so, when they are likely to be introduced; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Due to shortage of EMU stock which cannot be increased on account of resource constraints.

[*English*]

Installed Capacity of Power Projects

6550. SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the installed capacity of power projects (Thermal, Hydro and Nuclear) and power generated and distributed by different State Electricity Boards and Organisations like Tata Hydro, BEST and DESU in 1988 and 1990;

(b) the cost per unit of power generated and unit cost at which sold to (a) Agriculture; (b) Railways; (c) Industries;

(c) the profit or loss incurred for the corresponding period and transmission losses; and

(d) Small Industries and domestic light in domestic sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (d). The requisite information is furnished below:-

STATEMENT

	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90
1	2	3	4
			5
1. Installed Capacity (MW)	54195 (31.3.88)	59040.38 (31.3.89)	63289.51 (31.3.90)
2. Energy Generation (Inc. Tata & DESU) (MU)	201894	221125	245141
3. Energy Requirement	210993	223194	247762
Availability/Consumption (MU)	187976	205909	228151
4. Average cost of energy and supply (p/kwh)	91.47	96.07	101.65
5. Average realisation from all category of consumers viz. Agriculture, Railways, Industries (small, medium and large) and domestic light etc.	71.59	74.16	76.89
6. Average Realisation (excluding Agricultural supply)	90.84	94.76	99.49
7. Profit/Loss after taking into account RE subsidy as provided in the account (Rs. in crores)	-275.29	-352.07	-623.47
8. Transmission and Distribution losses (%)	22.48	21.61 (Prov.)	22.99 (Prov.)

Aircraft on Regular Flights

6551. SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of aircraft presently under operation of the Indian Airlines on regular scheduled flights;

(b) the number of aircraft the Indian Airlines requires to meet the requirement of all the scheduled flights according to scientific Aviation norms;

(c) whether there is no regular maintenance of these aircraft;

(d) whether complaints have been received from operational and commercial departments of the Indian Airlines to this effect; and

(e) if so, the remedial measures taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) At present Indian Airlines is operating seven A-300; twelve A-320 and eighteen B-737 aircraft daily on its scheduled services.

(b) With the full reinduction of all the 18 Airbus A-320 aircraft in its fleet and with the acquisition of 12 more Airbus A-320 aircraft from November, 1992 onwards, Indian Airlines will be in a better position to cater to the traffic demand.

(c) All aircraft in the fleet of Indian Airlines are maintained as per the maintenance schedule approved by the Director General of Civil Aviation.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Development of Kappad for Tourism Promotion

6552. SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kappad near Calicut in Kerala where Vasco-de-Gama landed in 1498 has been declared as a place of tourist importance;

(b) whether the Government propose to develop Kappad as a beach resort; and

(c) if so, the specific proposals and investment sanctioned so far for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) The Central Department of Tourism has no policy to declare any place as a place of tourist importance.

(b) and (c). The Central Department of Tourism has sanctioned Rs. 67.24 lakhs for development of a beach resort at Kappad, to the State Government of Kerala.

Railway Over-bridges in Kerala

6553. SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of railway over-bridges under construction in Kerala and in what stage of construction is work at each of these sites;

(b) other proposals already sanctioned with detailed plan and estimates;

(c) new proposals, if any, received by the Government; and

(d) priority given by the Government of

Kerala for these proposals forwarded to the Railway?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) Three in all; the present status of the three works is as under:-

<i>Details of the work</i>	<i>Progress on bridge proper by Railway</i>
1. Road Overbridge near Kuttipuram.	98%
2. Road Overbridge near Wadakkancherri (Mulaguna thukkavu).	15%
3. Road Overbridge between Avaneeswaran and Kottarakara.	100%

The work on road approaches on all the three works has not yet been started by the State Government.

(b) 5 works of road overbridges near Tellicherry, Punkunnam, Wadakkancherri (Mullurcara), Tirupunithura and Badagara.

(c) None.

(d) Does not arise.

Cancellation of Vayudoot Services from Hyderabad to Mysore

6554. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESH-WARI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Vayudoot services from Hyderabad to Mysore via Bellary and Bangalore have been cancelled;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) when these services are likely to be restored?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). For commercial and operational reasons, Vayudoot has been forced to reduce its network drastically in various States of the country. There is no proposal at the moment to restore these services.

Over-Bridge at Hospet

6555. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJES-WARI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received proposal for the construction of over-bridge in Hospet; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) and (b). No, Sir. However, the Railway has requested the Government of Karnataka for sponsoring the work for inclusion in the Works Programme, to which there has been no response so far.

[*Translation*]

Railway Line in Riwa (Madhya Pradesh)

6556. SHRI BHEEM SINGH PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposed railway line in Riwa district of Madhya Pradesh is under construction;

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be completed; and

(c) the beginning and destination place of the proposed line and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) and (b). Satna-Rewa (50 km) new BG line in the Rewa District of Madhya Pradesh is targetted for completion on 31.3.1992.

(c) Satna is the starting station and Rewa the last destination station. Kaima, Hinauta, Rampur Road and Turki are the proposed stations on the new line.

[*English*]

Charter of Demands of Workers of National Airport Authority

6557. SHRISHRAVANKUMARPATEL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the workers of the National Airport Authority held a rally in July, 1991 to press their 27 points charter of demands;

(b) if so, the details of their demands; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRIMADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No recognised Union of the National Airports Authority held a rally in July, 1991 to press their demands.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Vayudoot Flight from Hyderabad to Tirupati

6558. SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Vayudoot Service is operating between Hyderabad and Tirupati;

(b) if so, its timings and capacity of the aircraft;

(c) whether the capacity has been reduced and if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether complaints have been received on the change of flight schedules and inconvenience caused to the passengers for reducing the passenger capacity on this sector; and

(e) whether the Vayudoot propose to revise the passenger capacity from Hyderabad to Tirupati and if so, when it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRIMADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c). Due to shortage of Avro aircraft (44 seater). Vayudoot is operating a Dornier aircraft (18 seater) with increased frequency between Hyderabad and Tirupati. The details of the flight are as under:

(i) PF-605/606 Daily 0930 D
Hyderabad A 1245 1100 A
Tirupati D 1115

PF-605A/606A, Tue Thu, Sat,

Sun 1300 D Hyderabad A 1615
1430 A Tirupati D 1445

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) No, Sir.

Buddhist Centre

6559. SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV:
Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND
TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether a delegation of National Park Services visited Rajgir (Bihar) and other Buddhist Centres this year;

(b) whether the said delegation has submitted any report to the Government for the development of buddhist centres; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and especially for the development of the Rajgir and Nalanda?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir. An eight member team from National Park Service, USA visited places of Buddhist interest in Bihar during November, 1990.

(b) and (c). The National Park Service, USA is preparing the final concept plans for development of the Bodhgaya Region including Nalanda and Rajgir. When the concept plans are ready, they would be submitted by the National Park Service to the Government of India.

Import of Equipments by Air India

6560. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:
Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND
TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether orders worth about Rs. 12 crores have been/are being placed by the Air

India with Messrs. Lintas Corporation Sallinas, California—a firm reportedly having been declared "Financial Condition Unbalanced";

(b) if so, the details of equipments sought to be imported and to what use it is proposed to be put to; and

(c) the reasons for spending such a huge foreign exchange in clearing this deal by the Air India?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c). A letter of intent amounting to Rs. 4.02 crores, has been issued to Lintas Corporation for the import of Cargo loaders and Cargo transporters, which are not manufactured in India. Letter of Intent for an amount of Rs. 1.62 crores has also been placed with their Indian Collaborators viz. Usha Telehoist Ltd.

The equipments are used for loading/off-loading of containers/pallets on the wide bodied aircraft. These are also used for handing of Air India flights and flights of other airlines at various airports in India.

Air India have safeguarded their interests as payments will be made only after the equipment are inspected and despatch exfactory is made, and the equipment are commissioned.

12.00 hrs

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura):
Sir, today more than two thousand Railway workers and employees are holding Dharna at Boat Club. They are demanding the reinstatement of the dismissed Railway employees. This issue was raised in this House, in this session, twice, by the hon. Members of this House. It was assured by the Railway Minister that the reinstatement of the dis-

missed Railway employees would be sympathetically considered and would be sent to the Cabinet for its approval. Again on 21st August, the Railway Minister made a statement on the floor of this House that the issue of the reinstatement of dismissed Railway employees has been sent to the Cabinet for its approval.

Sir, already 20 days have elapsed. These dismissed Railway employees are out of jobs for more than eleven years. A few of these employees have already died. Many of them are starving. The Railway Minister is here. May I know from the Railway Minister as to when these dismissed Railway employees who were dismissed in January, 1980 and who are numbering more than 600 would be reinstated, as the order was passed by the previous Government? May I know from the Minister, who is here, when this reinstatement would be made? When these Railway employees would be reinstated? Both the Ministers of Ministry of Railways are here.

Sir, the Railway Minister can tell the House. This is the demand of the entire House. There are no two opinions in this. The entire House is unanimous on this. These employees are out of jobs for eleven years. They should be reinstated. They should be brought back to their jobs. May I know from the Minister to tell this House of the action he is going to take? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Sir, when this issue was raised earlier, you have been pleased to make an observation that we should accept the sympathetic approach as a commitment. That commitment is not being fulfilled. He says he has referred to Cabinet. When the Cabinet will take a decision? (*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): Sir, this demand has been going on repeatedly during the

course of reply to the last Budget debate and later on also. I want to inform my friends that they don't need to bring any more pressure, no need for dharna. I have made my recommendation to the Cabinet formally. Once it comes before the Cabinet, it can be attended to.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Favourably? (*Interruptions*).

(*Translations*)

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Speaker, Sir, as a matter of fact, I do not want to raise these questions time and again in the House as they fall under the jurisdiction of the Government. But we have certain compulsions. One of our friends, Mr. Sharda Prasad Rawat was assassinated yesterday and even before his dead body was consigned to flames, a murderous assault was made on Shri Chhote Lal Yadav, another colleague of ours. Today Morning. I talked to doctors on telephone who say that he is still not out of danger. His condition is very critical. One of the brothers of our sitting M.L.A. from Ghaziabad constituency was killed. I do not want to blame anyone. But I want to say this much that both Shri Sharda Prasad Rawat and Chhote Lal Yadav worked with Mr. Kalyan Singh in the U.P. Cabinet during 1977. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): He has referred to the Chief-Minister by name (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI CHANDRAJEET YADAV (Azamgarh): Sir, they have withdrawn the security to all the leaders. There is an organised attack on political leaders. Don't allow these things to happen in this country. (*Interruption*).

There is an organised attack, they have

withdrawn security to all political leaders. The U.P. Government is indulging in political vendetta and organising attack on all political leaders. They were the Ministers in the U.P. Government. Where are we going to seek protection? If the whole Government commits an organised political vendetta and attack on political leaders, withdrawing their security, where will we seek protection, I want to know. Mr. Advani said yesterday that he would also intervene and tell the Chief Minister. Let him tell his Chief Minister. (*Interruptions*). have a meeting with all of us. If you are honest, call a meeting with him. They have withdrawn the security to all political leaders and they are being attacked, they are being killed. This kind of Government is functioning in Uttar Pradesh today. We are not going to allow such things to happen in this country. (*Interruptions*).

At this stage, Shri Rajnath Sonkar Shastri and some other Hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please go back to your seats. Let me say something now.

(*Interruptions.*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please you go back to your seats. Let me say something.

(*Interruptions.*)

MR SPEAKER: I adjourn the House to meet again at 12.45 p.m.

12.14 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till forty-five minutes past Twelve of the Clock.

The Lok Sabha reassembled at forty eight minutes past Twelve of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Mohan Singhji was on his legs. I will allow him to complete and then Shri Ram Vilas Paswan will speak.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI (*Saidpur*): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given a notice on some other subject.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Well, I think that we should not prolong the discussion. What one or two Members are saying is going to be, by the large, the view of the Members belonging to one Party or the other and so, please do not allow it to spill over into a wider area and please let it be contained. May I request the other hon. Members not to insist on speaking and other on this issue?

[*Translation*]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH: I did not level allegations against anyone.

MR. SPEAKER: You may explain your point in plain words.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am relating my tale of woes to the august House, as to how our colleagues are being killed on after another. But the problem is that:-

"Hum aah bhi bharate hain, to ho jate hain badnam
Wo katal bhi karte hain, to charcha naheen hota".

The difficulty with us is that assault was made on two of our former ministers in which one died and the condition of the other is

critical. Both of them happened to be the colleagues of the present Chief Minister during 1977. I am distressed to say that the State Government neglected the security of their former ministers and former M.L.A. Had proper attention been paid to their security the assassination of political leaders would not at all have started in Uttar Pradesh. All these political workers who belong to our party are being assassinated one after another. It is a very serious matter. If the State Government is unable to provide security to political activists, the Central Government must intervene. I want to submit that the Government should assist Uttar Pradesh Government for providing security to the political workers who are working for the poor, the backward the downtrodden and the minorities. With this, I draw the attention of the Government to this issue and I conclude.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera):

Mr. Speaker, Sir, recently you had convened a meeting of leaders of all the parties and I am happy to note that you as well as the leader of opposition had taken the issue seriously. I had raised this issue in the House yesterday also when I got the news of Shri Sharda Prasad Rawat's assassination. At that time Shri Sitaram Kesri who was sitting opposite to us said that our voice was low *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SITARAM KESRI: I was not pointing to you only.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Since we are all political workers, we all come here from the political field. Today, they are in power and we sit in opposition. It could be that we won't remain an M.P. the other day. Nobody knows as to where we will be the next moment. It is not known whether we will be on the roads or in the Parliament. But this does not mean that by coming to roads one would lose his self-respect.

Yesterday I raised the issue of the murder of Shri Sharda Prasad Rawat and today another such incident took place when Shri Chhote Lal Yadav, the former Uttar Pradesh Minister and a devoted worker to the cause of the poor was shot at today. He is reported to be struggling for life. So it is natural that we are not only concerned over it, but we have resentment and distress also on the recurrence of such incidents.

Shri Lal K. Advani, the leader of the opposition and the top leader of the Bharatiya Janata Party is present here. I would like to request him to provide security in Uttar Pradesh without any consideration of party affiliation, as security has been withdrawn from the residences of all the leaders. I am not in favour of providing security to all, nor do I favour its withdrawal from all. Security is provided to the one who needs it but when it is alleged that the withdrawal of his security has resulted in the murder of a person, it definitely becomes a matter of concern and the incident which has recurred is very regrettable, regrettable for us, the political workers as well as for the Uttar Pradesh Government. So, I would like to request Shri Advani who is the leader of the opposition and that of the Bhartiya Janata Party, to ensure that such incidents do not recur and hence should speak to the Uttar Pradesh Government. The Minister of Home Affairs is here, I do not know where was he all these days. Now that this untoward incident has taken place *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: He is not having any notice. He is in the Rajya Sabha. He is Leader of the Rajya Sabha.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH (Rajgarh): It must be expunged.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: I myself withdrew my statement and so it stands expunged (*Interruptions*) There is nothing unparliamentary in 'napping'. I would like to request the Minister of State for Home Affairs who is present in the House to take this issue seriously, discuss it with the Uttar Pradesh Government and let the House know about the action taken in this connection.

SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV (Shahjahanpur): Sir, I would not like to speak much. I have to say one or two things only. Just a few hours after the murder of Sharda Prasad Rawat, fatal attack was made on Chhotey Lal Yadav. This incident did not take place on a roadside. When Chhotey Lal Yadav was sitting in the house of Shri Mohan Lal Gupta in Khaga Tehsil, the assassins come there and pumped bullets into his head and he is in a state of coma. My submission is that these two very persons who had been my colleagues in the Uttar Pradesh Vidhan Sabha, asked me to request Shri Kalyan Singh donot be scared of his name - who is the Chief Minister, to provide him bodyguards for his security. I told him that I am myself an M.P., I had been an M.P. and the leader of the opposition too in the past, but yet hon. Mulayam Singh Yadav, the then Chief Minister withdrew my gunners despite the fact that I had been the leader of the opposition party that time. I told him that even my gunners have been withdrawn, so how can I provide him security.

Sir, the second thing that I want to say is that the main reason for the prevailing fear at present is that 70 per cent S.H.Os of the police station have been sent to the C.I.D. as has been the case in Fatehpur. Sir, they did not join their duty and as a result, all the police stations are lying unmanned there. Hence the situation of law and order is deteriorating all over the State. My request is that

since the State Government is indulging in mass transfers and postings only and is on the lookout as to how they could attack the former Chief Minister and a particular caste to which he belongs. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Now you conclude it. Please sit down. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, yesterday, when the issue of the murder of Shri Rawat was raised, I told that there must be such type of atmosphere all over the country which may enable every political worker in democracy to perform his work without any fear. I owe my responsibility to maintain such atmosphere in the States ruled by the Bhartiya Janata Party. However, neither I am not in a position to answer any issue in detail nor this forum is appropriate for that. Many issues can be discussed in the Vidhan Sabha where many of our representatives are sitting. No one can answer their questions here. Neither the Home Minister nor I can do it. In this connection, the only thing that I can do - and I am confident that all of the members of the House will do the same - is to condemn it. I should rather use the word 'unreserved condemnation' of the murder of Shri Rawat as also today's attack on another person. No body will disagree with this. I do not know whether there was any lapse in providing security, but as I promised yesterday, I have told the Chief Minister categorically. When I spoke to him and told him to look into the entire issue in order to find out whether it was a case of personal animosity or a political murder, he told me that according to the information he had so far, the F.I.R. lodged did not mention any name of a political leader or a political worker. Whatever is perceivable there is that it does not appear to be political. Yet, I insisted that a thorough investigation should be done in the case because if there is a political murder, the case becomes more serious, if it is individual one, in that case also it is serious, murder in any case is a serious matter, but if a murder

is political one, it is much more serious. I can say only this much that so far as Uttar Pradesh is concerned, it is alert to its duties and responsibilities and after all I am satisfied with the situation of law and order there. (*Interruptions*) Success to some extent has been achieved in containing the activities of the mafia gangs. (*Interruptions*) I agree that the deserving persons, the political workers must be given security but at the same time I would also like to say that while taking the decisions pertaining to security, the Chief Minister has taken into consideration the fact that the security guards are not misused as has been done in the past when the people were provided security guards but they were running mafia gangs. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIM. M. JACOB): Sir, I listened to the observations made by various leaders of the various political parties. There is no doubt that the security of an individual, more so a political worker, is important and that has to be provided. But it always depends on the assessment of the threat perception and if the Government is convinced that there is a threat, security has to be provided. In this particular instance, I also join all the leaders in their feelings and the condemnation of the attack. But, at the same time, the Home Minister shall get in touch with the U.P. Government to know further details about it. Otherwise, I may not be able to provide you any information at the moment. Certainly, we shall speak to the Chief Minister of the State Government on this issue.

MR. SPEAKER: Matters relating to atrocities on Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes and assaults on the politicians are discussed on the floor of the House many times.

13.00 hrs

We all know that according to the Constitutional provisions, they are to be dealt with mainly by the State Governments. The Government of India also has some moral responsibility in regard to these atrocities of other kind and a remote responsibility too, to provide guidelines on the policies also.

We are told that the hon. Prime Minister is going to call a meeting of the Chief Ministers, to discuss the atrocities on the weaker sections in the society. I think, that the matters relating to atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are going to be discussed there. I have some information, which is not confirmed, that the matters relating to atrocities or the condition of the women may also be discussed. I think, it would be appropriate, if the matter relating to the security of the politicians also is discussed in the meeting.

Now, these are the matters which cannot be taken up without any notice and discussed and policies cannot be formulated. It is necessary to apply our mind in depth to these issues and then discuss these matters with the Chief Ministers and the State Governments, who are mainly responsible. So, I think, it would be in the fitness of things, if this matter also is taken up in the meeting of the NDC or in any other meeting. I think, this House, will certainly be happy if this matter is discussed over there and I hope that the Government will take note of it.

Once more thing. Today, may I request the hon. Members, not to press to raise other issues because already we have taken up one hour and there are other important legislative business with us and if we do not transact the legislative business and all those other things, it would be very difficult to finish the legislative work within the time in which it has to be done. Because, the Bills have to be passed by this House and they have to go

to the other House also. So, may I request the hon. Members not to insist to raise these issues today, may be tomorrow we will find time for them.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): I want to raise an issue about the Punjab.

MR. SPEAKER: Let us take it up tomorrow. You all have cooperated so splendidly in this matter and I hope that you will certainly cooperate to go to the other items.

13.02 hrs

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

National Airport Authority Amendment Rules, 1990

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI M.O.H. FAROOK): On behalf of Shri Madhav Rao Scindia I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the National Airports Authority (Conditions of Service of the Chairman and Other Members) Amendment Rules, 1990 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 1890 in Gazette of India dated the 21st July, 1990 under section 40 of the National Airports Authority Act, 1985. [Placed in Library See No. LT-601/91]

Oil and Natural Gas Commission Amendment Regulations, 1990 etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI M.O.H. FAROOK): On behalf of

Shri B. Shankaranand I beg to lay on the table a copy of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission (Payand Allowances) Amendment Regulations, 1990 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. Sec. RR/3.3./88 in Gazette of India dated the 2nd March, 1991 under sub-section (4) of section 32 of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission Act, 1959. [Placed in Library see No. L T - 602/91]

Notifications Under Essential Commodities Act 1953

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI M.O.H. FAROOK): On behalf of Shri S. Krishan Kumar. I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) 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) The Kerosene (Fixation of Ceiling Prices) Amendment Order, 1991 published in Notification No. S.O. 468 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 25th July, 1991.
 - (ii) The Light Diesel Oil (Fixation of Ceiling Prices) Amendment Order, 1991 published in Notification No. S.O. 496 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 25th July, 1991.
 - (iii) The Furnace Oil (Fixation of Ceiling Prices and Distribution) Amendment Order, 1991 published in Notification No. S.O. 470 (E) in Gazette of India

dated the 25th July, 1991.

- (iv) The Paraffin Wax (Supply, Distribution and Price Fixation) Amendment Order, 1991 published in Notification No. S.O. 471 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 25th July, 1991.

- (v) The Kerosene (Restriction on Use and Fixation of Price) Amendment Order, 1991 published in Notification No. S.O. 472 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 25th July, 1991. [Placed in Library See No. LT — 603/91]

- (2) A copy of the Agreement (Hindi and English versions) dated the 24th July, 1991 entered into between the President of India and the Oil and Natural Gas Commission to amend the principal agreement dated the 17th December, 1966 under section 42 of the Income-tax Act, 1961. [Placed in Library See No. LT—604/91]

PETITION *RE* HOLDING EARLY ELECTIONS TO THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF DELHI AND DELHI METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

13. 04 hrs.

[*English*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): I beg to present a petition signed by

Shri Om Prakash Kohli, President, Delhi Pradesh Bhartiya Janata Party and others regarding need for holding early elections to the Municipal Corporation of Delhi and the Delhi Metropolitan Council. [Placed in Library See No. L T—605/91]

13.05 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[*English*]

- (i) **Need to remove the grievances of Bank Deposit Collectors in the Country**

SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN (Calicut): The Bank Deposit Collectors numbering about 50,000 and working in various banks all over the country, are doing a socially very necessary job of mopping up small deposits going door to door and bringing them to the vaults of the banks. These deposit collectors do not have any job security nor any regularised service conditions. They are paid commission on the deposits collected, at rates varying from bank to bank.

An industrial dispute raised by the deposit Collectors regarding their service conditions was adjudicated upon by the Industrial Tribunal at Hyderabad which submitted, its award to the Union Government in December 1988 which was published in the Gazette in June 1989.

The Tribunal, after finding them to be 'Workmen' under the Industrial dispute Act, specifically mentioned that they be taken as part-time employees of the banks. In lieu of clerical wages and service conditions, the Tribunal awarded that they be absorbed into the regular cadres of clerks and sub-staff

according to their educational qualifications.

The adjudication proceedings which commenced in the year 1980 went upto 1988 and in between the bankers in some banks had closed down the schemes and some altered it adversely affecting the deposit collectors and the depositors. The disputes raised by Deposit Collectors regarding these violations of the I.D. Act by the bankers before the Tribunal were also examined by the Tribunal and the award given was comprehensive covering all interlocutory petitions also.

I request the Government to find solution to the grievances of the Bank Deposit Collectors.

- (ii) **Need to widen the road near Valayar check post on National Highway No.47**

[*Translation*]

*SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Palghat): Sir, the road near the Valayar checkpost on National Highway 47 in Kerala remains blocked most of the time. This is causing untold hardship to the public. Especially during rainy season it remains blocked day and night. The patients who go to the Coimbatore medical collage and other important nursing homes cannot reach there in time. There are cases of death of such patients on the road itself. Similarly, there are several instances when people missed their flights as they could not reach the airport in time. The road block is causing inconvenience to tourists. This is adversely affecting tourism. This is the only road which can be used by tourists coming from Cochin and Kozhikkodal. Therefore, remedy has to be found for this problem. The Chavadi segment of this Highway which is in Tamil Nadu was tarred upto width of 80 t. The remaining

part of that stretch too has been tarred and thus this road stretch has become sufficiently wider. So either the Valayar stretch should also be similarly tarred and widened or some other steps should be taken to remove the present road blocks.

I request the Government to take urgent steps in this regard.

- (iii) **Need to declare important roads in Gujarat as National Highways**

[*English*]

KUMARI DIPIKA CHIKHLIA (Baroda): After the formation of the Gujarat people of the State have frequently represented for declaring of new National Highways.

The target set for National Highway in 1961-81 and development plan for Gujarat is 3602 kms. But the existing length as on the 31st March, 1990 is only 1573 kms. During the Sixth plan period an increase of only 44ks. length and during Seventh plan an increase of 152 ks. has been recorded.

The Government of Gujarat has requested the concerned Ministry in August, 1990-91 to declare the following important roads as the National Highways.

"Vadakara-Por-Sinior-Netrang-Vyara, Ahwa-Saputara-Nasik road linking NH-8 with NH-3 - 245 Kms."

Hon. Union Minsister of Surface Transport has promised to consider the proposal favourably when he visited the state on the 28 th January, 1991.

I request the hon. Minister to consider the demand of the Gujarat State and declare the important roads as the National Highways.

*Translation of the matter originally raised in Malayalam.

(iv) Need to set up electronic telephone exchange in Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh

[*Translation*]

SHRISATYNARAYAN JATIYA (Ujjain): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is a long waiting list for telephone connection in Ujjain. There is a need to expand the telephone system in order to provide telephone to the people in the long waiting list.

E-I-OB system of electronic exchange should immediately be set up in Ujjain, and a convenient system should be made available for the ensuing "Sinhastha Parva" so that people may have a fault-free telephone facility. My submission is that on the occasion of the "Sinhastha Parva" a commemorative stamp should be issued and the facility of mobile post office should also be made available.

(v) Need to provide a halt at Narpatnagar village between Sakiri Junction and Tarsaral railway station of North-Eastern Railway and to name it after shaheed Suraj Narain Singh

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, there is a need to provide a halt at Narpatnagar village between Sakiri junction and Tarsaral railway station of North Eastern Railway, to be named Shaheed Surya Narayan Singh halt. This proposal has been under consideration for the past so many years. Survey has already been completed in connection with this work. Shaheed Surya Narayan Singh was a frontline leader in the independence struggle. He was killed while fighting for the cause of the workers. Millions of people have faith in him. Narpatnagar is the ancestral village of the socialist leader last Suraj Babu. Local rural

people are ready to provide every possible help for the construction of the Halt. Moreover, it is important from the point of view of transport, distance and income also.

Therefore, I demand the construction of a halt at Nagpatnagar village in the memory of Shaheed Suraj Narayan Singh, who was a source in inspiration with a view to provide facility to the people. I here will also be increase in the railway revenue.

(vi) Need to develop the Konaseema area in East Godavari district in Andhra Pradesh

[*English*]

SHRI G.M.C. BALAYOGI (Amalapur): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Konaseema area, East Godavari District, Andhra Pradesh is like an island surrounded by river Godavari and canals, and is rich in its agricultural produce, like rice, coconut. This area is not industrially developed. There is scope for locating agro-based small and medium industries by using the available natural gas as power.

Konaseema area is protected by 272 kms of flood banks which were raised about 100 years back during Sir Arthur Cotton's time and have become weak now. The threat of recurring floods is causing loss of crores of rupees worth agricultural products as well as human life every year. A small breach in any of the flood banks will submerge the whole area in the Bay of Bengal.

To help this area earn foreign exchange, the coastal area can be developed as a tourist resort in Kerala which will attract tourists and also help fishermen to transport their catch to different parts.

It is requested that steps be taken to help locate agro-based small and medium

industries, strengthen and widen the existing flood banks to avert floods and thus save the people of this area from recurring losses and release funds from coastal development fund for the development of coastal area.

(vii) Need to fill up the vacancies of managing Director and Chairman in the New Bank of India urgently

SHRI MORESHWAR SAVE (Aurangabad): Sir, the New Bank of India a nationalised bank, has suffered a loss of approximately Rs. 10 crore in the financial year 1989-90. It is learnt that the loss for the financial year 1990-91. is even higher.

One of the major reasons attributable to this is the vacant posts of the Chairman and Managing Director since long. For the last 1 1/2 years, one of the Executive Directors is heading the bank. The Reserve Bank of India, vide its July-1990 report, had indicated the said Executive Director and had even recommended action against him.

In the present scenario when further loss by public institution cannot be accepted, there is a grave need to immediately investigate into the various aspects of functioning of New Bank of India. There is immediate need to appoint a capable and responsible outside executive as Managing Director and Chairman so that he can dispassionately take suitable and drastic steps to set the bank on the development path. Only this will lead to checking of malpractices of the bank.

(viii) Need to introduce a new train between Jabalpur and Delhi

SHRI SHARAVAN KUMAR PATEL (Jabalpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, eleven Lok Sabha MPs from Madhya Pradesh have given a memorandum to the Railway Minister on 26.8.1991 urging upon him to start a new train between Jabalpur and Delhi via

Katni and Bina on a shorter and direct route in public interest.

The existing only train, namely, Mahakoshal Express runs on a circuitous route thus taking several additional hours inconveniencing the commuters to reach their respective destinations. Moreover, once started as an Express Train, it has been reduced to a passenger train stopping at various small stations and runs in variably late and is always packed beyond its capacity

Thus, there is every justification for a new train. I would, therefore, urge upon the Railway Minister to make a statement, regarding introduction of such a train during the current session itself.

13.16 hrs

PLACES OF WORSHIP (SPECIAL PROVISIONS) BILL —CONTD.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, the House will take up further consideration of the Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Bill moved by Shri S.B Chavan on the 9th September, 1991. Shri Rajnath Sonker Shastri may continue now.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJNATH SONKER SHASTRI (Saidpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, many points were raised yesterday when I was speaking on this Bill. I am sorry to say that our friends said so many things but they did not try to know the reality. Yesterday, I was saying that in *Manusamriti* there are so many such words, verses and couplets, which are insulting to us. *Manusmriti* is considered to be the representative scripture of God in

[Sh. Rajnath Sonker Shastri]

Hinduism. After Manusmriti the most important place is occupied by *Maitriyani Samhita* in which is written that a Shudra should not touch the milk that is to be offered to Gods in oblation, and no "yagya" should be performed in presence of a "Shudra". *Shatpath Brahmin* mentions that a Shudra is inferior, one should abstain from conversation with a Shudra, he is just like a dog, frog and a cat. So I say that the bill which has been presented is directly concerned with all these things also. In *Panchvihsh Brahmin* it is said that a shudra has no rights. He is profaned just like a cremation ground. This scripture is the roof of Hindu religion and in this scripture it is mentioned that the property of Shudra should be sanctioned without hesitation. In *Aapstambhadharmasjtra*, it is also mentioned that a shudra is profaned just like a cremation ground. If somebody rapes a shudra woman, he should be given out of the village and if any shudra rapes a Brahmin woman he should be awarded death sentence. Such is our religious systems. Further it is written that a Shudra is just like a dog. *Vishnu smriti* says, that if a shudra occupies a seat this buttocks should be chopped off.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, not only that, there is a strange thing written in Hindu scriptures about names also. It is written that the name of a brahmin should begin with auspicious words, such as Brihaspatinath Upadhyay etc. Name of Kshtriya should begin with powerful words such as Veerbahadur Singh, Tejbahadur Singh etc.

AN HON. MEMBER: Such as Digvijay Singh

SHRI RAJANATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Yes, like Digvijay Singh, Likewise, the name of a Vaisha should begin with a word denoting wealth and riches such as Laxminarayan, Karorimal etc. But the name of a Shudra should begin with words denoting

censure, such as Ghuruh, Katwaru, Fekan, etc. These words are from Hinduism, Manusmirti. These are the words quoted from our religious scriptures. I had presented the Religious Scriptures Amendment Bill in this very House in 1983. That time Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee and my friend Shri Phool Chand Verma were also there in the House. That time I had said that such insulting words should be expunged from the religious scriptures. The words which declare a person as mean should be expunged, the people, who were on the other side, remained silent. Not a single person did utter any word.

Sir, I would like to know that if there is a need to construct the temple and safeguard Hinduism, why such words are not taken out not from the scriptures. Sir, when a discussion was going on in the House during the Question Hour yesterday, one of our colleagues sitting there spoke about an incident which took place in Jhansi. A woman went to illuminate lamps on Shivaratri in Jhansi... (*Interruptions*)... That woman belonged to the class of untouchables and she was raped and killed. This is what happened within the temple. Sir, the similar incident of Maharashtra was discussed here. Perhaps you remember. I said that day that unless it is stopped, unless it is discussed, I will keep on standing on one leg in this House. You allowed three days and it was discussed for three days. Sir, a Shudra had entered that temple and it was raining that day. So he had gone there to save himself from the rains. But instead of providing shelter he was stoned to death. This is the persons in regard to our temples. and we are going to construct temples. (*Interruptions*) Sir, our hon. Member Shri Buta Singh is not present today. In 1984, while Jagatguru Shankaracharya was on his ratha yatra in Haridwar, an untouchable touched his ratha (Chariot). As soon as that untouchable touched his ratha, he was beaten to death there and then. It was discussed in this House also. This is our religion...hinduism. (*Interruptions*)

Sir, yesterday, my friend Umaji said that by presenting this Bill we are adopting indifferent attitude towards history. Hon. Home Minister is present here, he has presented this Bill. Our friends from that side said that an attitude of indifference is being adopted towards history. But I want to tell these friends that we are not adopting an attitude of indifference towards history, I do not want to blame them. I want to tell them that they are adopting an indifferent attitude towards history. I want to present before you as incident of history. It is there in the history, that Alexander had invaded this country in 326-327 B.C. Alexander had only 9 thousand cavaliers and Mr. Kuru, a leader of 60 thousand soldiers fought with him and when Shri Kuru fought with Alexander he and his 60 thousand people lost the war. Alexander went ahead with 9 thousand soldiers and captured Kuru. Whose conspiracy was there? was there any Muslim at that time? How Alexander was victorious here, how his 9 thousand soldiers become victorious? In this case also, there was the hand of those who had great faith in our scriptures, those religious heads who were there because of Varna System.

Air, about 650 A.D. Mohd, Bin Qasim had invaded this country. He had here with 12 thousand soldiers and Dahra the King of Sindh fought against him with his 80 thousand soldiers. But even there a conspiracy was hatched by the so-called various of religion. As a result of the decree that was issued, King Dahar was captured alive and Mohammad-bin-Qasim cut him into pieces on the battlefield.

Similar area the deeds of Mohamud Ghaznavi. My hon. colleagues said that we are trying to deny historical facts. But I would like to highlight the fact that when Mahmud Ghaznavi attacked the Somnath Temple the erstwhile 'Shudra' castes like 'kathi', 'paar-

siv', 'Chumriv', 'Kaahik', 'Chumuri' etc. resisted his attempt to loot the temple. The local brahmins and religious officials asked them to go away from the temple as their presence would defile the sanctity of the temple. The forced the 'shudra' caste people to move away from that area as a result of which Mahmud Ghaznavi looted and destroyed the temple.

You must admit this fact. If this is your attitude towards religion then what will be its consequences...

(*Interruption*)

It is true that the V.H.P. did not exist then but it was making a beginning (*Interruptions*). You can read it yourself, find it out for yourself. (*Interruptions*)

Sir, those who favour the construction of the Ram temple should know the status given to temples in religion. Sir, the objective of those Bill is to ensure that there is no bloodshed in Ayodhya and people of various communities live in harmony.

Sir, the place called 'Ram Janmabhoomi' is actually not the birthplace of Ram. The fact is the Lord Rama appeared out of the 'Havan Kund'. Sir, hon. Members would be knowing this story so I shall not go into the details of**

The place which is considered the birthplace of Ram had very few temples of Ram, before 15th century. At the time not much importance was given to Ram.

Sir, it is said that Ayodhya is a disputed place. In an article by Ramlila Thapar and in some other article also, I have read that Ayodhya was once part of Banaras and even Lankas was part of Banaras... (*Interruptions*) Even today Lanka

**Expunged as ordered by the chair.

[Sh. Rajnath Sonker Shastri]

is part of Banaras...*(Interruptions)*...the place called Ayodhya is not situated at Faizabad.

Sir, let it be noted that Ayodhya in situated near the house of Rajnath Sonker Shastri who is a resident of Banaras and not where it is thought to be. This is what has been just said. What I want to say is that Ayodhya is not in Faizabad, What has been said is that Ayodhya and Lanka are both in Banaras. They talk of worshipping Lord Rama but Sir, where has their intelligence gone** what is the need to construct that Ram temple *(Interruptions)*.

[English]

At this stage Shri Lakshmi Narain Mani Tripathi and some other hon. Members came and stood near the Table

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: May I request the hon. Members to go to their respective seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: This is the House which is bestowed with responsibility. If at all any such allegation which is derogatory is made, I will go by the Parliamentary Procedure and such words will be removed.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Kindly go to your respective seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I request the hon. Members and their party leaders to bring that House into proper order.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER; I request the hon. Members to go to their respective seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I request the hon. Members and their party Leaders to bring the House into proper order.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I request the hon. Members to go to their respective seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet at 2 p.m

13. 38 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Fourteen of the Clock

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at one minute past Fourteen of the clock

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

PLACES OF WORSHIP (SPECIAL PROVISIONS) BILL—CONTD.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I request the hon. Members to take their seats.

Shri Advani.

**Expunged as ordered by the chair.

[*Translation*]

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH (Rajgarh):
Your leader has already has said it.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: Sir, I request you to consider this issue. I have requested Shri Sonkar to make amends otherwise I request you to expunge the remarks.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI(Gandhi Nagar):
Sir, I was not present in the House when something provocative was said in the House. On the basis of whatever I heard, I can say that it is absolutely essential that Members respect each others sentiments. Two or three days back to was mentioned that in a programme on Doordarshan or AIR mentioned something improper was said about Maulana Abdul Kalam Azad and objections were raised in the House. The government made amends for that. I agree that today's incident is for more serious. I cannot think of a situation where in any derogatory words are used against a particular person who is regarded as a historic figure or godman by a section of the society and thereby hurt their sentiments. This situation would not have arisen if this had not happend. I think it would be better if the concerned Members themselves make amends. Otherwise, I would request you, Sir, to expunge words which hurt the sentiments of the masses of this country.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I shall expunge the words if the words are darogatory to the Parliamentary system.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA (Padrauna): I am on a point of order. Just now the leader of opposition referred to the derogatory remarks made about Maulana Azad. As the newspapers and this House also condemned the incident. Sir, this is not

an ordinary matter. 80% of the population in this country worships Lord Rama.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura):
Why are you allowing debate on this?

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Firstly, the derogatory words have been expunged. Secondly, my request is that we should not lose patience. It is a democratic set up. People are at liberty to express their views. But while using the words, you should not wound the feelings of others. That diplomacy of using the words is absolutely necessary.

Mr. Shastri, you have to conclude your speech within two minutes.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI:
Sir, I fail to understand in what way I have hurt the sentiments of my hon. colleagues. I am also a devotee of Ram. Members of my family are staying in Varanasi. Crores of people know that I have been working towards social upliftment for the last 22 years. I too go to a temple. I too believe in God. I was only saying that hon. Shri Advani is senior and respected person. What I said was...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Kindly have your seats. Everybody has sensed the pulse of the House. Many people are involved. Now many people have advised you. My request to you is, you kindly leave the topic and make whatever suggestions you want to make.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJANTH SONKAR SHASTRI:
Sir, this is part of the record of this House. This is bound to give a wrong impression. This concerns my life. Sir, I was saying...*(Interruptions)*...I have not made any offensive remarks. I am also a devotee of Ram and revere Him as much as anyone else.

[English]

SHRI RAM KAPSE (Thane): I am on a point of order. The hon. Deputy-Speaker has already given his ruling. No comment can be made, according to the rules, on that. But the hon. Members, Mr. Sonkar, is repeating the whole sentence and he wants to justify it. I think, it is commenting on your decision which is not allowed under the rules.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shastriji, Places be gracious enough to conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJANTH SONKAR SHASTRI:
My speech is the last one and I was on the verge of concluding it. I was saying that my hon. Colleagues are taking offence without any reason. I was referring to religious scriptures and 'shlokas'. Same thing has been mentioned Valmik's 'Ramayana' I have referred to 'Manu Smriti' and all other religious scriptures which are meant for all including Lord Rama women, 'Shudras' etc. It lowers their dignity of the holy scriptures.

I would like to submit that in 1983, when Shri Advani was not a Member of this House, I had move a Bill called 'Hindu Religious Scriptures and other Religious Literature Amendment Bill'. During the debate on the Bill I had stated that the following sentence from Tuls's Ramayan should be expunged:

**"Dhol Ganwar Shudra Pashu Nari,
Ye Sab Tadan Ke Adhikari."**

The whole nation is a witness to what has taken place in the House and the way we were being challenged on the issue. Tomorrow, the complete details will become public. I was given a threat that the moment I stepped out of the Parliament House, I would be trashed. Umaji threatened to take revenge in Banaras.

Sir, my life is in danger. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali):
Nobody has said all this. *(Interruptions)* Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH (Raigarh): Sir, what is this?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: That is also being expunged.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Kindly have your seats.

(Interruptions)

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri): Sir, whatever he has said, he should take back his words. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I very strongly appeal to you. This is a house.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Kindly have your seats.

(Interruptions)

**Expunged as ordered by the chair.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Members are having a very vast experience. I am aware that past Prime Minister are here, past Speakers are here, ex-Ministers of various States, Speakers and Chairman are all here. I very strongly appeal to you that we should run the House on proper lines.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If you are not prepared to hear, whom the Chair then appeal to? After all, you are hear to do justice to this nation.

(*Interruptions*)

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please have your sects. We should have patience here.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as I appealed earlier, I still say that...(*Interruptions*) I am not yielding...(*Interruptions*) Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I appeal to you again on the very basis I appealed to you earlier, to expunge all that Shri Guman Mal Lodha has stated in the House.(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishnanganj): Mere expunction will not do. He must tender an apology. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: I must say that since this reflects the sentiments of all communities and feelings of all the hon. Members this must be respected and reciprocated. There must not be double standards. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*].

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have already expunged words which have been

used by Shri Guman Mal Lodha.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: For everything there is a limit. For some minutes some exchange of words is all right but the whole House should not be burnt into ashes. I request Shastriji to please conclude. Kindly cooperate with the Chair.

[*Translations*]

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Sir, before I conclude my speech, I would like to request the whole House and the hon. Minister of Home Affairs, who is present here, that an hon. Member belonging the B.J.P. , sitting at No.4 from here... I have forgotten his name...openly challenged me to come out of the House. He said that since I was the culprit and, my limbs would be broken. (*Interruptions*)

These words were clearly audible to all in the House. (*Interruptions*) Had Shri Rabi Ray and some other colleagues from this side as also from the Congress (I) not provided me a cover, probably he would have physically harmed me right here in the House. (*Interruptions*) Therefore I would like to bring it to the notice of the whole House that my life is danger and these people are out of kill me. In the evening , I will walk down to Uttar Pradesh Bhawan, Where I am staying. If any untoward incident takes place with me or I am killed the whole House will be responsible.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let Shastriji complete his speech.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KALKA DAS (Karolbagh): Mr

[Sh. Kalka Das]

Deputy Speaker, Sir please listen to me, the hon. Member has made a reference about me.

SHRI RAJANTH SONKAR SHASTRI: Sir, I am making my submission before the House.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude your speech.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B CHAVAN): Sir, since the hon. Member is apprehending fear to his life. Government will definitely provide him all the protection that is necessary.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJANTH SONKAR SHASTRI: I am grateful to each and every hon. Member of the House for assuaging my feelings and the hon. Minister of Home Affairs, for assuring me to give all protection to safeguard my life.

SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA (Shajapur): Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir please also give audience to the hon. Member of this side, whose name he has mentioned. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI KALKA DAS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, please give me an opportunity to make my point of view clear as my name has been mentioned... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, if the life of a Member is threatened by the other Member of this House how it arose?...

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have already told that immediately after Shastriji completes his speech, Kalka Bas Ji can reply?...

(Interruptions)

[Translations]

SHRI KALKA DAS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, When the House was adjourned... *(Interruptions)*... Please listen to me. When the hon. Member made such remarks, I only said that there are many a person in the House who show disrespect to Lord Rama.

Therefore this august House should not be allowed to be used to Slander Lord Rama. I want to make it clear that did not say anything else except this.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: He has made his stand very clear.

[Translation]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: I have heard what he said. He had threatened the hon. Member that he would see him once he comes out of the House. *(Interruptions)* What does all this mean?

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Acharia, kindly have your seat. Shastriji should protection and the hon. Home Minister has come forward to give all necessary protection to him. Secondly, our friends has told that he has not used such words and he has not threatened the hon. Member, So, that matter is closed now.

[Translation]

AN HON. MEMBER: Now he is not

stating the factual position. We all are witnesses, to what he stated in the House. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The subject matter is closed why are you fighting over it? It is being cooled down. I shall now request the next non member...

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have not concluded my speech yet.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Kindly cooperate, Shastriji.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Mr Deputy speaker, Sir, people of all religions - Hindus - Muslims, Budhists, Christians and Sikhs enjoy equal rights in this country and nobody has the right to hurt the religious sentiments of others.

Sir, Taj Mahal depicts the combination of Hindu as well as Muslim culture. The art of Rajasthan too reveals the same. Each and every place of this country has an imprint of the combination of Hindu and Muslim culture. Sir, ours is a country where exists unity in diversity. I welcome this Bill. The most significant factor of the Bill is the emphasis laid on restoration of the situation that prevailed on August 15, 1947. It is for this purpose that the Bill has been introduced and it is a matter of great wisdom. The people of the country would not tolerate if hatred is spread and they are exploited for their being Scheduled Castes, Harijans, Muslims or Brahmins. All the citizens in this country have their dignity and honour. With these

words I support this Bill and also express my concern that this Bill must be passed unanimously. I think that if the Bill is passed unanimously it would open a new chapter in the history of India.

SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI (Badaun): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am on a point of order. Shri Sonkar has complained just now that he has been threatened. I have also been threatened by Shri Kesri Lal, whose has just come from Bihar. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I request all the hon. Members to observe certain discipline in the House. Such of those Members who really want protection- the Home Minister is here - will be given protection.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No use in dragging on that issue.

(*Interruptions*)

AN HON. MEMBER: I am on a point of order.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: There is no subject before us to raise a point of order now, After all, we are bestowed with heavy responsibilities. The agenda before us is also too big. Somehow, some unhappy thing has happened. It is called down. Let us proceed with cool atmosphere with proper understanding and with love and affection. Let us not carry on the bitterness in our mind.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Kindly have your seat. I shall now request Shri Dikshit or proceed.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Sir, after the B.J.P. and Janata Del, it is the turn of to Congress the speak.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I agree. Sorry that there is a mistake. You are the next person to speak.

(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

SHRI PAWAN DIWAN (Mahasamund): I have a point of order. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : At present there is no subject to raise a point of order.

[*English*]

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: I wanted to say something, Sir. *(Interruptions)*. I do not make any distinction between Member of either this side or that side. Whoever apprehends fear to his life, certainly the Government is prepared to give him protection.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack): My only apprehension is that the Home Minister should recruit more numbers of police personnel immediately. *(Interruptions)*.

[*Translation*]

SHRIKESRI LAL (Ghatampur): An allegation has been levelled against me, kindly listen to me. A controversy was going on when I reached the spot and I advised the Members to maintain Parliamentary decorum. I also advised them that as a matter of courtesy they should win the hearts of people in and also outside the House...*(Interruptions)* The Member sitting on the other side said that Harijans have no sense... *(Interruptions)* He has challenged all the Harijan Members of the House. *(Interruptions)*

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I tell you one thing. When the House is not sitting, if any words are exchanged, they do not go on record and the House will not take cognizance of it.

Further, about security, Professor, if you also apprehend it, the Home Minister is going to provide you sufficient security.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Sir, the mediators are apprehending it. The mediators really need more protection now.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PAWAN DIWAN: I would like to say that the way Members in the House are giving threats to one and another and then demanding protection. I would like the hon. Minister of Home Affairs to provide security to the country from communal forces which are endangering the safety of this country. *(Interruptions)*

[*English*]

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH (Rajgarh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the historic piece of legislation which has been brought by our Government here.

Sir, it was our commitment in the election manifesto that we will protect all the places of religious worship from 15th of August 1947 onwards, and I congratulate the hon. Home Minister to have brought it.

Sir, it is unfortunate, I am extremely sorry to notice to what level our friends from this side and the other sides have gone down according to the kind of debate that they have brought about. It is very unfortunate. Our legal luminary like Honourable Lodhaji, the kind of words that he used in his speech yesterday...*(Interruptions)*. In his

speech yesterday... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA : I have quoted what Sardar Patel said, nothing more than that. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: He said :

[*Translations*]

Burn the Bill, tear it into pieces.

[*English*]

This is no kind of intemperate language we are used to hearing from a legal luminary like Shri Lodha. Sir, religion is a very personal thing. (*Interruptions*). Sir, religion is a very personal matter. (*Interruptions*). I am not yielding, Sir. I did not interrupt him when he spoke. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI SHIVENDRA BAHADUR SINGH (Rajnandgaon): Why did the hon. Member get up like this? (*Interruptions*).

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Members, In our rules of procedure, there is a specific rule which says that if anybody wants to interfere or intervene, the Member who is speaking must yield. Then only, one can interfere. What ever they want to say, they stand up and talk without observing this procedure. Is there any order in this House?

Therefore, I request every hon. Member that let us observe certain decorum.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Religion is a very personal matter and no one in this country has the right to danounce anyone in whom any person believes in whether it is Bhagvan Ram or Mohammed or for that matter anyone. That is why, you have very ghtly expunged the remarks made by the hon. friends.

I would confine my discussion only to the merits of the Bill and the background. It is a well-drafted Bill. It has taken into account all aspects which ought to be taken into account. But I would urge upon the Home Minister not to exclude the State of Jammu and Kashmir from the purview of this Bill because ultimately Jammu and Kashmir is a part of this country. Though I understand the subject is in the concurrent list, Entry No. 28, we have passed other Bills in this House itself where we have not taken into account this factor. I would urge upon the hon. Home Minister to reconsider this decision and not to allow our friends on this side to create a kind of propaganda against this Bill. They would be exploiting this Bill for their own political ends, which is quite obvious, seeing their performance in this House. That is why, I urge upon the hon. Minister to reconsider it and extend it to the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

14.32 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Religious frenzy to which this country has been brought to by our friends from the BJP and some of the fundamental Muslim leaders is very unfortunate. This country has paid the price. Thousands of people have been killed; thousands of houses have been burnt and property was looted.

It is high time that responsible people from all political parties should come to some kind of consensus where such fundamental issues are curbed and religious frenzy is curbed.

The Vishwa Hindu Parishad and BJP have raised Ramjanam Bhoomi-Babri Masjid issue only after 1986. They saw in this issue, a vehicle to come to power. Ram Shilas were taken out. Funds were collected. I do not know how much money was collected...

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (Aonla): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am on a point of order. The Bill introduced in the House has no reference to Ram Janam Bhoomi or Lord Rama; it suggests to keep aside the issue of Ayodhya to decide the matter. Then why the Members are raising the Ram Janam Bhoomi issue again and again... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Well, yesterday, we had convened a meeting of the Whips and it was decided in the meeting that this Bill should be passed by four O'clock. At three O'clock, the hon. HOME Minister may reply. Therefore, may I request the hon. Members who are speaking not to touch upon those issues which are not really germane to the topic. This is necessary because we shall have to do things in time. Now as far as the Point of Order is concerned, that is a different issue. I am not giving any ruling on that.

SHRI EBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT (Ponnani): I have a request to make. I must have a chance to speak.

MR. SPEAKER: You will have a chance. But you will do it in a very able manner and be very brief.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: It is my turn.

MR. SPEAKER: Let us not waste the time. I have said you will have the time.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You also take your seat. I will give two minutes to each of you.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: I want to* lay the papers on the Table of the House. I have given a notice also in writing. I have communicated to the House yesterday only and given a copy of the Vishwa Hindu Parishad pamphlet which has been taken up.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Digvijaya Singhji, I would request you to please speak on the provisions of the Bill. Do not go outside of it because time is very limited.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: The whole House has been talking about everything except the Bill and you are asking me to confine to the Bill.

MR. SPEAKER: I would like you to be very relevant.

SHRIDIGVIJAYASINGH: Are the points of the other Members relevant?

MR. SPEAKER: They are relevant. But you should be more relevant.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Insinuations have been cast upon us. They have to be countered.

MR. SPEAKER: Please understand that we are interested in passing the Bill in time.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Yes. I only urge upon the hon. Minister to inquire into the funds collected by the Vishwa Hindu Parishad.

MR. SPEAKER: I am not allowing that. Please come to the provisions of the Bill. Then there would be a reply. Please come to the provisions of the Bill.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: They are talking on the temple funds. (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: Now, no cross-talk please. I repeat my request to Shri Digvijaya Singh to speak.

SHRIDIGVIJAYA SINGH: I would abide by you. I am the only Member who listens to you.

MR. SPEAKER: How good you are.

*As the speaker did not subsequently accure the necessary permission, the paper was not treated as laid on the Table.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: The foundation-stone was laid as per the agreement and discussions between the State Government.....

MR. SPEAKER: Leave that matter.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: I want to lay the papers on the Table of the House. This is very unfair. I have given in writing.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa): How can we know that that was the foundation stone?

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: I would request you one thing. This was being discussed in the Private Members Bill.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Digvijaya Singh, Far from me to interrupt you every now and then. I do not obstruct you whenever you speak. It is very difficult for me to go on obstructing you. But you know all the hon. Members in the House have agreed to complete the business by 4 O' clock because other financial business has also to be completed. Will you not take this into consideration and speak only on the provisions of the Bill?

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Allow me to lay the papers on the Table. I will speak about it.

MR. SPEAKER: That can be done only according to the rules.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: I have given in writing.

MR. SPEAKER: It can be allowed to be done only according to the rules.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: I would like to lay the papers on the Table of the House which can be made a part of the proceedings.

SHRI SUDARSAN RAY CHAUDHURY (Serampore): Let everybody do that and the Bill be passed.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Shri Indrajit Gupta has raised an issue. He asked whether those places which have been converted to any other use, have they been converted by this Bill. Yes. They have been covered. Section 4 part (3) covers that aspect of that Bill.

Section 4 part (3) of the Bill says:-

"Any dispute with respect to any conversion of any such place effected before such commencement by acquiescence".

That is covered. The point raised by Shri Indrajit Gupta is fairly covered.

The point which I wanted to make was that Commencement of the Representation of the People Act is to be amended by this Bill.

I totally agree with this. But I would urge upon the hon. Minister that the amendment in the Peoples Representation Act brought in the Eighth Lok Sabha has proved ineffective in curbing the political parties to use religion to ask for votes. I congratulate the High Court of Bombay which has taken up a number of cases and it has rightly decided in such cases. I would like to point out to the hon. Minister that this will not suffice. The hon. Minister should consider a more stringent provision in the Representation of the People Act also so that it becomes a deterrent for all the political parties to use religion to ask for votes.

Sir, the Election Commission is also seized of the matter of the symbol of the BJP. That issue also should be expedited because it has been pending for such a long time. It, therefore, needs early decision. (*Interruptions*). When all of my friends from that side were talking all irrelevant things, I was listening to them. I would only try to confine my speech to this Bill: I would like to say that

[Sh. Digvijaya Singh]

there could not be a greater devotee of Bhagwan Ram than Tulsi Das. I would only like to quote one *Kavitha* of Tulsi Das which is most relevant in the present context. With your kind permission I would like to quote it. He said:

"Dhoot Kaho Avdhoot Kaho,
Rajput Kaho, Julaha Kaho Kau,
Kahe Ki Beti Saun Beta Na Biyau,
Kahu Ki Jati Bigaad Na Sau,
Tulsi Sarnam Gulamau Hai Ram Ko,
Jako Sachai Sa Kahai Kutch Kau,
Maang Ke Khaibo Masjid Mein Soyibo,
Leve Ko Ekau Na Dewe Ko Dau."

[*English*]

This was Ram Bhakti, not the Ram Bhakti of today. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Digvijaya Singh, I am not going to allow you to have the discussion on those lines.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Sir, you have put me in a strait-jacket. I will abide by your decision.

MR. SPEAKER: I cannot stretch the time.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: I would end my speech only with this:

What is *dharm*? The Geeta has said:

"Na Twaham Kamaye Rajyam,
Na Swarga Napunarbhavam,
Kamaye Dukh Taptanam,
Praninam Aart Nashnam."

"I beg neither for kingdom, nor heaven,
I only pray for peace to all human
beings in misery and pain."

This is the *dharm*. This is the Hindu ethos which should be understood.

Finally, I would urge upon all Members of this House to kindly confine their discussion to the provision of the Bill as I have confined my discussion to it. I would also urge upon them to pass this Bill unanimously and withdraw all their amendments.

Thank you,

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHREESH CHANDRA DIKSHIT (Varanas): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would have restricted myself to the Bill itself but keeping in view that an hon. Member of the House quoted Tulsidas ji, I would also like to quote (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Not more than what he has quoted.

SHRI SHREESH CHANDRA DIKSHIT: I would quote lesser than he did Tulsidas ji said -

"Jake priya na Ram baidehi,
Tajiey tahi koti bairi sam, yadaypi par-
amsnehi."

He quoted Tulsidas ji, that is why I had to quote these line (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

own convenience. This is no good. It is no good to use Tulsi Das for religious purposes.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHREESH CHANDRA DIKSHIT: Sir, I rise to oppose the Bill (*Interruptions*)

(*English*)

I am not yielding. Sir, you have put me

in a strait-jacket. I have to confine myself to the provisions of the Bill and conclude my speech. I must point out why do we oppose this Bill.

MR. SPEAKER: You must do it within a very short time.

SHRI SHREESH CHANDRA DIKSHIT: Yes, I will conclude within a very short time. Sir, we see in this Bill a particular purpose for which it has been brought forward. Now, let me put forth my point of view. It is very unfortunate that in this country every Prime Minister created a problem. The subsequent Prime Ministers, instead of solving those problems, created a new problem. You may kindly see this right through the time of Independence. Now, this particular Bill is going to create a problem. It is going to create a problem for the country. And it has been mentioned repeatedly by various hon. Members that, as it is, this country is facing various problems and where is the necessity of bringing forward this legislation.

There is a provision in the Indian Penal Code. There is a Chapter XV in the Indian Penal Code relating to the Offences relating to Religion. In this, it is written:

"Injuring or defiling places of worship with intent to insult the religion of any class."

In this Bill it is written:

"Any conversion of any such place effected before such commencement which is not liable to be challenged in any court, tribunal or other authority being barred by limitation under any law for the time being in force."

The limitation is already there. I just do not understand what was the necessity of bring-

ing forward this legislation. But we apprehend that there is a design in this matter. If we go through the hon. President's speech we know that it is not the President's view but the view of the Government and the President is only a spokesman. So, when I criticise or say something about the President's Address, I do not mean any disrespect to the President. I quote from Paragraph 9 which says:

"It is a matter of serious concern that the forces of communalism have been able to vitiate the atmosphere in the country leading to the out-break of serious riots in the last two years. Government are determined to combat such forces and uphold the values of secularism."

We have nothing against this particular observation. But immediately the following sentence brings our a different connotation. It says:

"Government will not allow the rights and interests of religious, linguistic and ethnic minorities to be compromised."

What does this obviously mean? In the first sentence you are not referring to the minority communalism but you are referring to this majority communalism because in the second sentence you say that you are going to protect the rights of the linguistic and religious minority forces.

And subsequently, the next sentence says:

"A composite Rapid Action Force will be formed and appropriately equipped and trained to deal with riots"

May I know where was the necessity of using this word 'composite'? Are all forces of this

[Sh. Shreesh Chandra Dikshit]

country not composite? Is the Army not composite? Are the para-military forces not composite or are the police force not composite. We see some design in this word 'composite'. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: This is very unfair. He is quoting irrelevant matter. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHREESH CHANDRA DIKSHIT: You allow me to quote.

MR. SPEAKER: Your time is very limited.

(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

SHRI LAKSHMI NARAIN MANI TRIPATHI (Kesarganj): Mr. Speaker, Sir, we should get full time to speak. We obey all your orders. You may increase the time, but we should get full time to speak. *(Interruptions)*

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: It is not necessary.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Do not complicate the matter unnecessarily.

(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHREESH CHANDRA DIKSHIT: Reference has been given in this Bill from paragraph 29 of the President's Address. *(Interruptions)*

Due to this reason, we think if this Bill is

passed, it will have very objectionable provisions.

[*English*]

It was the first step towards that. Therefore, we are opposing this Bill.

[*Translation*]

We don't know why Jammu and Kashmir has been excluded in this Bill. When Jammu & Kashmir is called as an integral part of the country then why this Bill is not being implemented there, where a lot of Hindu temples had been demolished? That is why, we oppose the provisions of this Bill. We oppose it because Jammu & Kashmir has been kept out of this Bill. We have history before us.

[*English*]

The History was Pandora's box.

[*Translation*]

You can quote any history today.

[*English*]

The present cannot be denied. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Sir, I am on a point of order, you have confined my speech to certain portions. Now, the hon. Member is showing some photographs. Has he taken your permission to show them to you?

MR. SPEAKER: I approve his point of order. These things cannot be shown in the House.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHREESH CHANDRA DIKSHIT: At present no dispute is going on about any

temple. This Bill has only been brought, because, besides the Ramjanam bhoomi, the Vishwa Hindu Parishad had said about other two temples also-Kashi Vishwanath Temple and Krishna Janambhoomi temple in Mathura. Though, you have excluded the issue of Ramjanam bhoomi from this Bill, but you have written in it that this issue will be solved through negotiated settlement. I am showing these photographs, because an hon. Member had said here that if it is proved that mosque has been constructed by demolishing any temple, we will be the first person to demolish that mosque. It is proved from these photographs.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Those photographs should not be shown here.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHREESH CHANDRA DIKSHIT: I have proof. It is proved from these photographs. That hon. Member has said that if a mosque has been constructed by demolishing the temple...

[*English*]

I am telling you the factual position (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Please don't be worried. It will not be proper, if you rise again and again from your seat. If there would have been time, I would have given you time for everything. Please leave it on us, we will see to it.

SHRI SHREESH CHANDRA DIKSHIT: An hon. Member has said in this very House...

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: You do not have reply

to them. You have to speak on the provisions.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI SHREESH CHANDRA DIKSHIT: This is very important thing

[*Translation*]

An hon. Member had said yesterday that it has been written on the Kashi Vishwanath Temple that downtrodden Scheduled Castes cannot go inside it. I challenge this statement and I would like to read whatever is written on the temple. This House has been misled. If I am not telling the truth, I should be punished. If that hon. Member has not told the truth and has misled the House, he should apologise. It is written there... (*Interruptions*) Please listen to what is written there. It has been written in four languages. In Sanskrit, it is written:

"Arya dharmatranam pravesho nihhidha". (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj): Sir, I am on a point of order. You have just now ruled that nothing except which is directly related and relevant to this Bill shall be allowed. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: My ruling is that this is relevant.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please understand that time is a very very valuable thing. We have many other Bills to pass. If you do not allow the Bills to be passed, then it will be very difficult.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Sir, you are going against your ruling.

MR. SPEAKER: I have ruled that this is relevant.

[*Translation*]

In Sanskrit, it is written:

"Arya dharmatranam pravesho nishidhah"

[*English*]

"Gentlemen not belonging to Hindu religion are requested not to enter the temple."

[*Translation*]

In Hindi, it is written:

"Gentlemen not belonging to Hindu religion are requested not to enter the temple."

The same is written in Urdu also (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: What does it mean by not belonging to Hindu religion (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SHREESH CHANDRA DIKSHIT: An effort is being made to mislead the House. That is why we are opposing this Bill. We have seen that the Britishers have become successful in creating a rift between the Hindus and the Muslims. The Government, which came after them in this country, also created friction between the Sikhs and the Hindus. The same thing is also taking place today. Such type of Bills are being brought to create a rift between the Hindus. Therefore, we are opposing this Bill. This is a policy of appeasement and we believe in secularism.

[*English*]

We believe in secularism. We believe in

positive secularism. We do not believe in minority appeasement which has resulted in the division of this country, which we certainly will not tolerate.

[*Translation*]

We think that the intention behind bringing this Bill is minority appeasement and not secularism we are prepared to have a national debate on secularism. We have a lot of doubt about this Bill. This Bill is going to give rise to a very critical situation. I would like to say a thing here. Don't take it otherwise. The Vishwa Hindu Parishad has passed a resolution in this regard. At present, the Vishwa Hindu Parishad is agitating for religion and not for literary or political demands. When we start any agitation, a situation develops and the best way to tackle that situation is not to play with feelings of the Hindus. Through this Bill it appears that the feelings of the Hindus have been played with (*Interruptions*)... Those who want to see the might of the Hindu society (*Interruptions*) it was said here that when the Ram-Temple will be constructed, they will go there and agitate. We welcome them. But I would also like to tell them that such type of language has been used earlier also.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: This is not again on the provisions of the Bill. I did not allow the other hon. Member. Please conclude now.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHREESH CHANDRA DIKSHIT: At present, I would only like to say that a big agitation will take place on this Bill and they can take this as challenge (*Interruptions*) I am not giving a threat to anyone.

[*English*]

Mr. Home Minister said that this is our observation. Our observation is that if this

Bill is passed, it will lead to such an agitation in this country that will be very difficult to control. Therefore, with all my force and with all my persuasive power I request the hon. Government and the hon. Home Minister to kindly reconsider this Bill. Otherwise this is going to lead to a very serious law and order problem.

SHRI EBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT(Ponnani): Mr. Speaker Sir, I welcome this Bill which has been taken up for discussion - the Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Bill, 1991.

I consider this as a positive step in the right direction. This is a momentous Bill, a historic Bill which will deeply influence the destiny of the entire nation in a constructive manner for centuries to come. There could not have been any other better cut-off date for legislation to maintain the status-quo of all places of worship than 15th August 1947. This was the crucial day when a long struggle and sacrifice brought fruit and we achieved independence. Therefore, there can be no other date greater than this in the entire history of our country.

I am happy that the promise made by the Indian National Congress in its election manifesto and reiterated by the President in his address to the Parliament is being implemented today by the Government of this country. I gratefully remember our discussions last April recall how gracefully led by Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao. I support this Bill because I am convinced that it will strengthen secular foundation of our Constitution, cement communal harmony, protect integrity and solidarity of the country and establish goodwill among different sections of population. I hope it will put an end to all controversies and prevent fascist forces from exploiting the situation for their political gains.

It is a fact of history that a Bill was envisaged by great patriotic national leaders

four decades back. It was in April, 1950, after mischievous plantation of idols inside Babri Masjid in 1949 that Qaumi Ekta convention was held, presided over by Pandit Sunder Lal. It was Acharya Narendra Dev who moved a resolution to have a legislation to maintain status quo of all places of worship as existing on 15th August, 1947.

Mr. Justice Lodha says that Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru did not bring such a legislation, Shrimati Indira Gandhi did not bring such a legislation. Yes, but such a grave situation did not exist then. Disruptive forces were not so strong as to shatter the solidarity of the country. Today These fascist forces. They are playing politics by mixing religion. Such a situation was not there then. Therefore, this Bill was not brought forward at that time.

Now coming to various clauses and sections of the Bill, I must say that categorical declaration in section 4, sub-section 1, is the basis of this Bill. This is a momentous and most welcome declaration. I quote:

"It is hereby declared that the religious character of a place of worship existing on the 15th day of August, 1947 shall continue to be the same as it existed on that day."

This is really the foundation of the entire Bill. This is what we demanded for the last so many years so that we could have harmony, and integrity of the country could be protected. Now this Bill has come it is therefore a historic day. I am sure this Bill which is going to be passed and is going to be passed today unanimously creating history.

MR. SPEAKER: Please conclude.

SHRI EBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT: Sir, you have given hours together to others. Please spare some more minutes for me because we are discussing very important

[Sh. Ebrahim Sulaiman Sait]

sections of the Bill, and I have many more points to make. Looking at some other sections of the Bill, I must say that there are shortcomings which have to be rectified and some sections are such that deserve to be deleted.

Sub-section (a) of section 2 categorically says:

"conversion include alteration or change of whatever nature;"

But section 3 restricts this. This is contradiction. I would quote section 3 which says "no person shall convert any place of worship of any religious or any section thereof into a place of worship of a different section of the same religious denomination or of a different religious denomination or any section thereof".

Now what about conversion of a place of worship to dwelling place, cattle-shed or automobile workshop? In case a place of worship is converted into a cattle-shed or converted to a dwelling place or converted to an automobile workshop, and does not get protection under the Bill, and such place remains converted to something, else, then the whole object is lost and this Bill is going to be a farce.

There is one more thing. Sub-section 3 of section which is about the places taken over by archaeological dept as National monuments 4 of the Bill is irrelevant and this should be deleted.

Almost all the places of worship taken over by the Archaeological Department as national monuments should be maintained as mosques and Muslims should have right of prayers and should have protection under the Bill. I cannot understand why this Bill should not apply to all such places of worship

which have been taken over as historical monuments.

The other most important matter is that as far as section 5 of the Bill is concerned, it should be deleted because this keeps Babri Masjid out of the purview of the Bill. I cannot understand why this exception. We desire that all disputes should be settled for complete peace and tranquillity and have all controversies buried once and for all and put the country on the path of peace and progress.

This is particularly important in the fact of sinister designs and aggressive intentions against all principles of law and justice of BJP-HVP-RSS axis which is creating deep apprehensions and all peace-loving, secular-minding people feel deeply perturbed by this. The entire Cabinet of the Government of UP went to Ayodhya to take pledge to demolish Babri Masjid and to acquire the disputed land for the purpose of constructing the temple by issuing ordinances. Declarations are made to start Kar Seva without title right on the land and without any approved plan. This is again against the injunction order of the Allahabad High Court. This is also against the policy of the Central Government to protect the Babri Masjid, and will lead to a confrontation between the State and the Center. Moreover, VHP has given calls for country-wide stir and directs Bajrang Dal and Durga Vahini to take to streets all this means that the crisis is fast moving towards a climax. This is quite an alarming situation and such a situation should not allowed under any circumstances. How long can we be constantly humiliated like this and how will these fascist go on dictating.

Now, in case Babri Masjid is sought to be kept out and Section 5 is not deleted, the responsibility of the Central Government and all the secular forces becomes hundred-fold. We have thrown our lot with secular forces. I have said it and I reiterate it that we have

thrown our lot with secular forces. And we stand by them to protect secularism and integrity of the Country. We do not desire confrontation but desire a peaceful settlement on the basis of justice, law and Constitution. In this situation, the Central Government has not only to be extra vigilant but has also to make its intention absolutely clear and categorically declare that they will never succumb to any pressure from fascist forces of subversion and uphold the rule of law and secular character of our country.

Sir, I appreciate the speech made by my colleague, Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar and I reiterate the fact that our country is a cradle of various has great religions and cultures. Indian culture is the common heritage of Hindus and Muslims and both have jointly contributed for the same. India is a multi-religious and multi-cultural country. We have to learn to co-exist and should have tolerance and goodwill for each other. Otherwise there can never be peace and progress.

In conclusion, I earnestly hope that secular forces of parties like JD, NF and Left Parties will rise to the occasion and unitedly defeat the designs of fascist and disruptive forces and save the country from chaos and protect integrity of the country. This is our joint responsibility.

Let us, at this critical hour, do our national duty and pass this bill unanimously and create history.

Finally, let me join my dear colleague, Mr, Indrajit Gupta in appealing to my friends of BJP to join us all in passing this Bill unanimously and start a new phase of tolerance and harmony so that all of us can live in peace.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MOHAMMAD YUNUS SALEEM (Katihar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will take very

little time, because I rise to support this Bill. Already a lot of things had been said in its support and I do not want to repeat them. But somethings had been said here, which, I am afraid, are going to create some wrong notions not only in this House and in this country, but in the entire world also. A provision has been made in this Bill to maintain the status-quo of all the religions places as it was before 15th August, 1947. The views expressed before this house has particularly mentioned about it.

[*Translation*]

Time and again, references have been made in the speeches to the mosque near Kashi Vishwanath temple at Benaras, the mosque of Mathura which is situated near the birth place of Shri Krishna and the Babri Masjid.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, regarding Babar, it is said that the foundation of Babri Masjid was laid by Babar...

MR. SPEAKER: It does not exist in this. I did not allow either him or Dixitji for that matter.

SHRI MOHAMMAD YUNUS SALEEM: Did you not allow them?

MR. SPEAKER: You must have heard about the subject of discussion while sitting here.

[*English*]

We are not discussing Babri Masjid and Ram Janambhoomi.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MOHAMMAD YUNUS SALEEM: Babri Masjid has been exempted. The discussion at great length on this topic took place. Yesterday throughout the whole day.

[Sh. Mohammad Yunus Saleem]

You were not present here but I was present all along and did not go out of the House even for a single second and a number of things related to Babri Masjid was discussed. Please pay your attention to what I am saying. If I am saying anything irrelevant, you can ask me to quit the House. I do not have the habit of speaking irrelevant. I do not want to waste anybody's time. Whatever I say would be relevant and important. I know what I should say and what I should not. I only want to say that this point that Babar had constructed this mosque, is incorrect. I have Banamama with me *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Is this relevant to the Bill?

SHRI MOHAMMAD YUNUS SALEEM: It is very much relevant.

MR. SPEAKER: I am not allowing it. You leave that point.

SHRI MOHAMMAD YUNUS SALEEM: If you do not allow it, I will not insist on it. I will obey your ruling. I do not want to quarrel with you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAMMAD YUNUS SALEEM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, thereafter a Lady Member from this side strongly advocated that she had visited Varanasi and was full of anger to see what was happening there although it was raining at that time and she wanted to prove before the House that Aurangzeb constructed this Mosque by demolishing the temple and thus committed a great crime and atrocities. I will not say anything in this regard. I have a book with me. The author of

this book is Dr. Pattabhi Sitaramayya and its title is "Feathers and Stones". On page 177, he has written a few lines about mosque and temple. I consider it necessary to read these lines because a confusion has been created here that the mosque has been constructed by demolishing the temple by the Order of Aurangzeb and thus the facts of the History have been distorted. The people of this side are of the opinion that we are making efforts to twist the History. I wish to urge that it is very important to bring the facts of the History before the House. I will conclude by reading a quotation only.

[English]

"In the height of his glory, Aurangzeb like any foreign king in a country had in his entourage a number of Hindu Nobles. They all set upon one day to see the sacred temple of Banaras. Amongst them was a Raneé of Cutch. When the party returned after visiting the temple, the Raneé was missing."

MR. SPEAKER: Are we discussing the character of Aurangzeb?

SHRI MOHAMMAD YUNUS SALEEM: No Sir. We are discussing whether the places of worship which existed on 15 August 1947 with a particular religious denomination viz. mosque or temple should be allowed to continue as they are, or whether they should be allowed to be demolished or replaced by places of worship of other religions. That has been the subject matter of discussion. For this purpose only this Bill has been brought before the House. You must be knowing, Sir, it is not a secret, that there has been a mention of three places; Babri Masjid, Vishwanath Kashi Temple and Mathura Idgah. Therefore, it is very much relevant that light should be thrown on this subject because a misunderstanding is being created that it is a mosque which was constructed by demoli-

tion of a temple. So, it must be restored, Mosque should be demolished and permission should be given to Hindu community to build a temple thereon. I would very respectfully submit that it is very much relevant, otherwise I would not have wasted the precious time of the House.

So, I was quoting from the Book, *Feathers and Stones*:

"When the Party returned after visiting the temple, the Ranee of Cutch was missing. They searched for her in and out, East, North, West and South but no trace of her was noticeable. At last the more diligent search revealed a *Tah Khane*, and underground storey of the temple which to all appearances had only two storeys. When a passage to it was found barred, they break open the doors and found inside the pale shadow of the Ranee bereft of her jewellery. It turned out that the Mahands were in the habit of picking out wealthy be jewelled pilgrims and in guiding them to see the temple, decoing them to the underground celler and robbing them off their jewellery. What exactly would have happened to their lives one does not know. Any how, in this case there was no time for mischief, as the search was diligent and prompt. On discovering the wickedness of the Priest Aurangzeb declared that such a scene of robbery could not be the house of God and ordered it to be forthwith demolished and ruins were left there. But the Ranee who was thus saved insisted on a Masjid being built on the ruins and to please her, one was subsequently built. That is how a Masjid has come to exist by the side of the Kashi Vishwanath Temple which is no more a temple."

So, Sir, the Masjid was constructed at the instance of Ranee of Cutch. History is not

written by me. I am not the author of it.

[*Translation*]

KUMARI UMA BHARTI (Khajuraho): It implies that you have also admitted that the mosque was constructed after demolishing the temple.

[*English*]

SHRI MOHAMMAD YUNUS SALEEM: An eminent historian.

SHRI SHREESH CHANDRA DIKSHIT: Sir, I am on a point of order. When I was referring to show that the temple was demolished and the Masjid was constructed on the ruins of the temple and I had the photographs to show and to prove that it was the temple which was demolished and the masjid was built on the ruins of the temple.

MR. SPEAKER: What is out of order? You do not raise the previous things. What is out of order in his speech?

SHRI SHREESH CHANDRA DIKSHIT: The out of order in his speech is that.

[*Translation*]

You have not permitted me to exhibit the photographs and he is quoting the page after page of the book.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: You cannot challenge the ruling of the Speaker because I shall have to explain everything to you. What I did not allow was the exhibition of the photographs. When you referred to the masjid near the Kashi Temple I did allow you. I over ruled Mr. Shahabuddin. We don't discuss things like that. Please take your seat.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MOHAMMAD YUNUS SALEEM:
The same incident was explained by Dr. Pandey a Member of Rajya Sabha - at *Khud-abaksh* Library in his speech when he was the Governor of Orissa. I do not want to go into the details. I would like to request the hon. Home Minister that he may kindly consider a little amendment in this Bill since it is very important. I am reading clause 3 of the Bill.

[*English*]

"No person shall convert any place of worship of any religious denomination or any section thereof into a place of worship of a different section of the same religious denomination or of a different religious denomination or any section thereof."

I am requesting the hon. Home Minister to consider the advisability of adding these words after 'thereof' "or any Tomb, graveyard, Cemetery or Cremation Ground."

Because, there is a dispute regarding Taj Mahal. It is a tomb. It is not a place of worship. Nizamuddin Aulia's tomb is a tomb, it is not a place of worship. Humayun's tomb is a tomb, it is not a place of worship. Babar's tomb is a tomb, it is not a place of worship. These are all tombs. They should also be preserved in the same way as they are preserving the places of worship.

So, I request the Home Minister to kindly consider this. It is not only the question that a place of worship should not be converted into a place of worship of a different section of the same religious denomination or of a different religious denomination or any section thereof but it should not be converted into a place for any other purpose also. It should not be converted into a college. It should not be converted into a school. It

should not be converted into a residential house. It should not be converted into a place for running any office.

Therefore, I am proposing to the hon. Home Minister to consider the advisability of adding these words after the word 'thereof' "or for any other purpose whatsoever". That will serve the purpose. Because, if you confine to this paragraph only that the religious places will not be converted into any other religious place, then it may be converted into a place for some other purpose. Then, the very purpose of this Bill will be defeated.

Therefore, I respectfully submit to the hon. Home Minister that he should consider this question. I am not going to take more time of this House. I thank you very much for having given me time to speak here and I strongly support this Bill and I request this House also to pass it unanimously.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH (Parbhani): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Bill which has been moved in this august House is a black Bill. It will be proved inauspicious for the country. As such, I oppose it. Sir, I am going to give the factual position and therefore if anyone finds it unpleasant he should not protest and if anyone finds it good should also not commend it. I request you to give me a patient hearing.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I understand that Congress Party is supporting this Bill owing to the reason that they had mentioned in their Manifesto that the position on 15th August 1947 will be restored. As such they are functioning as per their manifesto but Mr. Speaker, Sir, why have they kept Jammu & Kashmir separate from the purview of this Bill. In Jammu & Kashmir scores of temples have been demolished but this fact has not been mentioned in this Bill. I therefore oppose it.

MR. Speaker, Sir, the second reason for opposing this Bill is that the pre-Independence names of streets and residential colonies have been changed after independence and have been renamed after the names of the stalwarts of Indian freedom movement. If the position of 15th August 1947 is to be restored then the statues of George V and Queen Victoria would have again to be installed. Thus, this is not a legislation aimed at bringing about communal harmony. Rather, it would be reduced to a Government document indicating a beginning of the communal tension. The souls of our great leaders will never forgive this Government and the future generations would look back on this Bill as reminiscent of Aurangzeb's reign.

We regard the Parliament House as the temple of our Constitution and in this temple of the Constitution many Shlokas, Mantras and Suktis from our religious texts are written and they were written after August 15, 1947. Now if you are going to maintain the status quo as on August 15, 1947 and suppose, tomorrow if someone says that these writings should be removed, will you remove them? Therefore I oppose this Bill.

Some places of worship in Sindh and Punjab have been handed over to refugees from Sindh. Now if status quo as on August 15, 1947 is maintained, you will have to take back those shrines from them and this would eventually fuel communal riots. This Bill has been introduced at a time when the country is passing through a critical phase. This was not the appropriate time to bring forward this legislation. Shri Chavan is our leader. He hails from Maharashtra and is a freedom fighter. What I want to say is that this should not have been brought now. It is a black Bill. It is a matter concerning one and all, not just the B.J.P. or Shiv Sena. There should be religion in politics but not politics in religion.

We have always lauded those Muslim forces who have stood for the country's unity. They fought along with us the country's freedom fight. When they raised the demand for Pakistan, we gave it to them considering them our brothers. Now, they are demanding Kashmir. It is my humble submission that when they are demanding Kashmir now, we should prepare ourselves to take back even that piece of territory which we had given earlier. We are not against the Muslims.** (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: This is not allowed. This is not going to form part of the record. You leave it me. Time is very limited. Come to the provisions of the Bill.

(*Interruptions*)**

[*Translation*]

SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: We are not against the Muslims. (*Interruptions*)**

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. You leave it to me. You come to the provisions of the Bill. If you are going out of the provisions of the Bill, I will not allow you. This is not correct.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, yesterday when you were not here, they spoke a lot on this issue. we found it unbearable, yet we didn't utter a word. Now, they too should have the patience to listen to us... (*Interruptions*)

**Expunged as ordered. by the chair.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: This forum should not be used for any other purpose.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: These people have termed the Hindu religion as a separate religion. They have termed us as a separate entity from the nation. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : This is not going on record.

(*Interruptions*)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please come to the provisions of the Bill.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: People may think that you have not gone through the Bill.

SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: I have read it and certainly so. I am just giving a background. (*Interruptions*)... There are two issue involved. The demolition of the Mosque is one issue and that of the temple construction another. No Hindu wants to demolish the Dargah at Ajmer. No Hindu wishes to lay his hand on the Jama Masjid and no Hindu wants to remove even a single brick from our proud possession, the Taj Mahal. In this country, we have three lakh mosques of which 3,000 mosque are under dispute. The Hindu is demanding just three temples which are the symbols of his

honour. In these places Lord Rama was born and the people have been offering their prayers at these places for centuries.

[*English*]

MR SPEAKER: This is not going on record.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: About this, Babasaheb Ambedkar said that .

[*English*]

MR SPEAKER: This is not going on record.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPRAKER: I am not going to allow you to raise such points on the floor of the House. You are not understanding your responsibility. You are a Member of the Parliament, a representative of the people. Do not make such statements on the floor of the House.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: I cannot even refer to Babasaheb (*Interruptions*) If that's it, it's alright.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : Please come to Bill. Now you have made your point. You have opposed the Bill. Now you can sit down if you like.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: Sri, we don't blame Islam.

These people don't follow the teachings of their Prophet, they don't follow even the Shariat and what's more they are not prepared to abide by even the law of the Land.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Now please take your seat.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Deshmukh, please take your seat. I am warning you now. If you repeat it, I will take action against you.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: You haven't seen the Vishwanath temple, you haven't seen the glory of Lord Krishana.

(*Interruptions*)*

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: This is not going on record.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: I won't give up that easily. There will be bloodshed in this country. I want to speak and you please allow me to do so. With Goddess Saraswati before my eyes. I cannot keep quite. The Muslims don't follow even the Shariat (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Deshmukh,

please take your seat. I am very serious about this matter. You please take your seat now. When I am standing, you will have to take your seat.

Mr. Deshmukh, you will please understand that you are a very learned Member of this House and you understand that such references are not made on the floor of the House. I have warned you more than once not to make references to any religion or any caste. Now if you continue doing that, well, I know that the House would like me to do. That is why I warn you to come to the provisions of the Bill and not to make such statements which will unnecessarily inflame the passions.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: Sir, why are they confined to the year 1947 only? Why are not they going to retain the position of the 10th century when the Muslims with their religion i.e. Islam came to this country. Were the names of the Ganga and Saraswati like those of Ameena or Rubia at that time? Our country has a culture of its own. (*Interruptions*) They are making a fuss about temples which never disrupted country's unity and integrity rather these temples as well as our rivers have strengthened the unity and integrity of this country.

I would like to assert that this Bill will spoil the relations between Hindus and Muslims in the country. Both the communities have very high regard for Nehru and Gandhi. Hon. Nehru was like our father and the Indian Muslims must have the same feelings regarding Nehruji. Both the communities eat the same fruits, same foodgrains etc. and we must understand each other.

I would like to ask you to wish 'Vande

[Sh. Ashok Anandrao Deshmukh]

Matram' as we do. 'Vande Matram' literally means 'Worship the mother'. Through this phrase we just express our gratitude towards our mother-land which nourishes us by providing each and every thing to us. Sir, I would like to request each and everyone including Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad that they should also use the phrase 'Vande Matram' (*Interruptions*) All of us, including Hindus and Muslims live here. We appeal to all to say 'Bharat Mata ke Jai'. But they (the Muslims) never use the words 'Bharat Mata ki Jai, what to talk of 'Vande Matram.' If the Muslims want to live in this country properly they should live like us. We shall not allow them to over side us. They too will have to come along with us. (*Interruptions*)

I would conclude in a few minutes. Our religious shrines are not only the embodiments of religion but these are our social structures also. (*Interruptions*)

For example take the Community Hall. Earlier, meetings were held normally in temples. So this issue of temple is not a religious issue. It is linked with our social and cultural structure.

The last point I would like to raise here as to why our Muslim brothers today want to preserve the identity of those foreign invaders who had demolished these temples centuries ago. If these Muslims acknowledge themselves as Indian... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Sir, I am on a point order. Any hon. Member has no right to hurt directly their feelings. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

[English]

I uphold your point of order. I deprecate the manner in which the Member is speaking and it is not becoming of the Member to speak in this language.

[Translation]

SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to you for this. (*Interruptions*) Why our Muslims are willing now to preserve the misdeeds of foreign invaders who had demolished these temples. If they call themselves as Indians, (*Interruptions*) If they call themselves as Indians, why do they favour those foreign robbers who had robbed this country in the past, (*Interruptions*) Vishwamitra, a great Rishi had married the daughter of Shaja Sabar who was a tribal. This tradition of intercaste marriage continued up to the age of Dwapar. The king Shantanu married a Dheever-girl (daughter of fisherman) (*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, what he says will not go on record.

(*Interruptions*)*

[Translation]

SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: The origin of famous Rajput dynasty, Chandra-vanshi was the result of that intercaste marriages. At that time, there was no caste tension. (*Interruptions*) Whatever the arguments put forth by them, we have to counter it.

[English]

SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT (Rajapur): I thank the hon Home Minister for having

introduced this historical Bill. The real object of this Bill is not confined to the text of this Bill. But, it can be read between the lines and the real object is to prevent the dis-integration of this nation. That is the objective of this Bill because in the last three years we had witnessed such a communal violence, a section of society...

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Sawant, please help me because time is very short. Come to the provision...

(Interruptions)

SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: I am coming to the object of the Bill.

MR. SPEAKER: Please leave the background.

SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: Because of the violence which has been perpetrated in this country, it was necessary to put the matters to rest which can create controversies in this country, and religion is one such thing which can create such controversies, as it has been proved in the last three years by the incessant violence that we have seen. Today in the Lok Sabha also in the same manner that violent attitude was witnessed by us. It was a very sad day in fact to see people assaulting each other because assault is not physical, assault can be in action also as described in the IPC. This is what we have witnessed today. And what is the reason, the reason was religion. History is a witness to the fact that whenever we people have fought with each other or whenever we have been divided, foreign rulers have come and conquered this country. In fact, Sikander could succeed to defeat Porus because of this reason. Mohd. Gauri could defeat Prithviraj because of this reason. The Britishers could occupy this country because Tipu Sultan and Marathas were not united. They played one against the another and

that is how they conquered this country and later on they went further. They divided Hindus and Muslim in this country to divide and rule and thus Pakistan was born. On what basis Pakistan was born? It was born on a misconceived nation of nationhood. That is now Pakistan was created.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): Who created?

SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: I am coming to that. *(Interruptions)*. It was a misconceived concept of nationhood on which Pakistan was born. And what is the foundation? the foundation is that Hindus and Muslims are two separate nations, which cannot be made to live together. This was the foundation on which Pakistan has been created and today the foundation of Pakistan rests on the two-nation theory and what is why if Hindus and Muslims live amicably in India today, Pakistan will never allow it because if Hindus and Muslims live amicably today in India, the foundation of Pakistan will collapse and Pakistan will disintegrate. So, that is the issue in question, you must realise it. Are we not going to learn from history. Are we going to play into the hands of a nation which is trying to create a permanent divide in this country between the Hindus and the Muslims? And the issue of these religious places to which this Bill addresses is trying to do that, is trying to put to...*(Interruptions)*.

[Translation]

DR. MAHAVIR SINGH GOHIL (Bhavnagar):- Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am on a point of order *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, you can raise point of order if you want. I am allowing him to raise it.

[*Translation*]

(*Interruptions*)

DR. MAHAVIR SINGH GOHIL: Mr. Speaker Sir, my point of order in that hon. Member is not speaking on the Bill (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I uphold his point of order and I direct Shri Sawant to speak on the provisions of the Bill without giving them historical background.

(*Interruptions*).

SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: Sir, I am trying to give all that because we know foreign powers are interested in destabilising this nation and what better method can be there to destabilise the nation than to concentrate and divide it on the basis of religion? And that is why the objective of this Bill is to prevent this disintegration and that is why I support this Bill. That is the main point that I wanted to bring about.

Sir, people were talking about Ram throughout yesterday. I revere Ram. But why do I revere Ram? Because Ram established Ram Rajya in this country. And what is 'Ram Rajya'? Ram Rajya is providing food, water and shelter, love, compassion, brotherhood and above all, Ram Rajya is Rule of Law.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Sawant, please understand that we have to pass four Bills today.

SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: Sir, I will be very brief. I am just coming to the constitutional point. And above all, I said that Ram Rajya is the Rule of Law. And what is the Rule of Law? How are we going to bring Ram Rajya within the Constitution of India?

Now, Articles 25 and 26 of the Constitution are very clear. Article 25 guarantees religious freedom for individual and Article 26 for religious denominations. But these religious rights are not unfettered. Article 25 reads as follows:-

"Subject to public order, morality and health and to the other provisions of this part, all persons are equally entitled to freedom of conscience and the right freely to profess, practise and propagate religion."

The emphasis is on 'Subject to public order...' So, if there is anything which creator public disorder, it cannot be allowed and this is what the Bill is trying to do. This Bill is trying to prevent any sort of public disorder in future in this country by setting at rest all the controversies of religious places. Unfortunately, this particular Ramjanambhoomi-Babri Masjid issue has not been tackled...(*Interruptions*)...is not being included. Unfortunately, whether I would have felt that it could also have been included or whatever it is, the second is, "Subject to other provisions of this part", that is the fundamental right, and above all there is a sub-article to Article 14 in respect of fundamental Rights.

Now, about the Ramjanam Bhoomi issue, people are saying, it cannot be decided by court, Let me ask one thing. The Constitution is supreme and any issue in this country has to be decided within the four corners of the Constitution. There can be no issue in the country which cannot be decided by the three organs of the State. That is why, I do not understand the justification that religion is an emotional issue which cannot be decided by court. Tomorrow somebody will come and chop off your head and say, "This is an emotional issue and not a legal issue". What kind of precedents are you going to set?

I am coming to article 14 of the Constitution that religion can be practised subject to other provisions of this part, i.e. part III dealing with fundamental right, equality of opportunity. If any Muslim goes to the court and files that at some particular religious place, he has got full right, his application would be entertained because religious practices are subjects to part III and fundamental rights.

We must remember the examples of unity in this country. Let me just quote what Justice Iyengar spoke on articles 25 and 26 in Saifuddin Sahib case:

"These articles embody the principle of religious tolerance. That has been the characteristic feature of the Indian civilisation from the start of history. The period when this feature was absent being merely temporary aberrations. Besides these articles serve to emphasise which the founding-fathers considered to be the very basis of the Constitution".

That is why, anything which divides this nation cannot be allowed to develop in this nation. That is why, if any piece of land tends to divide the nation on the lines of religion, caste creed or community, it cannot be allowed in this country because what are fighting for is a strong united and prosperous India. We do not want civil war to take place here. This Bill has come at the right time.

Ramjanam Bhoomi-Babri Masjid issue is there. Let it be decided by the court...

MR. SPEAKER: Mr.S.S. Owaisis to speak.

It is not going on record.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI (Hyderabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the presentation of this Bill is the first right step in this regard because for the last 4-5 years such a bitter atmosphere was being created in the country. To counter this sort of atmosphere, the Babri Masjid Action Committee has requested the Government to bring such a Bill in the House so that a legal organisation could be given to the *status quo* of all the religious shrines in the country as on 15th August 1947. Keeping in view the atmosphere in the country which has been created by some vested interest to acquire political power, this Bill has been brought and I welcome this Bill. I would like to ask those who are opposing this Bill as to why this Babri Masjid issue was not raised just after 1947 and why did not they raise the issue in 1977 during Janta regime when they were having their three Ministers- Shri Vajpayee, Shri Advani and one other in the Janta Government. Why do they raise this issue now? So one can easily understand that this is not simply an issue for them rather they want to exploit it for acquiring power. This Bill as presented here is a right step. In this context, so many controversial things have been said in the House, which we heard silently after suppressing our feelings. One may guess... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You need not repeat it.

SHRI. SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: On this Bill so many things have been.* (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Sultan Salahuddin Owaisi, You are a very senior Member and you will not say anything which will hurt the sensibility and the feelings of the Members. What you have said is not going on record. I

will also warn you that you are discussing a very important provision of the Bill. You are not here to incite the people unnecessarily.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:
I have no intention to hurt any one's feelings. (*Interruption*) Since yesterday, our sentiments are being hurt here in the House. (*Interruptions*)

Contrary to this they say that I am hurting their feelings. Sometimes, they talk of their faith. Let them ascertain their faith first regarding the birth-place of Ram. Yesterday they asserted that the Ram's Chabootra is the exact birth-place of Ram. Now they are saying that Shilanyas spot is the birth place of Ram. The Mahanta of Ayodhya on the other hand is saying that Ram was born at some other place. They should give proper evidence regarding the birth place of Ram. They cry when their sentiments are touched. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I am hearing his point of order.

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA: Mr. Speaker Sir, hon. Member is deviating from the provisions of this Bill. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I uphold your point of order and I ask Mr. Sultan Salahuddin Owaisi to please speak on the provisions of the Bill.

[*Translation*]

I am responding to the points raised by

him yesterday. On my part I have said that...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. SPEAKER: There is no need to respond to that.

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:
It would be better if the remarks made by him are expunged. If those remarks are included in the records...(*Interruptions*)...

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Sultan Salahuddin Owaisi, you will please understand that I have not allowed one hon. Member to use such a kind of language and to speak in such a manner. I will not allow you also. You are a pretty senior Member of the House. Please do not get something from the Chair which will lower your dignity.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:
I have responded only to the points that were raised. I would like to know the circumstances which led to the need to introduce such a Bill. Newspapers have published a list of 3,200 mosques and 'dargahs' in the country. Where has it been mentioned in history that there was a temple at that spot? Then it is said that history has pinpointed the location of mosques and 'darghas' also. What is all this about? We must consider the global situation and create an atmosphere of peace and harmony in our country to save it from disintegration. The World's great powers could not survive by following a policy of suppression. We must learn a lesson from what is happening in Russia and Asia...(*Interruptions*)... this is what you want to suppress. No country can be run in the name of religion today. Seeking votes in the name of religion will not do. I extend my full support to this Bill.

6.00 hrs.

[*English*]

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay-North): Sir, I am on a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: What is your point of order?

SHRI RAM NAIK: Originally, the time allotted for this discussion was about four hours. It is being extended and we have no objection. I only want to have your ruling advance because we have given certain amendments. We would like to speak on the amendments also. Otherwise, sometimes it does happen that we are not allowed to speak on the amendments. So, if more time is being given for that, I would only request you, Sir, to ensure that we are allowed to speak on the amendments also.

MR. SPEAKER: No. The point is very well-taken. But I am not deciding in your favour. I am sorry. The time fixed was four hours. About eight hours have been consumed. Probably, every Member wanted to give expression to this views. I am aware of the fact that we have been, perhaps, more stringent than what we should have been. We have curtailed the speeches, very learned speeches, erudite speeches of the Members. That was because of the constraint of time. I hope you will appreciate the difficulties. We shall have to transact other business also. In view of that, having spoken very comprehensively on many of the points, probably the amendments also are covered in your speeches. So, you will not press for that.

Now Shri Sunil Dutt to speak.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SUNIL DUTT (Bombay-North-West): Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me

an opportunity to speak on this Bill. A bill which seeks to retrain the status quo of religious shrines as on 15th August, 1947 is most welcome. The Government had to bring such a Bill in view of the growing communal tension in the country. I thank the Hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Home Minister for having introduced such an important Bill in the House.

I belong to a land which is totally secular, a land which we call India where people of various faiths like Hindu, Muslim, Sikh and Christian live together. People of different religions act in Indian films and play roles for very religions. The well-known actor Dilip Kumar is a Muslim. Yet he plays the role of a Hindu, visits Hindu places of worship, offers prayers and speaks Hindu, fluently and portrays sentiments correctly. Ever since I am to this House I have felt as if I am outside India. I have felt as if I am among enemies. I want to emphasise that this House belongs neither to the B.J.P nor to the Congress, Communist Party or Janata Dal. Instead of fighting among ourselves we must think over issues that affect the development of the country....(*Interruptions*)...you can speak when it is your turn. I have never interrupted your speech so you should also listen to me when I am speaking.

With the passage of this Bill, there should also be a change of heart. The hon. Member who just spoke expressed his apprehension regarding the repercussions of such a legislation. Such fears should be set at rest. This Bill has been brought to ensure a safe and secure life for the masses of this country, to ensure that incidents like the Bhagalpur killings do not recur. This step has not been taken to bolster up the image of the Congress.

[*Translation*]

My submission to you is that Congress party has always been cautious and would

[Sh. Sunil Dutt]

be cautious in future... (*Interruptions*)... When the Constitution of our country was prepared we drew demarcation line which can be termed as 'Lakshman Rekha'. It meant that ours is a secular country and people of all religions Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs and Christians have equal right to lead their life in their own way. They are also free to worship in the manner they like. But this demarcation line has been wiped out with religion interfering into politics. In this way our Sita has been abducted... (*Interruptions*)...

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: After this tense hours, we do deserve this kind of light heartedness.

SHRI SUNIL DUTT: I am very grateful to you.

[*Translation*]

I would like to refer not to Tulsidasji or Balmiki ji but to the modern writers because it is very important to know as to what is prevailing in the country presently. It is not so important to know what happened hundred years or thousand years ago, that is only a part of history. What happens today is the reality and that is essential to be understood. Khurana Sahib, you have migrated from Pakistan, if you would have continued to live in the past you would not have been able to live in Delhi you would have been living in Pakistan... (*Interruptions*)... If you have the right to live in Delhi, you must become Delhiite in the real sense...

(*Interruptions*)... If you live in India you must be an Indian. India is a country which belongs to Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs and Christians equally.

[*English*]

That is my India. That is the India I live for; that is the India I die for... (*Interruptions*)...

[*Translation*]

I will talk about you also I have a great respect for you. I will appreciate you... (*Interruptions*)...

I would like to read out the statement given by your friend. Khurana Sahib, kindly listen to me and also direct your followers to listen to me... (*Interruptions*)*...

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: This is not going on record.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SUNIL DUTT: You are the whip of that party, can't you keep them quiet. How do you keep them in your control outside the House, if you cannot do so in this House... (*Interruptions*)... kindly listen to me. One of the Indian writers has said that when a person dies in communal riots, the life of the country reduces.

[*English*]

The life of a country goes away, it is not the life of the human being that goes away.

[*Translation*]

I may give you an example: when you were on your 'Rath Yatra' and riots took place in Bhagalpur... (*Interruptions*)... I am referring to the same incident when riots took place in Bhagalpur, I visited that city. Some M.Ps belonging to Janata Dal were also with us and we there... (*Interruptions*)... Kindly

listen to me...(*Interruptions*)... You have already abducted Sitaji and Ravanaji, now please sit down...(*Interruptions*)... kindly help me because I would like to say a few words in your appreciation. When I want to Bhagalpur.

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR (Faizabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am on a point of order...(*Interruptions*)...

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Let me hear his point of order...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI SUNIL DUTT: Kindly listen to me first.

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR: The hon. Member is deviating from the subject. He is trying to relate this discussion to the communal riots. Not only this, he has also tried to relate it to 'Rath Yatra' and thus he is misleading the House. I am on a point of order. Please check him from doing so.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I rule out your point of order.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SUNIL DUTT: I am referring to Bhagalpur. I visited the city personally and I would like to submit that Bills on various matter would be passed in the House but unless we change our hearts, we cannot restore unity and integrity in the country. Therefore, I would like to emphasise the need of restoring unity and integrity in the country...(*Interruptions*)...

Please sit down. I am not saying anything objectionable. There I visited the vil-

lages which are predominantly inhabited by Muslims and those by Hindus as well. (*Interruptions*)*

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: This is not going on record.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SUNIL DUTT: I visited the villages of both Hindus and Muslims. I enquired from the Hindus as to who were the fundamentalists who had come to their village. Therefore, I do not put the blame on Hindus alone. I say that people from both the communities are to blame in this case. I am referring to Bhagalpur riots. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Please leave it.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SUNIL DUTT: I would like to say that without communal harmony between the two communities nothing is going to improve. Sir if you give a ruling, I would not like to dwell further on this issue and reserve my observations and remarks for some other occasion. But the issue is so important, that unless both communities came across the negotiating table, unity and integrity cannot be fostered in the country. This is absolutely necessary for the unity and integrity of the country. I am not saying here as to who are fundamentalists and who are not, who died and how. I just want to raise the issues which are more important and effective than that. I saw the plight of Hindus in villages predominantly inhabited by Hindus from close quarters. They were a depressed lot and both their shelters and clothing have been burnt. When I enquired from them as to who

[Sh. Sunil Dutt]

Hindu Hain Hum Vatan Hain Hindustan Hamara**

had come to their villages they said that B.J.P men had come. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, he is digressing from the main issue and saying very objectionable things. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SUNIL DUTT: I am referring to riots and praising them only. People said that B.J.P. men and V.H.P workers provided them succour and wiped their tears. When I went to Muslim villages, the people said that the Jamait-e-Islam men wiped their tears and gave them help. Sir, I would like to emphasise on the point that if the Muslims and Hindus have a soft corner for their brethren in other community from the core of their hearts, people from one community should have gone to the help of people in the other community for fostering communal harmony and affection for each other.

Sir, the agony of a women in the wake of the death of her child or her husband is the same to which ever community she might belong to, whether she is a Muslim or a Hindus woman. So, if the community feelings are perpetuated and spread like this, then what will be the outcome? (*Interruptions*) Sir, the Bill under consideration should be passed in one voice by all sections of the House for the sake of country's integrity and for boosting the prestige of the nation. I would also like to make an appeal to B.J.P. cadre with folded hands, not to oppose the Bill as it would serve everybody's interest as well as that of the country in general. I would like to tell one and all that if peace and cordiality is maintained in the country, it will automatically solve all problems. I would like to quote a few lines of a song:

Majhab Nahin Sikhata Apas Main
Vair Rakhna

This was written by a Muslim and it is our National Song. Doordarshan presentation of Mahabharat of Ved Vyas, which was viewed by all of us was written by Rahi Masoom Raza. Not a single contradiction can be noticed in it.

[*English*]

This is my secular India. This is my India. And this is the India that I am proud of, of all the countries... (*Interruptions*)... Umaji is a very nice Parliamentarian, I really feel.

[*Translations*]

I am proud of her. She is a very able parliamentarian and whenever any issue concerning women is raised in the House, then Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee and Kumari Uma Bharati, espoused women's cause in the House*... (*Interruptions*)...

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

MR. SPEAKER: please sit down. (*Interruptions*)

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Let me give the ruling.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: If he says that he is withdrawing the remarks...

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Please keep quite

Whatever might have been the intention of the hon. Member, but if it had hurt the feelings of someone, then it will not go on record.

...(Interruptions)...

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Mr. Speaker, Sir I am on a point of order. The way, the hon. Member made a reference by names, it appears that the hon. Member is delivering a film dialogue. He is saying nothing serious in the august Parliament of India. The hon. Member must tender an apology.

...(Interruptions)...

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Let me give the ruling.

(Interruptions)

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(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Please keep quiet. Whatever might have been the intention of the hon. Member, but if it had hurt the feelings of someone, then it will not go on record.

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SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am on a point of order. The

way, the hon. Member made a reference by names, it appears that the hon. Member is delivering a film dialogue. He is saying nothing serious in the august Parliament of India. The hon. Member must tender an apology. (Interruptions)...

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. (Interruptions) Mr. Sunil Dutt, do you want to say something on this point?

SHRI SUNIL DUTT: Yes, Sir. (Interruptions) Upon my honour, I would like to say in this House that I have always respected women and I have always sacrificed for the life of women, whether she is my wife or mother or sister or daughters or granddaughters. I give top priority for the women of this country.

[Translation]

It is not craziness on my part, but it shows guilty conscience on the part of the hon. Member who is accusing me.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I will give a ruling.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: First of all, I would like to thank the Members for they are cooperating with the Chair.

It seems that Mr. Sunil Dutt's remarks have hurt the feelings of our sisters in the

House. I think Mr. Sunil Dutt's will not feel below dignity to say 'sorry' if it has hurt their feelings.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SUNIL DUTT: With a very heavy heart and with total dignity to the House, I generally feel that I never meant to hurt the feelings of any woman in this House and even outside in the country. But I fail to understand why only one section of women the other party did not like my remarks:...(*Interruptions*)...I have the right to say (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Are you making any amends or not?

SHRI SUNIL DUTT: Sir, if I am guilty, I will say 'sorry'.

[*Translation*]

There are devotees of God, there are servants of humanity. It is not so that (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Sunil Duttji, please take your seat. Please let us understand.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You are complicating my job unnecessarily. Please sit down. Please help me. Do not complicate my job.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Sunil Dutt, the valour and the spirit of understanding and the spirit of giving respect to our mother, sister

and daughter will be in tune with our feelings with which you must have expressed your feelings. If anybody is hurt, you can always make amends. I do not think that creates any problem. I know with what kind of a feeling he has spoken those words. That is why, I have not said anything. But you yourself, are quite capable of making amends...

SHRI SUNIL DUTT: I am proud of the women of this country. I admire them...(*Interruptions*)...

[*Translation*]

SHRI SUNIL DUTT: I have a craze for my mother, for my sister and for my daughter...(*Interruptions*)...Since I have sacrificed for my country...I have a craze for my country...(*Interruptions*)...

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): Sir, you are the custodian of this House. And as the custodian of this House, you can go into all aspects and deliberations. If anything happens to be outside the limits and the scope of the Bill, please see that that is expunged. That responsibility is yours. If any Member from any section of the House has spoken anything outside the scope of the Bill, that should be totally expunged.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translations*]

SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA (Shajapur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, you have given your ruling that he must apologise... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Don't put words into my mouth unnecessarily. It is not like that. When I have not said anything, you are twisting the facts in my presence and saying all that.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. Sumitraji please sit down.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN (Indore): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have never expressed my views before.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Okay, I allow you.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: I want to say just one thing.

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow you also after Sumitraji.

SHRI K.P UNNIKRIISHNAN: I am on a point of order Sir,

MR. SPEAKER: I have already called her.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have raised an objection, I would like to tell hon. Sunil Dutt that we have all regards for him even today as we had so in the past. But a very serious matter was being discussed at that time in this House. The objection was raised to the manner in which it was spoken. Members have a sense of honour but the word 'Diwana' (fan of women) was used in derogatory manner for ladies... (*Interruptions*) The word 'listen' was

used, only after that we said that unparliamentary expression should not be used in the House. He is here as a Member of Parliament and not as a cinema hero. He should not use such expressions. We do not expect such expression of him. Therefore Members felt agitated. He deserves respects as he has worked for the cause of cancer. The objection was raised by all sections and not a single section of ladies. It is not expected of a responsible parliamentarian... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Sumitraji, you have now expressed your views. Be seated now.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Please cooperate. We have many Bills to pass. We were thinking that we would be able to pass the Bills. Kindly do not use the words which may lead to objections. Let us be in a position to say judge not and we will not be judged.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura): Sir, I am not an expert on Urdu. So, what I appreciate in Sunil Babu's speech is the feeling that he has for women and I expect all of you to have the same feeling. This is my submission.

SHRI K.P UNNIKRIISHNAN (Badagara): Sir, I am on a point of order. This House has to be regulated by you. In your wisdom...

MR. SPEAKER: I think it is a point of order on Speaker.

SHRI K.P UNNIKRIISHNAN: Please, listen to me. I am here to assist you and to draw your attention to something. What I want to say is that this House can only be regulated through the rules of procedure and not by sentiments. This House, specifically you, can decide or any other Presiding Officer in your place whether a Member has used Parliamentary expression of unparlia-

[Sh. K. P. Unnikrishnan]

mentary expression. Your attention can only be drawn to that but not because somebody feels or is over-sensitive and dislike a word or phrase or might wish the Member should have used some other phrase. Member's speeches cannot be regulated by sentiments be it of any section of the House.

MR. SPEAKER: Well, I appreciate the feelings of my friend and an hon. Member of this House and 80 per cent I agree with him. Regarding 20 per cent my decision is let us try to avoid the expressions which may be unparliamentary and hurt the feelings of Members.

[*Translation*]

KUMARI UMA BHARTI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I agree with Shri Unnikrishnan that this discussion does not relate to getting over-sensitive. I understand it, I have travelled world-wide. I understand the limits of humour. I have not come here out of caves... (*Interruptions*) But there is a decorum to be maintained in Parliament, in the country and as such a dignity has to be maintained while expressing one's feelings. If man does not learn to live a disciplined life then there is no difference between animal and man. (*Interruptions*) I would like to submit that I respect the views expressed by Shri Sunil Dutt is a social worker but he has been a film hero.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Sunil Dutt, what is your point of order?

[*Translation*]

SHRI SUNIL DUTT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Kumari Uma Bharati submitted just now that

I have been a film-hero. I would like to submitted that today also I am a film-hero and I am proud of being so... (*Interruptions*) I feel proud that I being to the world of cinema. Without making any discrimination films depict a secular view of our country. (*Interruptions*) While raising her voice to the cause of women in the House Kumari Uma Bharti had referred to the incidents of female foeticide after sex-determination. Sentiments have been involved with the issue. There are many other issues as important as that which confront us. Atrocities like rape etc. are committed on women, Harijans are maltreated, children are being killed by Tantriks who offer them to deities and then eat their flesh, girls are sold and there is hunger and poverty. We have to tackle all these problems. Therefore I would like to submit...

"Aur bhi gum hain jamane mein,
mandir ke, siva
Anaginat saidyon ke tarik va
vahirana Tilsim,
Reshma-atlas va kam khwab mein
bunvaye huye
Jabajaan bikate huye kucha va
bazar mein jism,
Khak mein lithare huye, khun mein
nahalaye huye,
Laut jati hai udhar ko bhi nazar kya
keede,
Ab bhi Dhilkash hai tera husn kya
keede,
Aur bhi gam hain, jamane mein
mandir ke siva.

These things would not be understood by them. In the end I thank you for allowing me time to express my views.

SHRI KALKA DAS (Karolbagh): Mr. Speaker, what is your decision?

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. Most of the Member have started asking me what

has been decided and what not, and they say that they are following the rules. The rule is, I do not appreciate many of the things said by some Members on the floor of the House and if there is anything objectionable or anything which hurts the feelings of the Members, that will not form part of the record.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM SUNDER DAS (Hajipur):
Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the bill that has been introduced. I am supporting it because this bill is in keeping with the declared policies enshrined in the Indian Constitution. What necessitated introduction of this Bill?

But introducing this Bill the ruling party has done a good job keeping in view the conditions that have been created in the country due to the growing communalism. In order to keep the sovereignty of the country intact and to root out the spreading communalism, the ruling party has done a praiseworthy work by introducing the bill. I thank the ruling party for it but at the same time, I cannot help saying that this measure should have been taken much earlier. The people of the ruling party wake-up only when it is too late.

Mr. Speaker: Sir, if we take a look at the post independence etc. it take us no time to understand that we could have served the nation a lot, had we made efforts to strengthen the secular forces. That way, we could have brought about a drastic change and thereby protected secularism. But the ruling party who ruled the nation did not pay attention to it. This is not a country of a particular community or a particular religion and that is why I support this Bill.

Mr. Speaker: Sir, our friends from this said that History was being belied. Sir, through you. I want to submit that people of this

country know very well the people who try to belie the history. Barring the tribals, the Aryans and many other communities who were all foreigners came to this soil. What I want to point out is that the Muslims too came here about 1-1/2 -2 thousand years after the Aryans. The Hinduism assimilated and accepted all the people coming from outside. It was a typical generosity. But what is prevailing in the society today is a subject of serious anxiety and it is for this reason that I support this Bill. If the makers of our constitution had not made the provision of secularism, the country could have witnessed religious fanaticism coupled with armed struggle and many other agitations. But the makers of our constitution had a foresight for all these things.

I think that we all should be happy for the introduction of this Bill. There would be no trace of any caste, creed, religion or party, if there is no nation. Keeping all this in view I support the bill. As it is a progressive bill it should be passed unanimously.

I want to say one more thing. Religion, I think, is a personal thing. So far as the question of worshipping of visiting a place of worship is concerned, anyone can offer his prayers anywhere according to his belief. But it is beyond my comprehension that religion should be tinted in the colour of communalism. The religion that creates obstacles before the human beings in the matter of their prosperity cannot be regarded as a religion.

What I want to say is that the people who talk of creating religious frenzy cannot make this country a country of a single religion. The people who do not understand religion are the ones who spend a pompous life and work towards disintegrating the nation. Humbly I would like to tell them that they would not be forgiven by history. We should be on guard lest we should start following other nations and fall a victim of destruction

[Sh. Ram Sunder Das]

in the process... (*Interruptions*) There are people in the country who are theist while many others are atheist. But, the contribution they have made to the country through their ideals cannot be forgotten. This is a country of composite culture and multilingual people where all of us have been living unitedly and protecting the nation. In support of this bill I would say briefly that it should be implemented carefully lest it should fall in the doldrum and meet the fate of many similar bills. Ours is a secular country. What is the reason that we could not run the country in keeping with the declared policies? There must be some reasons. Perhaps politics or the political gains are the reasons. It is for this reason that we could not adhere to those cherished principles. The bill would, no doubt, get through, but if it is not implemented firmly, we cannot protect secularism. The framers of the Constitution had declared that if the rights provided to people in the Constitution are not actually given to them, they would lose faith in the Constitution in the course of time. The ruling party has brought forward this bill - better late than never. I support the bill and express my gratitude to you for having given me an opportunity to express my views. I wanted that I should have been given time a bit earlier, as this was my maiden speech in this House.

[*English*]

SHRI K.P UNNIKRIISHNAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir I wholeheartedly welcome this very significant legislative measure, which should have been passed long back.

Sir, ever since our independence in 1947 and more so, after we become a republic within a democratic Constitution, we have taken certain steps, sometimes faltering but a steady effort was set in motion seeking to divorce religion from the States and to assure minorities, not merely religious mi-

norities but also linguistic minorities that the faith they professed, the religion they followed or the language they spoken or in a broader sense, the way of life they followed or the values they had, shall have no bearing on their rights. Their legal status, their civil rights and secularism would be the binding cement of Indian society. But that is sought to be upturned. It is not to say that there are no elements in minority communities who are propagating minority fundamentalism or minority communalism whether it be in Punjab or elsewhere. But today the fact remains that Hindu revivalism is sought to be dressed up as Indian nationalism. Not only that. They claim to speak on behalf of the majority of Hindu community. I do not know who has given them the authority to do so. If they win with a microscopic vote to the total national vote and population and they come here and tell us that they can speak on behalf of the great Hindu religious faith and the Hindus, they are mistaken. I have no doubt that history will prove that they are mistaken. But it is these people who called Ayodhya a national shame. Were this movement to succeed, the danger is that secularist concept, secular framework, secular unity that we have sought to build up would be strangled and India would straightaway be handing for a Fascist take-over. They are laying siege to the basic concept to which we are committed. On this there can be no compromise. I know that they call some of us as pseudo secularists. I would say and repeat that I am proud to be a called pseudo secularist.

The focus of the belligerence of this small Hindu group, the revivalist group, claiming to represent the majority community in this country, has been the Babri Masjid in Ayodhya in Uttar Pradesh. Now I want to say that we cannot revert to the medieval politics. We can revert as some people have shown to medieval politics. We can revert as some people have shown to medieval way. But this country as a nation cannot revert to medieval politics. It cannot be allowed to

destory places of worship whether there was worship or not - as long as some people regard it as such - under any circumstances.

It is true that demolition had taken place; vandalism had taken place. Are we to go back and repeat the vandalism? That is the question before us today. Today the attention is centred on a mosque which has its historic antiquity. But it has also been established that Hindus had destroyed Buddhist and Jain shrines.

PROF. PREM DHUMAL (Ajmer):
Where?

SHRI K. P UNNIKRISHNAN: In Bihar, U.P If you want, we shall discuss it separately. How far back in history are you going to go? And who is going to interpret it as to which should be destroyed and which should not be destroyed?

Secularism is more than the faith, concessions and special considerations. It is not the concession that we make to somebody. It is the right that minorities have in this country. It is also for the majority and for everyone's state of mind, a kind of instinctive feeling such as existed, by and large, for many centuries in India, when Hindus, Muslims Christians and followers of other faiths lived side by side and brought up in this country in general harmony.

The known history of Ayodhya does not indicate that what is claimed as the Janamsthan was, in fact, the birth place of Sri Rama, the Purushotma, or that a temple existed there. I do not want to go into the background of this. But Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel - I am sure, they do not reject him as I had heard them yesterday - wrote to Shri Govind Ballabh Pant on 9th January 1950 that no unilateral action by any group on an attitude of aggression can be allowed or countenanced. This is what he wrote on this very very question.

17.00 hrs

It is not that I do not have no quarrel. But, for some people it has been that they accept. It is a matter of faith. But, for some people, even those who had accepted Valmiki, those who had accepted Shri Ramachandra, even for them whether he is a history figure, it has been questioned. Well, I do not want to enter into this dispute. I accept him and I am proud of him. I am proud of great heritage of Valmiki of Ramayana and Shri Ramachandra. I am sure late Sardar Ballab Bhai Patel will not reject this. Shri Aurobindo was asked whether Shri Ramachandra was a historical figure. His answer was "There is no ground to believe that Rama is a historical figure". Then again he asked "Do you believe a kind marches to Lanka with an army of monkeys? Valmiki may have taken it from tradition that existed then or from imagination and, created figures which so well suited the Indian temperament that the whole race took them into it consciousness and assimilated them". He says "There were Ramayanas before Valmiki's because elements or Ramakatha was present even in Vedas and that even in the Veda you find Rama symbolising the divine and Sita standing for the earth. It also may be that Valmiki brought it over from some Daivic plane to this earth". He concludes, "Shri Rama might have lived but one cannot say definite". This is from Evening Talks with Sri Aurobindo, Second Series recorded by A.B. Purani, page 209. (Interruptions). It is important that the background should be debated in this House.

MR. SPEAKER: We have not allowed other Members to speak on that.

(Interruptions)

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN: It is not a concession. I have never spoken in this House earlier on this subject. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have not allowed other Members also to speak.

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali): We do not require his teachings.

(Interruptions)

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN: Nobody is going to teach me how to speak in the House. If I have to learn from you the rules of procedure on patriotism... *(interruptions)*.

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN: The question of validity, I do not want to go into all these details. The question of Janmasthan or anything

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: This may not go on record.

(Interruptions)

SHRI K. P . UNNIKRIISHNAN: Prof. Barua is considered to be an authority on ancient Indian Geography and he says after his research...

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Unnikrishnan, I have disallowed other Members because the time is very short and there are other Members who want to speak.

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN: I Will try to be very brief. He says that according to his calculations based on Valmiki's Ramayanas Vth Chapter...

MR. SPEAKER: Why Ramayana. The Bill is not a Ramayana.

SHRI K.P UNNIKRIISHNAN: And he said that there is no Janmasthan within this. It could have been in what he says in that is

called Nandigrama, It is outside. Therefore the point is that we are not going into this dispute. But this is being sought to be utilised by people to says that they represent the majority points of view on this question and they represent the nationalist point of view on this question.

A question was raised earlier here as to who was responsible for partition of this sub-continent. I do not want to go into this question. But undoubtedly everybody who is well acquainted with history knows that not only Mr. Jinna and his Muslim League but also Hindu commuanlism of which Veer Savarkar was the promoter for whom I have great respect i hold him in great esteem as freedom fighter- was responsible for introducing the concept of militarising Hindutava which is followed by the RSS

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: No, no. All this is off the mark and it is not necessary.

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN: Who are behind this Bill? Why this Bill has been necessitated?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Unnikrishanan, please help us. We have some other business and it was greed in the meeting of the Members.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please allow me for one minute. It was agreed that we are going to pass two more Bills today and I hope that we will be continuing to sit in the House and pass two more Bills. Time is very short. So, Please be brief.

MR. K.P UNNIKRIISHNAN: Therefore, it was Guruji Golwalkar who said...

SHRI RAM NAIK: I want to put it properly. (*Interruptions*). The best way to put it on record would be that Savarkar was not for militarising Hindutva, Savarkar was for militarising the nation. He never said that Savarkar wanted to militarise Hindutva. Why should it be wrongly quoted? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN: Sir, I have quoted from his speech of Hindumahasbha Session, Ahmedabad Session, 1937. Sir, Guruji Golwalkar Said...

MR. SPEAKER: No, I am not allowing these things to go on record, because, you know, if you say it then there will be reply to it and there will be a counter-reply.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You come to the Bill.

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN: That is not the way. If I am saying something unparliamentary, you can ask me and say that it is not going on record. (*Interruptions*). I am saying that this is root of the problem.

MR. SPEAKER: Please come to the provisions of the Bill.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN. Why this Bill, I have to explain. Why the background, I have to explain,. You cannot dictate on the Members.

MR. SPEAKER: No, I have to guide the Members. Members cannot always take objection to the guidance given by me.

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN: No, not that is not the point. Guidance should be such...

MR. SPEAKER: I have to take in to account the entire business of the House.

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN: Yes, business of the House can be regulated.

MR. SPEAKER: Please help me.

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN: Yes, I am trying to help you, but you should not interrupt me. (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: You are not on the provisions of the Bill, but you should to come to the provisions of the Bill.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN: I thought you would follow what I am saying.

Sir, Guruji Golwalkar says:

"The non-Hindu peoples in Hindustan must either adopt the Hindu culture and language, must learn to respect and hold in reverence Hindu religion, must entertain no idea but those of glorification of Hindu race and culture, that is, they must not ungratefulness towards this land and its age-long traditions, but must also cultivate the positive attitude of love and devotion to Hinduism and they must cease to be foreigners".

This is from *We or our Nationhood Defined*— nationhood to which my esteemed friend, Shri Ram Naik, had referred. And said this as a solution.

Sir, Guruji had a favourite book. It is not *Mahabharata* or *Ramayana*, you will be surprised. Guruji's favourite book, as he himself said, is *Mein Kampf* of Hitler and the solution of Judaic Hitler gave to the world.

(*Interruptions*). My point is that this is not necessitated, but it is because if this attitude of the followers that today we had to

[Sh. K.P. Unnikrishnan]

bring forward this Bill. On the contrary, Sir, we are proud alike...

MR. SPEAKER: Only on the provisions of the Bill.

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN: I will come to the Bill. We are proud alike of the Tajmahal and Ajanta, of the delicate lines of the Agra masjid or temple or the authenticity of that great temple at Konarak. Well, they should go to Konarak and revive it. It is one of the magnificent structures that we ever think of, that any art or civilization has produced anywhere.

Sir, our religion has nothing to do with what is going on in the name of religion. The essence of our religion, the thrust of our religion is not based on any revelation. All attempt is being made to make induism as religion on the basis of Judaic or on the basis of Semitic mould, though it is not. We have no revelation.

Sri Ramakrishnan practised Islamic Sadhanas. He says: "Then, I used to repeat the name of Allah, wear my cloth in the fashion of Mohammedans and recite Namaz regularly. He says. "And I have found that it is the same Good towards whom all are travelling, only they come through diverse ways".

MR. SPEAKER: I did not allow Saleem Saheb; I did not allow Digvijaya Singh to make points off the mark, Please you also stick to the points in the Bill.

(Interruptions.)

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN: This Bill has been necessitated by those elements who have been fighting not merely secular way of life but also misinterpreting Hindu religion. Therefore, these elements will have

to be kept in check. These elements will have to be fought. Only if secularism prevails. India would be able to come out of its age old era of deprivation, filth, squalor and misery.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM SHARAN YADAV (Khagaria): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me the time to speak.

MR. SPEAKER: Please conclude within two minutes. After that Shrimati Malini Bhat-tacharya will speak and then the hon. Minister will reply to the debate.

SHRI RAM SHARAN YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, our ancestors called this country a secular State and made a provision to this effect in the Constitution also. Then what necessitated to bring this Bill? People belonging to all religions i.e. Hindus, Muslims Sikhs and Christians live here. Sir, this Bill had to brought due to the Ramjanma Bhoomi Babri Masjid dispute.... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please keep Babri Masjid and Ramjanam bhoomi out of it... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM SHARAN YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is said that Rama was born at Ayodhaya. Tulsidasji has written in Ramchar-itmanas—

"Bhaye prakat kripala deen dayala kaushalaya hitkari"

Some people say that Kaushalaya gave birth to Rama and some others believe that he was born as his mother has eaten *kheer* in the utensil of Shringi Rishi. I would like to say that only his mother Kaushalaya and father Dashratha knew the exact place where he was born. Nobody else knows it. Just now, when my friend made a mention about Ramjanambhoomi, some Members from this

side attacked him. In the same way, these people attack the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and the poor and suppress them. About Rama, Tulsidasji had said at one place—

“Tum pavak mein Karahu nivasu,
jab take karajhun nishachar naasu”

When they returned to Ayodhya Sitaji was pregnant but she was made to sit on fire. Then who brought her to Ayodhya. (*Interruptions*)

It is a matter of justice. It should be seen that Sitaji was sent to forest in the state of pregnancy. Once a Shudra named Shambuk was doing penance.. Bu on the saying of a Brahmin Rama killed him, because the Shudra did not have the right to penance. In the regime of Rama, the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes were not allowed to learn, to listen to the recitation of Vedas or to perform other religious 'Sonskaras'. Due to this reason only, Ramakilled Shambuk. Once Shri Jagjivan Ram went to Banaras to unveil the statue of Shri Sampunranand. When he left the place after the ceremony, the Brahmins there purified the statue with cow-duing. Is a human being more unholy than animal excreta? This conspiracy of the Brahmins is going on for thousands of years. This is the justice of their Rama.

In Bihar, there is a Shiva temple known as Baijnath Dham. For thousands of years, it was known by this name only. The statue of Baiju, which was installed between the statues of Shiva and Parvati for thousands of years was removed and kept at a distance of one kilometer away by the priests because Baiju Gop belonged to a backward class. Its name has been changed to Deoghar. I demand from the Government that its original name Baijanath Dham should be restored.

[*English*]

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARAYA (Jadavpur): Sir, Thank you for allowing me time. I will not say anything not pertaining to the Bill and I will just keep myself confined to some objections which have been made to the Bill because I have been supporting this Bill.

Firstly, those who are opposing the Bill make out that in some way or other this Bill is going to hurt the Hindus. It will endanger the Hindus in some way. Now, Hinduism is the religion of at least 70 per cent people in our country. It has been going on for 3,000 or 4,000 years. If this is the charge, this is a very serious charge and we should ponder what dangers arise to the Hindus from this Bill.

Let us look at the Bill. Let us look at Clause 3 which is an effective Clause. Clause 3 prohibits the conversion of one religious place into the place of worship of a different community.

Now, I ask you, do Hindus want to convert the places of worship of a different community into their own -place of worship? have they ever wanted that? Do they now want it? There may be one or two such Hindus here and there. I do not want to mention their names. But generally Hindus never wanted that and, as such, they cannot be hurt by this Bill.

On the other hand, if we even admit theoretically that Hindus are afraid of their own places of worship being converted into something else, if as some of our friend say Hinduism has suffered most as a result of all these conversions and demolitions, then, of course, Hindus should all the more welcome this Bill because it prevents their places of worship from being further converted. The other point is about Jammu & Kashmir. This point has been raised. It has been asked why Jammu & Kashmir has been excluded. I

[Shrimati Malini Bhattacharaya]

would say that if this bill excludes Jammu & Kashmir, it excludes Jammu & Kashmir for the same reason for which Ayodhya is excluded. Jammu & Kashmir is a special case. It need not have remained a special case but for whatever reason the integration of Jammu & Kashmir into the whole of the nation has not properly taken place and so it has remained as a special case, thanks to the politicisation of religion and now one more special case has been created in Ayodhya arisen. Let me say that we do not want the especial cases to go on increasing. We want to put a stop to that and that is why we wanted this Bill to be brought forward and passed. There should be no more special cases.

Sir, Clause 4 states the cut-off date is 15th August, 1947. Some speakers have said that the cut-off date should not be that and it should be from the time of Babar or from 1000 A.D. or whatever it is when temples were being demolished. But temples were being demolished even before that. It has been mentioned that Hindu temple, have been demolished by Hindus (*Interruptions*) The Martand temple in Kashmir was destroyed by Hindus - I am sorry to say - supposedly by the Hindus from Bengal. Bhudhist temples were demolished and appropriated by Hindus. The British also pilfered temples and mosque equally...(*Interruptions*) If you want to go backwards into history then certainly we can say that no just a temple but a whole civilization, the civilization of Mohenjadarro, by some accounts, was destroyed by the Aryans. So, you can push back dates indefinitely. But I think this August 15, 1947 is crucial because on that date we are supposed to have emerged as a modern, democratic and sovereign State thrusting back such barbarity into the past once and for all. From that date, we also distinguished ourselves from Pakistan as State which has no official

religion and which gives equal rights to all the different religious denominations. So, whatever may have happened before that, we all expected that from that date there should be no such retrogression into the past. Of course, there has been much hurt done in the past. But to prevent more hurt being caused by unscrupulous, power-hungry politicians this immunity is being offered to places of worship of all communities.

Sir, it has also been objected that this Bill placates Muslims or it capitulates with the Muslim fundamentalist sentiments. I do not agree (*Interruptions*) This is what I am coming to. Of course, if our friends on this side have been notorious for promoting fundamentalism of one kind, our friends on the other side have been equally notorious for promoting fundamentalism of many different kinds. So, if some fear is there, I don't think that it is entirely unjustified. But let us look at the Bill.

SHRI RAM NAIK: Sir, I don't think it is proper to call one section of the Members as notorious. (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA: If you object to the word 'notorious' I will replace it by the word 'famous'

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN: It is not an unparliamentary expression.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA: Sir, the question is: Does this Bill grant any special favour to Muslim places of worship? I am so sorry that, we have been talking in this way. For the last two days, it has seemed that there are no other communities in India apart from Hindus and Muslims. It is not true. That is why, we are discussing this Bill. But anyway, does the bill grant any special favour to Muslim places of worship? It does not. Or would these people

be satisfied only if Muslim places of worships were excluded from this Bill? Is that what they want?

Earlier on, on the question of the Muslim Women's Act, a big Hindu backlash had been deliberately fomented on the ground, that is placated Muslims, and discriminated against Hindus. But by now, not only the Muslim women, but also the poor Muslim, the middle-class Muslim whose divorced daughters have been returned to them without means of subsistence, know that the Muslim Women's Act which was supposed to placate them has not benefited them in any way.

This Bill is quite different from Muslim Women's Bill. It makes no discrimination between places of worship of one community and another. This is the most important thing. Of course, the Bill aims to inspire confidence among the minorities. And this is one of the most important pre-conditions of a democratic State.

We have been hearing a lot about emotional integration these days. But emotional integration cannot be achieved through fear and coercion. It has to be achieved through mutual tolerance. Our people know this. They do not mind side by side co-existence of temples, mosques, gurudwaras and churches. theirs is an emotional integration which is achieved through united struggle against their common exploiters. So I would say that this Bill is not a stricture on our people. It is only a stricture to protect the people from the games played by politicians around them. And I am glad that the Congress (I) is putting this stricture on themselves too. We are very glad about it. This is precisely why we have no amendments to include Ayodhya in this Bill. (*Interruptions*)

Although we think that Ayodhya is not an exceptional case. It has merely been inflated into one. We would have said, do not

make a special case of Ayodhya. But what can we do? Already a special case has been made of Ayodhya. But since this is the situation, it is better that this issue should be settled through peaceful negotiations failing which it should be settled through court verdict rather than through a parliamentary act which may seem to be imposed from above. But if because, Ayodhya has been excluded from this Bill, some people think that they can use this exclusion of Ayodhya to appropriate the disputed structure and the site either by the State Government's diktat or by the whipping up popular sentiments, then, Sir, they are very much mistaken. And they can be sure that if they try to do this, we are going to oppose it with all our might.

Since 1949, taking advantage of Government's weakness, inch by inch they have been moving into the disputed site even while litigation is going on. I would call upon them to call a halt on this process now once and for all and support the Bill. And if they find time hanging heavy on their hands, then let them send their *Kar Sewaks* to Marathawada where in 70 per cent of temples, the Scheduled Castes are not allowed entry and let the *Kar Sewaks* go and fight there for the right of entry of Scheduled Castes into the temples. If you do that, then the nation will bless you. In the meantime, please do not try to oppose the Bill.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): Sir, I must express my gratitude to the Members, on both sides of the House, particularly, all those hon. Members who have expressed their support without any reservations and tried to elucidate in their own way, the provisions of the Bill.

Specially, my hon. friend, Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar, had told the entire history of Hinduism from 7,000 years and came to the Advaita philosophy, preached by Adi Shankaracharya. I hope the hon. Members who are

[Sh. S. B. Chavan]

sitting on the other side, at least, believe in Adi Shankaracharya and his philosophy and the legacy which he had left for us.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI. JASWANT SINGH (Chittorgarh):
Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister should also speak on this Bill (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI S.B.CHAVAN: I thank the hon. Members who have participated in the discussion and have given their valued comments and observations on this momentous Bill. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BUTA SINGH (Jalore): Is talking about Hindu religion, the prerogative of the BJP only? Can anybody else not speak about the Hinduism? I take a strong objection to the remarks of Shri Jaswant Singh. We are good Hindus as you are. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: In fact, I am more interested in getting this Bill passed rather than go into the controversy. You know about the prophecies of Shri Adi Shankaracharya and his philosophy. I need not tell you all that. My only request to all of you is, please do not create a feeling of animosity between different sections of the society and mixing religion with politics, which in fact has been mainly responsible for bringing this Bill of this nature.

But, it is for you hon. Members, to consider this momentous Bill, which has been brought by the government in pursuance of the promise in the election manifesto of the Indian National Congress (I), and the declaration made by the President in his address

to the joint session of the Parliament on 11th July, 1991. I am very happy that in this endeavour we have received the whole-hearted support from most of the hon. Members of the House.

We see this Bill as a measure to provide and develop our glorious traditions of love, peace and harmony. These traditions are part of a cultural heritage of which every Indian is justifiably proud. Tolerance for all faiths has characterized our great civilization since time immemorial.

These traditions of amity, harmony and mutual respect came under severe strain during the pre-independence period when the colonial power sought to actively create and encourage communal divide in the country. After independence we have set about healing the wounds of the past and endeavoured to restore our traditions of communal amity and goodwill to their past glory. By and large we have succeeded, although there have been, it must be admitted, some unfortunate setbacks. Rather than being discouraged by such setbacks, it is our duty and commitment to take lesson from them for the future.

I recent years, however, we have noticed with anxiety an alarming rise of intolerance which is propagated by the certain sections for their narrow vested interests. One of the methods being used by such elements to further their interests is taking resort to forcible conversion of places of worship to create new disputes and to rake up old controversies which have long been forgotten by the people. We consider it necessary to take steps to put an immediate end to such unfortunate conflicts and foreclose any new controversies. This Bill, which we hope to enact into law with the help of all progressive forces represented in this august House, seeks to achieve this objective.

The Bill prohibits any person from con-

verting any place of worship of any religious denomination or any section thereof into a place of worship of different section of the same religious denomination or of a different religious denomination or any section thereof. It also declares that the religious character of place of worship existing on the 15th day of August, 1947 shall continue to be the same as it existed on that day. Penalties have been prescribed not for contravention, but also for attempts and abetment.

This Bill, thus, seeks to prohibit and make punishable forcible conversions of places of worship. Thereby it strives to further safeguard the freedom of religion guaranteed by Articles 25 and 26 of the Constitution. There cannot be any doubt about the constitutional validity of the Bill.

We have taken note of certain apprehensions and misgivings that have been expressed about the likely impact of this Bill. It has been said that this Bill, particularly the provisions of Clause 4, will lead to a spate of controversies where the religious character of a place of worship has changed on the normal course. A careful perusal of clause 4 will quickly dispel this misgiving. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Members to sub-clause (3) of clause 4 which lists the exemptions. Ancient monuments or archaeological sites or remains covered by the Ancient Monument and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1959 and similar legislations are out of the purview of this Bill. So are those places of worship in respect of which any suit, appeal or proceeding has been finally decided before the commencement of this act. Similarly sites in respect of which such disputes have been settled by the parties amongst themselves are excluded. Conversion by acquiescence effected before the commencement of this act are also excluded. Finally those conversions which are time barred under any law of limitations are also excluded.

Thus, it would be seen that far from generating such controversies this Bill will effectively act to achieve the central objective, i.e. to foreclose any new controversy about the religious character of a place of worship.

With these remarks I strongly commend this Bill to the Members of this august House and request them to pass it unanimously.

MR. SPEAKER: There are two amendments moved for the consideration of this Bill. Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava and Shri Madan Lal Khurana have moved those amendments.

Now Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava.

[*Translation*]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, a lot of discussion has already taken place on it. I would like to draw the attention of the House only to 2-3 points. First of all, the State of Jammu and Kashmir...

MR. SPEAKER: Why it should be sent for circulation. As this is your amendment, you have to speak on this. Please be brief.

SHRI GRIDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the statement of objects and reasons in this Bill says that the Bill will help solving the disputes and bringing amity among the communities. But in my opinion, there will be adverse results. During the Muslim rule in our country, thousands of temples were demolished and mosques were built in their place. (*Interruptions*)

The same was done by the Muslim during the partition also, but the Hindu community has never lost its balance. No Hindu ever demolished a mosque.

[Sh. Gridhari Lal Bhargava]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the issue of Ram temple has been kept out of the jurisdiction of the Bill, but will any person belonging to Hindu community believe that Lord Krishna was born at Idgah near Agra? Three parts of the Vishwanath temple were demolished. The mosque that was constructed over it can be seen even today. What I mean to say is that the cases of temples where the demolition is clearly visible such as the birth place of Lord Krishna and the Vishwanath temple which was demolished by Aurangzeb and a mosque constructed there must be considered. These three places... (*Interruptions*)

Therefore, this will only increase the enmity between the Hindus and the Muslims and the objective of the Bill is actually not going to be fulfilled. The Congress has only adopted the policy of appeasement towards the Muslims. (*Interruptions*) The Government is playing with the feelings of crores of Hindus. Therefore, I would like to submit that in deference to the feelings of the Hindus and to stop the quarrel between the Hindus and the Muslims, this Bill should be withdrawn as there is no need for such a bill.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my submission is that none of the riots which took place in the country since 1947 was based on this issue... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I would request you please to allow him to speak. He has as much right as you have.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like the House to come out with an instance since 1947 where a riot has taken place in the name of a temple or a mosque. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: If you object, he will give a long speech.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Mr. Speaker, Sir my submission is that till now, no riot has taken place in the country in the name of demolishing a temple or a mosque. Therefore, there was no need to bring such a Bill. The riots have taken place due to other reasons. It should be seen what those reasons were. The Home Minister should tell about a single riot since 1947 which has taken place in the country in the name of demolishing a temple a mosque or a church. That is not the reason for the quarrel. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Now I am putting the Amendments to the Motion for Consideration, moved by Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava and Shri Madan Lal Khurana, together to the vote of the House.

The Amendments were put and negatived

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill to prohibit conversion of any place of worship and to provide for the maintenance of the religious character of any place of worship as it existed on the 15th day of August, 1947, and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted

MR. SPEAKER: Now, the House will take up Clause-by-Clause consideration of the Bill.

Clause 2

SHRI. S.B. CHAVN: I Beg to move:

*Page 1,—

(i) After line 9 insert —

'(a) "Commencement of this Act" means the commencement of this Act on the 11th day of July, 1991;".

(ii) line 10, —

for "(a) substitute "(b)

(iii) line 12, —

for "(b) 'Substitute "(c) (2)

SHRI KAMLA MISHRA MADHUKAR
(Motihari): I beg to move;

"Page 1, line 13,—

after "monastery" insert—

Malang-Sthan, Brahm-Sathan, Devi-Sahan"(9)

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer):
I beg to move: "Page 1, line 13,—

after "monastary" insert "Dargah" (25)

[*Translation*]

SHRI KAMLA MISHRA MADHUKAR (Motihario): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I fully support this Bill as well as the view expressed by our party leader on this Bill. Sir, I would like to move a short amendment in it. Hon. Minister of Home Affairs is requested to give a serious thought to it. There is a place named Malang in Bihar, Hindus and Muslims were claiming that the place belonged to them respectively. A Hindu-Muslim riot could be avoided with a great difficulty on this issue. After consulting the 'Vishwa Hindi Shabd Kosh', I found out the meaning of the word, 'Malang'. This word has its origin from the Sufi rsect of Islam. The names of certain saints appear in this sect, who led their lives almost like Fakirs. Thus the places are named

as 'Malang' after the names of saints and these places are found mainly in north Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. On those places both Hindus and Muslims offer their prayers even today but the word 'Malang' has not been included in this Bill. Like-wise, there is a Brahma-Asthan almost in each village, which is often established on some Gair-Mazarua land, so, the word 'Math' also must be inserted in the Bill so that the land of the Brahm-Asthans may not be encroached by any one. Thus, I think there is remote chance of any quarrel between Hindus and Muslims.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: I would like to speak on the clause.

MR. SPEAKER: You, sit down please.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put Amendment No. 2 moved by Shri S.B.Chavan to the vote of the House.

The question is :

"Page 1.

(i) after line 9 insert—

(a) "commencement of this Act" means the commencement of this Acct on the 11th day of July, 1991.

(ii) line 10—

for "(a) "Substitute" (b)"

(iii) line 12,—

for " (b) Substitute: (c)" (2)

The motion was Aadopted

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put Amendment Nos. 9 and 25 moved by Shri Kamla

Mishra Madhukar and Shri Rasa Singh Rawat respectively the vote of the House.

The Amendment No. 9 and 25 were put and negatived

MR. SPEAKER: Now I am putting Clause 2 as amended to the vote of the House.

The question is:

"That Clause 2, as amended, stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2, as amended was added to the Bill

Clause 3.

MR. SPEAKER: There are five amendments to Clause 3 to be moved by Shri Syed Shahabuddin, Shri E. Ahmed and Shri Sait. Are you moving your amendments.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Yes Sir, I beg to move:

Page 1, line 16, -

After "worship" insert

"Or any other part thereof," (11)

Page 1, line 19,-

add at the end -

"Or into a place of residence or work of for any other use or purpose"(12)

SHRI E. AHAMED: I beg to move:

Page 1, line 16,-

after "convert" insert "or alter" (32)

Page 1, line 16,-

after "worship" insert -

"or any part thereof" (33)

Page 1, line 19,-

add at the end -

"For any purpose other than that of a place of worship"(34)

[*Translation*]

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj): The amendment which has been moved by me has been discussed yesterday and today also. It appears from the wordings of clause 3 that a religious place belonging to a particular religion has been converted into another religious place belonging to some other religion. This sort of act will bound to be objected : But if any religious place is converted into a place of residence or shop, or a wine shop or a place to be used for any other purpose except religious purposes then there is no objection... You have just now passed the clause regarding conversion. It is written in that clause that :-

[*English*]

Conversion includes any alteration or change of whatever nature.

[*Translation*]

This clause should be made more comprehensive and specific by adding some words "or into a place of residence or work or for any other use or purpose", so that objections may also be raised on the conversion of such religious place into a place to be used for any other purpose other than the religious purpose. At present the clause allows the objection to be raised on the conversion of Mosque into temple and vice-versa. I think these words have been left unintentionally in the clause. It may be a

mistake of translation. I do not have any doubt on the intention of the Government, But I apprehend that the bureaucrats might not have imparted a proper and adequate advice to the Govt. That is why the clause could not be made specific, so the lacunæ must be removed by adding the words:-

[*English*]

or into a place of residence or work or for any other use or purpose.

[*Translation*]

These words should be inserted in the clause. Shri Inderajit had also suggested the same thing yesterday. And today also many of the hon. members have made their submissions on this line. Hence, I would like to request the hon. Minister to give his full consideration on my suggestion.

[*English*]

SHRI E. AHAMED: In view of what Shri Shahabuddin has already said, I do not want to make a speech. My only purpose is that the hon. Home Minister may kindly add at the end the words "for any purpose other than that of a place of worship". I say this because sometimes some sections belonging to a religious denomination might have used a part of the place of worship either for shops or for something else. Therefore, my contention is that these words "for any purpose other than that of a place of worship" be added. This type of conversion into shops or something other than places of worship should not be permitted.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: I would like to clarify the position with regard to the point raised by Shri Shahabuddin and Shri Ahamed. Shri Indrajit Gupta also stated that there were certain cases where religious places of worship have been used for other purposes. He mentioned that when some

people had gone across the border to Pakistan, certain places of worship had been converted into cow sheds or residential accomodation. The entire purpose of the Bill is to foreclose the places of worship being converted into places of worship of another religion. If for any other work they have been converted and if there is any dispute it will be decided according to Section IV (1).

MR. SPEAKER: Now, I shall put amendment numbers 11 and 12 to the vote of the House.

Amendments No. 11 and 12 were put and negatived

SHRI. E. AHAMAD (Manjeri): I seek leave of the House to withdraw my amendment 32, 33 and 34.

MR. SPEAKER: Has the hon-member taken leave of the House to withdraw his amendments.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes

The Amendment No. 32, 33 and 34 were by leave, withdrawn

MR. SPEAKER: Now, I shall put Clause 3 to the vote of the House.

The Question is:

"That Clause 3 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted

Clause 3 was added to the Bill

Clause 4

SHRISYED SHAHABUDDIN: Sir, I beg, to move that:

[Sh. Syed Shahabuddin]

for "It is hereby declared that the" substitute "The" (13)

Page 2, line 1,-

after 'religious' insert

"or denominational" (14)

Page 2, line 1,-

after "character" insert "or identity" (15)

Page 2,-

(i) for lines 4 to 10, substitute-

"(2) On the commencement of this Act, no suit or other proceeding seeking to alter or change the religious or denominational character or identity of a place of worship as existing of the 15th day of August, 1947 shall lie in court, tribunal or other authority."

Provided that if any suit, appeal or other proceeding instituted or filed on the ground that conversion has taken place in the religious character or identity of a place of worship before the 15th day of August, 1947 is pending on the commencement of this Act, such suit, appeal or other proceeding shall be disposed of in accordance with law as then in force.

(ii) line 11,-

after "Provided" insert "further" (16)

Page 2, line 15,-

Omit "Shall not so abate and every such suit appeal or other proceeding" (17)

Page 2,-

Omit lines 19 to 22 (18)

Page 2,-

omit lines 29 and 30,- (19)

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Sir, I beg to move that:

Page 2,-

(i) line 2,

for "15th day of August, 1947" substitute-

"26th day of January, 1990.

(ii) line 6,-

for "15th day of August, 1947"

substitute- "26th day of January, 1950"

(iii) line 14,-

for "15th day of August, 1947" substitute-

"26th day of January, 1950" (26)

Page 2,-

after line 35, insert-

"(f) any place of worship which has been deserted, rejected, dilapidated or otherwise remains without any title of ownership due to large scale exodus of population from India to Pakistan and vice-versa;

(g) any place of worship which has been converted into place of worship by another community and where worship by that par-

ticular community has constantly been going on and which is under the ownership of that community for the past 40 years; and

- (h) any place of worship which has been built on the land belonging to another community or disputed land allotted by the Rehabilitation Department after partition of India". (27)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Ahamed, your Amendments no. 35 and 36 are the same as 15 and 18 respectively which have already been moved. Are you moving Amendment number 37?

SHRI. E. AHAMED: No, Sir, I am not moving.

SHRI. SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Sir, permit me to explain it to the House.

MR. SPEAKER: As a matter of right you to not speak. For hours were allotted and it already took 8 hours.

SHRI. SYED SHAHABUDDIN: I did not open my mouth in the debate. Sir, the basic point that I wish to make is that I will not emphasise all my amendments. The basic thing I am saying is that the Bill makes a distinction between the events of conversion that have taken place before 15th August, 1947 and those which have taken place after 15th August, 1947. It rightly says that no suit shall lie in future based on a claim prior to 15th August, 1947. Everyone in this House has practically accepted this. But when a case is lingering, when a legal proceeding is pending in the case of those conversions which have taken place after 15th August, 1947 the Bill says that the legal proceeding shall continue and in the cases where the events have taken place before 15th August, 1947 it puts an arbitrary ban on it and says that the cases will abate.

I think this distinction goes against the spirit of the rule of law. It stifles legal proceeding without any reason whatsoever and, therefore, my submission is that cases which are pending, whether they relate to events prior or after, should be permitted to be decided in accordance with the law. That is the basic amendment that is contained in Amendment number 16 and 17. And the rest are its logical consequences.

[*Translation*]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, our country was divided into two nations— India and Pakistan— on the 15th August, 1947— the day India became independent. Lakhs of people came to India from Pakistan and lakhs of people went to Pakistan from India at that time making the situation of our country very odd. Such circumstance led to certain changes in the situation several places of worship belonging to a particular community. In the circumstances, I would like to suggest that it would be proper if a decision will be taken on the places of worship taking into account the situation prevailing on the day on which India became Republic i.e. the 26th Jan. 1950 because on this day we adopted our own Constitution.

18.00 hrs

[*English*]

SHRI. E. AHAMED: This Bill strengthens the secular character of our country and everybody, from all sections of the House, have welcomed it. Section 15(4)(1) is the most important Section.

It says: "It is hereby declared that the religious character of a place of worship existing on the 15th day of August, 1947 shall continue to be the same as it existed on that day."

[Sh. E. Ahamed]

My humble request to the hon. Home Minister is that after the words "*religious character*" the words "or identity" be added. It will be quite appropriate and it will only strengthen, more the secular character. There is absolutely nothing wrong in it.

SHRI. S.B. CHAVAN: Sir, the whole concept is that all cases pending on that particular date, that is, 15, August, 1947, shall abate. If we try to make a distinction between those cases which have been abated on 15 August, 1947 and those cases which have been pending as on 15 August, 1947, there will be an insidious distinction. That is why, I feel that there is hardly any justification for accepting this Amendment.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Sir...

MR. SPEAKER: No. I am not allowing a debate on it. Please take your seat.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: The question is not whether the case has already been abated. You are abating this, under this Bill and I am saying abatement in one case and continuance in the other, is arbitrary and wrong.

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put the Amendments number 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19 moved by Shri Shahabuddin Syed to the vote of the House.

Amendment Nos. 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 & 19 were put and negatived

SHRI. E. AHAMED: I am not...

MR. SPEAKER: You don't have to, because your Amendments number 35 and 36 are identical to that of Amendments number 15 and 18, which are already negatived.

I shall now put Amendments number 26 and 27 moved by Shri Rasa Singh Rawat to the vote of the House.

The Amendments Nos. 26 & 27 were put and negatived

MR. SPEAKER: The question is :

"That Clause 4 stands part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted

Clause 4 was added to the Bill

[*Translation*]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): I beg to move ,

Page 2,-

for clause 5 substitute

- "5. (1) That the dispute involving the place (s) of worship commonly known as Ram Janam Bhoomi-Babri Masjid shall be adjudicated by a special bench of the Supreme Court and the final judgement delivered within six months from the date of reference.
- (2) All suits, appeals and other proceedings, involving the place or places of worship commonly known as Ram Janam Bhoomi-Babri Masjid, pending before any court, tribunal or other authority shall be transferred to the special bench of the Supreme Court, in pursuance of sub-section (1) and no

other court shall have the right to entertain any suit, application, petition or appeal involving the adjudicated place.

(3) (a) The decision of the court shall be binding on all parties notwithstanding anything contained in any law for the time being in force.

(b) Defiance by any association or body or party or organisation or an individual of the decision of the Supreme Court shall make such association, body, party, organisation or individual liable or action under the National Security Act, 1980".

[*English*]

SHRI SHAHBUDDIN SYED (Kishanganj): I beg to move:

"Page 2, line 36,-

for "Ram Janma Bhumi-Babri Masjid" *substitute* -

"Babri Masjid, which is claimed to be Ram Janam Bhoomi" (20)

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay-North): I beg to move:

Page 2, line 37,-

after "Ayodhya" insert-

"and Krishna Janmabhumi situated in Mathura and Kashi Vishwanath situated in Varanasi."

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): I beg to move:

"Page 2,-

after line 38, insert-

"(2) Nothing contained in this Act, shall apply to,—

(i) the places of worship commonly known as Krishna Janma Bhumi in Mathura, Vishwanath temple in Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh and Somnath temple in Gujarat; and

(ii) such places of worship as have been converted by another community due to partition of the country and exchange of population from one country to another and if such places of worship have been so converted for the last 30 years or more. (28)

[*Translation*]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Sir, the Amendment I have moved here has some specific purpose. The largest controversy regarding place of worship which arose after 15th August, 1947 was due to conversion of a Mosque into a temple, and if we let the issue unnoticed, the very purpose of moving this Amendment Bill in the House is defeated and particularly in the circumstances when the Uttar Pradesh Government openly says that it has got the public mandate for constructing the temple on that controversial site. (*Interruptions*) There is a clear statement on this issue... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Confine yourself to the Amendment only and be brief.

SHRI. MOHAN SINGH: They say that no mosque existed there; they will definitely construct a temple there at any cost... (*Interruptions*) If we rely on the reports appealed today in the 'Jan-Satta', construc-

[Sh. Mohan Singh]

tion of the said temple has already started there. (*Interruptions*)

In such circumstances, if we let the issue unnoticed, the very objective of this Bill will be defeated. So, I would like to suggest that this entire issue of the Ram-Janam-Bhoomi-Babri Masjid may be entrusted to a constitutional bench of the Supreme Court and the Bench should deliver its decision within 6 months; The decision of the Court shall be binding on all. Only by doing so, we can achieve the purpose of this Bill.

I would like to conclude my submission with one more sentence. Our Gurujī, Shri Dixit for whom

I have a great regard, has just quoted:

**"JAKE PRIYE NA RAM VAIDEHI,
TAJIYE TAHI KOTI BAIRI SAM,
YADYAPI PARAM SANEHI"**

In this context, I would like to point out that he has left worshipping Vaidehi and started worshipping Shri Ram only; so I also left him. *Secondly... (Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: No, Mohan Singhji, do not indulge in such a long speech. Please take your seat. Shri Shahabuddin.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have put a simple Amendment as it is mentioned in this clause:

[*English*]

"The places or place of worship commonly known as Ram Janma Bhumi-Babri Masjid."

Now I want to tell you that in the affidavit filed in the court by the district magistrate on behalf of Uttar Pradesh Government the

disputed building has been mentioned as Babri Masjid. The affidavit also says that this building has always been known as Babri Masjid. I want to say that the appropriate words for that building were:

[*English*]

"Known as Babri Masjid, which is claimed to be Ram Janam Bhoomi".

[*Translation*]

These were the appropriate words and this is the objective of our brethren as well. They say that the Babri Masjid is the birth place of Ramchandra jee. That is why the words used in the Affidavit are different from the Government record. So my submission is that-

[*English*]

A correction should be made. It should be brought in line with the official record of the Government of Uttar Pradesh and the Government of India.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North): Mr. Speaker, Indians, particularly the devotee of Rama, have a particular attachment for Ram Janma Bhoomi. Similarly, the people of all religions have pious feeling for the temple of Kashi Vishwanath and Krishna Janmabhoomi that is why I say,...

[*English*]

"and Krishna Janmabhumi situated in Mathura and Kashi Vishwanath situated in Varanasi."

[*Translation*]

I want to say that as Ram janmabhumi

has been kept out of the purview of the bill, similarly Krishna Janmabhumi and Kashi Vishwanath temple must be kept out of its purview. With this intention I have moved my amendment and I want that the House should accept it.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Hon. Speaker, faith and belief can not be changed with the force of law. I have moved my amendment to this clause with this intention. Many of our brothers said in the House that BJP stands isolated on this issue. I will give an example. A tree was set on fire by mischievous person. Thousands of birds were sitting on it. A wise person like you, Mr. Speaker, who was passing by said to the birds—

"Aag Lagi Is Virksha Ko, Jalne Laage Paat,

Tum Kyon Jalte Pakshio, Pankh Tumharhe Saath."

The birds, who were as wise as our Advani jee replied:-

"Phal Khaye Is Virksh Ke, Gande Kine Paat,

Yehi Hamara Dharam Hai, Jalange Isike Saath."

India is a nation and our culture is its soul. The Lord Rama, Lord Sh. Krishna and the Lord Shiva of Kashi Vishwanath are the ideals of our culture. My amendment is that the birth place of Lord Sh. Krishna, Mathura and Kashi Vishwanath, Shivashankar's temple be kept out of the purview of the bill just as the Ram Janma Bhumi has been kept out.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now I shall put amendment No. 8 moved by Shri. Mohan Singh to the vote of the House.

Amendment No. 8 was put and negative

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put the Amendment No. 20 to Clause 5 to the vote of the House.

Amendment No. 20 was put and negatived

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put the Amendment no.22 to Clause 5 to the vote of the House.

Amendment No.22 was put and negatived

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put the Amendment no. 28 to Clause 5 to the vote of the House.

Amendment No. 28 was put and negatived

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That Clause 5 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted

Clause 5 was added to the Bill

Clause 6

SHRI KAMLA MISHRA MADHUKAR: I beg to move:

Page 2, lines 42 and 43,—

for "(2) Whoever attempts to commit any offence punishable under sub-section (1)"

Substitute—

"(2) Any offence punishable under sub-section

(1) shall be recognizable offence and whoever attempts to commit the offence"(10)

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: I beg to move:

Page 2, line 40,—

for "three" substitute "two" (29)

[*Translation*]

SHRI KAMLA MISHRA MADHUKAR (Motihari): Mr. Speaker, Sir the purpose of my amendment is to strengthen the bill which embodies your feelings. you have referred to the amendment in this clause. Those who violate this Law will be liable for punishment. I suggest that the Government must make it a cognisable offence and initiate action at there own-government must not depend on others so that the laws could be implemented properly. This is because you have heard the speeches in the House, which have challenging tone their own will. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, Sir, my amendment may please be accepted.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this bill as a whole and its all clauses make it a black law in the history of India. I am stating it because this bill was discussed in the House for eight hours. The atmosphere was tense during the debate on this Bill. So when this bill will be passed, the same atmosphere will be created in the whole country. (*Interruptions*)

The people of Congress, Janata Dal and leftist parties are playing the politics of power. My plea is that our country will remain a secular country so long as Hindus are in majority in this country. The day Hindus are reduced to minority, the country will cease to be a secular one (*Interruptions*)

This country will received. Today what is happening us Iraq and Iran? This is our mother land. I wish that my amendments should be accepted.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put the Amendment No. 10 to Clause 6 to the vote of the House.

Amendment No. 10 was put and Negatived

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put the Amendment No. 29 to Clause 6 to the vote of the House.

Amendment No.29 was put and negatived

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That Clause 6 stand part of the Bill"

*The motion was adopted
Clause 6 was added to the Bill*

Clauses 7 and 8 were added to the Bill

Clause 1

SHRI. S.B. CHAVAN: I beg to move:

Page 1, line 7,—
for "It shall be deemed",

Substitute: "The provisions of section 3,6 and 8

shall come into force at once and the remaining provisions of this Act shall be deemed" (1)

SHRI RAM NAIK: I beg to move:

Page 1, lines 5 and 6,—

Omit " except the State of Jammu and Kashmir:"(21)

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: I beg to move:

Page 1,-

Omit lines 7 and 8 (24)

SHRI RAM NAIK: I beg to move :

That in the amendment proposed by Shri. S..B.Chavan and printed as S. No. 1 in List No. 1 of Amendments,-

for "at once" substitute-
"from 1st January, 1992" (30)

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, my amendment is regarding omission of Jammu and Kashmir. My amendment is that the provision "except State of Jammu-Kashmir" should be omitted. I know that this clause is always included in the Acts. Yet, I have suggested the amendment because I want to know from the Government whether this house and the Government has the right to introduce a bill in this regard. When hundreds of temples have been destroyed in Jammu-Kashmir during last three or four years, despite the fact that there is no assembly in Jammu-Kashmir. Hence, bringing this amendment before the House, I want to know from the Government that if it has the constitutional right to introduce a bill for Jammu and Kashmir, whether it will introduce a bill regarding those temples also which have been destroyed in Jammu-Kashmir. I know that there are only 5-6 days for prorogation of the session. You will bring an ordinance in this regard and even then we are ready to support your ordinance. What does the Government want to do in this connection?

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: I too hold the same opinion. I agree with Shri Nayakjee and I would like to request that Jammu and Kashmir should also be included

in this bill because the situation which has arised in Jammu and Kashmir is very dangerous for the unity and integrity of the country. Whether Jammu-Kashmir is not an integral part of India? Similarly, Vishwanath temple of Kashi and and birth place of Lord Krishna in Mathura should also be included in this.

One thing I would like to say that the members belonging to ruling party and their allies must be feeling happy that the B.J.P. is left alone here. Genius is always emerges from among millions. There are many stars in the sky but the moon and sun alone can remove the darkness. One pestle becomes enough to deal with several grains in the mortar. Only one lion is enough among several animals in the forest.

[*English*]

SHRI. S.B.CHAVAN: Entry 28 of Seventh Schedule is still not applicable to Jammu and Kashmir. The claim is being made by some of the hon. Members that hundreds of Mandirs have been destroyed. My information is that there are no cases pending in any of the courts of law. So, this Bill when it is converted into another. (*Interruptions*). I think you have to listen what I have to say. You may or may not agree. But my point of view is for making applicable any of the enactments passed by this House, there is a special procedure laid down. Government has not still taken any decision on that.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is that Amendment No. 30 which is an amendment... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM ANIK: Amendment to amendment, I have to speak. I have not spoken. I have only spoken about Jammu and Kashmir.

MR. SPEAKER: I said that you speak on both of them.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM NAIK: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have put an amendment to the amendment brought by hon. Home Minister. It has been said in the original amendment that this bill should be enacted immediately. For this, I have given an amendment.

[*English*]

It should come from 1st January, 1992.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, When this bill was introduced in this House, you know that we raised an objection that we have not been given time to study it. That time the statement read:-

[*English*]

In view of the importance of the Bill very careful consideration and scrutiny of the draft was necessary. This delayed circulation of the Bill immediate introduction etc. etc.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in all there are 8 sections in this bill. It has been said that this draft has been prepared very carefully. If it is so then —

[*English*]

Within 5-7 days the Government comes to us and say that they want to amend four clauses.

[*Translation*]

Thus the specimen of the drafting a legal document he has presented here is unique in itself. It has been said in it that it will

come into force with effect from 11th July. You will find that.

[*English*]

If it were come like that

[*Translation*]

What is there in clause No. 3?

[*English*]

No person shall convert any place of worship of any religious denomination etc, etc.

[*Translation*]

It reads that this Act would have come into force with effect from 11th July. My objection is that you are not serious about it. It requires proper attention. Therefore, I told that time that this black bill is being brought in a haste. What has compelled you to amend it now? I have put up an amendment because Government should have drafted it properly. The House must be unanimous on this issue. So, I urge the House to support my amendment to amendment.

[*English*]

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: Sir, I would like to clarify. All other sections they are going to be applicable from 11 July, 1991.

But the punitive section cannot have a retrospective effect. That is why only that section will have prospective effect. That is the only purpose.

SHRI RAM NAIK: Why?

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: Do you want it to be retrospective?

SHRI RAM NAIK: But why did you not think about it when you brought this Bill? That is what I am asking.

MR. SPEAKER: I am now putting amendment No. 30 moved by Shri Ram Naik to the vote of the House.

Amendment No.30 was put and negatived

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put Government amendment No. 1 to the vote of the House. The question is:

Page 1, line 7,

for "It shall be deemed",

Substitute The provisions of sections 3,6 and 8

shall come into force at once and the remaining provisions of this Act shall be deemed." (1)

The motion was adopted

MR. SPEAKER: I now put amendment No. 21 moved by Shri Ram Naik to the vote of the House

Amendment No. 21 was put and negatived

MR. SPEAKER: Now I am putting amendment No. 24 moved by Shri. Rasa Singh Rawat to the vote of the House.

Amendment No. 24 was put and negatived

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put Clause 1, as amended, to the vote of the House, The question is:

"That clause 1, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted

Clause 1, as Amended, was added to the Bill

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Enacting Formula and the Long Title stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted

The Enacting Formula and long title were added to the Bill.

MR.SPEAKER: The Minister may now move that the Bill, as amended, be passed.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed".

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed".

[*Translation*]

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhi Nagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, although we thought that the discussion on this bill would be completed in four hours yet it took more than double the expected time. I regret that the bitterness was created during the discussion. In fact, it should not have been here. Both the sides should present their views and accept the decision of the House. But the topic was such that members' sentiments were attached to it. At times the members even get excited, emotionally.

I would not like to go into the details of this Bill. Most of my colleague have discussed its various aspects. My personal opinion is that there won't be any meaningful gain. But during the discussion it was also asked that why have we not done anything about Ayodhya or Rama Janam bhoomi

[Sh. Lal K. Advani]

while we were in the government which has now become a big issue and people are agitated over it throughout the country. I remember that in all the elections held since 1952, 10 general elections have been held to the Lok Sabha, I participated as a worker of BJP. But I remember it vividly that except the last two elections of 1989 and 1991, the issue of Ramjanam Bhoomi and Ayodhya never became an issue for the elections. (*Interruptions*) You may not agree to what I am going to say now, but sometime there must have been some reference...(*Interruptions*)... Mr. Speaker, Sir, I won't speak, I do not have any need to speak. But fact is that nobody has ever made any reference to it till 1984 elections. Neither Hindus nor Muslims nor any political party had ever said that Ayodhya problem, which has assumed bigger dimension, should be solved. When the Government took a decision in Shahbano case in 1985, there was a reaction throughout the country and later on Babri Action Committee was formed in 1986, because prior to that...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MOHAMMAD YUNUS SALEEM (Kathihar): First the lock was opened.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: If the lock was opened it was done by the Government...(*Interruptions*)**

MR. SPEAKER: No, Mr. Advani, please do not say like this.

[*English*]

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: I am sorry, I withdraw my words.

MR. SPEAKER: That will not form part of the record. Reference to the judge will not form part of the record. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: But the decision of opening the lock was delivered by the court and after that Babri Masjid Action Committee was formed, and there began efforts to change the secular reality - which was there since 1949 - that an idol was placed at the birth place of Rama and was worshipped daily. There was demand that the Babri Masjid should be returned to them. It was as a result of that that there was so much resentment, and anger and all these agitations in the country.

My submission is that if there is one norm for every citizen then secularism would come to stay permanent in India. But there are two norms or standards in the country which we have observed this morning in this very House. My friend from that side has said a wrong thing and I demanded that those words should be expunged. But I was observing that the rest of the whole House started making protests, as if anything wrong was said and efforts were made to justify the remark made from other side. I just said that if my party is getting support now a days through out the county that is because of the dual policy adopted by your people. You should not forget that my party his made more sacrifices than any other party to maintain the unity and integrity of the country.

We should not forget that there were leaders like Gandhi, Pandit Nehru and Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel. But in spite of their efforts the partition could not be prevented. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (Mayiladhuturai): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am on a point of order. When Shri Salahuddin Owaisi, M.P., mentioned the Ramjanam bhoomi-

**Expunged as ordered by the chair.

Babri Masjid issue, you had ruled him out of order saying that this Bill does not deal with that subject. I request you to repeat exactly the same ruling in respect of Shri Advani.

MR. SPEAKER: Let us understand, this is the stage when we are passing the entire Bill as such, and I am not upholding the point of order raised by him.

[*Translation*]

SHRILAL K. ADVANI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not know how much helpful this Bill would be but I certainly know that we are not solving those problems which are behind all the tension and we are passing this Bill to create tension at the places where it is not existing.

I and my party do not want to be associated in passing of this Bill. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your permission we walk out of the House.

(*At this stage, Shri Lal K. Advani and some other hon. Members left the House.*)

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRIDIGVIJAYASINGH (Rajgarh): Sir, this cannot be allowed. It is highly objectionable. Their conduct is highly objectionable. The Chair must take note of this (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Sir, it is disgusting. Their behaviour has always been disgusting (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats.

Now, what has been done by some

Members in the House is most reprehensible and I think the House would like to condemn it.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to say that the leader of the Opposition speaks in this House, he does so in a manner similar to that of Mahatma Gandhi as if his party is quite unprofessed, disciplined and the remaining people i.e., we people are indisciplined and any person who is in the Chair is unable to pass a remark.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to say that we should condemn the manner in which BJP functioned in the present session and lowered the dignity of the House. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I am not going to allow discussion on this point.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): Not discussion, but...

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You are a Minister. Please understand, you are not to work only one day in the House.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa): Not on this. As we are now going to pass the Bill just as a matter of...

MR. SPEAKER: On the Bill; I am not on the procedure on those things.

SHRI SAIFUDIN CHOUDHURY: No, no. I wish Shri Advani had been here. He

referred to the double standard that has been practised by some of the parties and the Ruling party. I tend to agree with that. He referred to the Shah Bano case. At that time, I remember many of us objected to the conduct of the Government. While the Government was trying to amend the law to change the verdict, I remember, at that time, We wanted the Government of that time to honour the court verdict and not to capital of to fundamentals. Advaniji's party also took the similar stand. Now you find the double standard. The party of Advaniji which at that time said, "We cannot do anything to change the court verdict" forgets what stand it took at that time. Now in the case of Ramjanam Bhoomi Babri Masjid issue, they openly say that they would not abide by the court verdict. This is the double standard. The people of this country must understand this double standard that BJP is adopting. They will be exposed:

I feel bad, they were not here while I am speaking; I wanted them to be here to understand what kind of double standard they practice. The people must expose them.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: I want to say about the Babri Masjid Action Committee...

MR. SPEAKER: At this stage of passing of the Bill, why it should be passed and why it should not be passed, that is the only question which is discussed.

Please understand, there are other Bills to be passed.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: The issue began in 1949 and not in 1986. It began

Shri Giridhari Lal Bhargava

not present

Shri Prem Kumar Dhumal

not present

because of the illegal occupation... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Still some Members from the BJP are peeping in.

MR. SPEAKER: If they want to come back into the House, they can come back.

Now the question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed".

The motion was adopted

18.42 hrs

CENTRAL EXCISES AND CUSTOMS
LAWS (AMENDMENT) BILL

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Now we take up the other Bill at Serial No. 8. The Minister may move the Bill for consideration.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESH-
WAR THAKUR): On behalf of Shri Manmo-
han Singh, I beg to move*:

"That the Bill further to amend the Central
Excises and Salt Act, 1944 and the
Customs Act, 1962, be taken into con-
sideration."

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved;

"That the Bill further to amend the Central
Excises and Salt Act, 1944 and the
Customs Act, 1962, be taken into con-
sideration"

Shri Kasi Ram Rana - not present

Shri D.P. Pal - not present

Shri Sriballav Panigrahi - not present

Shrimati Geetha Mukherjee.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura): Mr. Speaker, Sir, at this hour, I do not want to go into all this. I only want to make one complaint to you and then I want clarifications from Dr. Manmohan Singh.

The complaint is that Dr. Manmohan Singh assured on the floor of the House, he will be discussing with me about my proposals, which he did not. I would have brought a privilege motion against him but I refrain from bringing it. But he should answer all my points raised in my proposal.

As far as the clarification is concerned, I have no objection to the Bill.

The only point that I want to understand is what is the machinery to really implement this Bill because this is a very well-intentioned Bill. We have so many well-intentioned Bills without implementing machinery.

My query is what is the implementing machinery contemplated by the hon. Finance Minister. We would like to know this.

The Central Excise and Customs laws (Amendment) Bill, 1991 is being discussed now.

MR. SPEAKER: There is nobody to speak on this.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I called out the names and nobody was paying attention.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will repeat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Bhagwan Shankar Rawat can speak on this Bill now.

[Translation]

When I called your name, you were not present here. Anyway, you may speak now.

18.48 hrs.

[SHRI SHARAD DIGHE in the chair]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Central Excise and Customs Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1991 has been brought by the hon. Finance Minister. A discussion has been going on in India since long for realising the custom charges from the importers and producers and making refund of its claim. Whether they have any right or not. In fact the custom duty is paid in order to save the consumer from being exploit and on the goods being imported. Thereafter, they seek permission from the Government for its refund. In the meantime of customs duty etc. is paid by the importers and producers that is charged from the customers, when it is charged from the customers, the whole burden falls on the customers. When the Budget is presented by the Central Government, various taxes are imposed. When various taxes are levied, the importers and producers pay the customs duty and the excise duty. When Finance Appropriation Bill is brought, after the presentation of the Budget, most of the taxes are reduced. After this announcement refund of the amount which was paid as customs duty or excise duty is sought and people make higher claims.

But it takes a long time during which tax so imposed is realised from the consumers and it results in loss to consumers. So this wrong practice should be stopped as manu-

[Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat]

facturers or industrialists or importers corner all the profit. A handful persons control the amount of lakhs or crore of rupees of excise duty or custom duty. The customer has to suffer because he has to purchase things from the market daily. He has to purchase goods on the price fixed by the shopkeeper. According to this law a person who wants to take refund of the custom duty, excise duty or any other duty, deposited by him will have to prove that he has actually paid the excise duty etc. and he has not passed on the burden of the duty to the consumers and has not taken a single paisa from them. Only then he will be entitled to take refund. One who wants to take refund would have the responsibility to submit all relevant documents failing which the amount to be refunded would be distributed among the consumers.

This issue was raised during the regime of previous Government and the Public Accounts Committee had also gone into the question as to how the amount of crores of rupees taken refund by producers and importers which was earlier realised from consumers by them should be refunded to the consumers. This amount does not reach them. How it should reach them? A case came into light where in 1989, 105.56 crores rupees of excise duty and custom duty were refunded to some persons and public undertakings or to some other big institutions. That amount of millions of rupees was distributed among importers or manufacturers and when this issue came to light then Minister of Finance Shri Madhu Dhandavate had to give clarification. The public Accounts Committee clarified that the amount collected as customs duty from the manufacturers or importers or consumers should reach the genuine persons while refunding it. How this amount should reach the right people? What system should be evolved for this purpose? The Government has decided to set up Consumers Welfare Fund. It has been provided in this amendment that if there is any such amount whose major part has not been claimed or whose there is no claimant or

whose claimant has failed to submit relevant documents, then that unclaimed amount will be deposited in Consumers Welfare Fund. It will be used to benefit or to provide relief to the consumers. The Consumers Welfare Fund has been set up with this object in view.

Last time billions of rupees were recovered in the form of Central Excise and Customs duty which were distributed bad all knows the way it was distributed and misused. The officers were blamed of misappropriating the funds. So my demand is that there should be a proper inquiry regarding the money meant for the beneficiaries and whether they received it or not. I would like to know it from the hon. Finance Minister.

Secondly, some rebate and concession is given in various taxes before this Finance Bill is passed. I have got the information that Defence Ministry alone had to bear the loss of Rs. one crore as excise duty. On the one hand our Defence Ministry is going to make some cut in the budget, whereas there is a need of more budget for defence forces for the security of our borders and at the same time if heavy amount of money is being misused by few people and not being utilised properly it is detrimental to the interests of the country. I believe such people are traitors. Thus the bungling of Billions of rupees in the past should be scrutinised and the whole amount should be deposited in the consumer Welfare Fund which is being constituted, so that the consumer is benefited from the fund. Essential commodities are not available to the consumer in the market or he does not get other things. The Shopkeeper says that so and so tax has been levied, excise duty has been levied and they are charging money indiscriminately. Something in this regard should also be mentioned in the Bill clearly about the price and excise duty on a particular commodity so that the consumer is saved from such a big loot and if it is paid by the purchaser then the producer and importer should have no right to receive that amount. And in future when the Budget is passed it should be followed by passing of Appropriation Bill. Meanwhile, if there is bungling every year, I would request

the hon. Finance Minister to make certain additions and alterations while presenting the Appropriation Bill in the days to come. Most of the people would misuse the provisions of the budget presented by you. They will try to exploit these figures and earn through unfair means. Through efforts should be made to prevent such practices. If there is a deduction in the amount, the amount of savings realised from them should reach to the consumers, otherwise the money may be deposited in Consumer Welfare Fund by which the consumers would get some relief. Arrangements should be made to utilise this amount for providing consumer items to the consumers at cheaper rates and it may be used for the defence of the country.

With these words, I honour the sentiments which the Central Excise and Customs Law (Amendment) Bill, 1991 has been presented, but all the same I demand that it may be properly scrutinised. Because last time it was the rule of Janata Dal and prior to that Congress was in power and Late Rajiv Gandhi had stopped it. But after that there had been payment of Billions of rupees. It happened during the tenure of previous Government also. All these things may be enquired into and the money may be deposited in the Consumer Welfare Fund.

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support this Bill-the Central Excise and Customs Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1991.

But, I wonder why there has been such delay in bringing forward such a Bill till today. The Public Accounts Committee, as we understand, has been recommending such measures to be taken for the last more than two decades.

SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR (Durg): Better late than never.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: The Public Accounts Committee has been making such recommendations in its reports

since 1968-69. Therefore, there is no controversy about this Bill.

19.00 hrs

It should be passed unanimously. But, at the same time, I would request the hon. Finance Minister to have a fresh look at different laws of his Ministry and also come forward with corrective measures, as early as possible. When in some States, in the sales tax law, such clauses were there and they were plugged much earlier, then, how was it that the Government of India took such a long period to come to this conclusion that injustice is being done. Let us go to the very roots, so that those tax payees are taxed properly and they are not required to pay the tax in excess. Again, the question of refund will be coming. It also complicates the situation to some extent.

In our system, it is very difficult to find out sometimes, when such undue tax is realised from the common consumers. The buyers or the consumers are common consumers. The buyers or the consumers are the common people and they are quite at a large number, spread over the entire country. It is not paid back to them. When there are large or big customers, for instance, in the case of sale of a motor car, one can locate the purchaser - the customer - and it can be paid back to him, if anything is excess in payment. But, as I said, in respect of so many goods, where a large number of common people are the customers, they are not getting it back. By and large, ours is a country of poor people. Therefore, my submission to the Government, through you Sir, is: let them have a fresh look at it and let them evolve a system, so that minimum of the higher side or undue taxation is realised, because refund is really a complicated matter.

When there is such a difficulty to find out the exact consumer or consumers, then a new fund will have to be created - Consumer Welfare Fund. The rules, of course, will have to be framed afterwards. But, while framing the rules, they should be very careful about

[Sh. Sriballav Panigrahi]

it. In our system it is more misused than properly used. Certain amounts are collected from certain sections, from certain areas. But if there a specific procession is not provided then, a considerable amount from this fund will be spent somewhere else for benefit of certain types of other consumers. It should be avoided.

I will conclude after giving one more suggestion. Recently, when our hon. Prime Minister had visited Germany, while talking to various sections - even he had a meeting with the leading industrialists of Germany - there was a question put to him. It was said that in India you have liberalised so many things; you have gone for a liberal policy, industrial policy and all those other things; many restrictions have been lifted but, still the business community and the industrialists are required to do a lot of paper work, they have to submit so many returns and even the small traders are required to maintain records etc., naturally, this aspect should not be lost sight of.

Also, when the Parliament is in session, very often, we find our hon. Finance Minister or his Minister of State almost coming daily before the Parliament, to table some of the notifications, rules etc relating to his Ministry. It is a very complicated system. So many rules and regulations are there and also it will go on changing. Therefore, a fresh look should be given and efforts should be made to minimise these things and to simplify the procedure also for the benefit of small sections of people.

With these words, I support the Bill. As I said, this Bill is non-controversial and of course, it is intended to correct the situation which was prevailing since long.

MR. SPEAKER: Before I call upon the hon. Members to speak, I would like to inform them that it was decided in the meeting yesterday that items 8 and 9 will be taken up together for discussion because the same points would be made on both the Bills. So, if you agree.....

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dum Dum): Whoever may have suggested that these two Bills are of similar nature.....

MR. SPEAKER: It was not only suggested; but it was agreed upon.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Whoever may have agreed to this may not have been within their senses. These two Bills are of entirely different scope and type. So you can request us that we cut short our speeches. But please take up one after the other. For God's sake, don't tie them up together.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Yes, it is possible. That is a fact. Therefore Mr. Speaker, Sir, we may pass these bills in a minimum time permit. But suspect matter 2 both the bills in different.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: At least you don't repeat the same points while speaking on both the Bills.

AN HON. MEMBER: We will be brief.

MR. SPEAKER: Not only brief; but you will not repeat the points and speak relevance.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: We don't guarantee that!

MR. SPEAKER: You don't guarantee relevance!

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: This House has a tradition of not guaranteeing it!

MR. SPEAKER: Nirmal Kantiji, do you want to speak on this bill?

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: I wanted to speak; but we have another speaker. I will speaker afterwards.

MR. SPEAKER: Please don't decide the sequence sitting over there. Let me decide it.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Do you want us to surrender all our rights?

MR. SPEAKER: You have to; otherwise the House cannot run according to the sweet will of every Member.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Sir, it may surprise you that I will consume very little time of the House.

This unjust enrichment was there since 1970s. The Last Public Accounts Committee was chaired by Shri Santosh Mohan Dev. Almost all the ruling party members of the Public Accounts Committee of that time have been inducted into the Cabinet now. So they know it.

The issue was very simple. Why it was not decided earlier is because one supposes that there was a nexus among politicians, administrators and the manufacturers in terms of excise. The procedure was also very simple. For the manufacturer - I don't know whether to use the expression "in collusion" - the Assistant Collector will impose a duty which later is to be considered as a duty which is higher than normal. On that basis the manufacturer will add the price plus the duty and pass it on to others. After the lapse of some time, he will come back to the same Assistant Collector to claim a refund of the excess he has paid and this was normally granted.

This was considered to be unjust enrichment because the excise duty has been passed on to subsequent stages of circulation of that commodity. Why a decision could not be taken for such a long period in this regard is because so many finance Ministers have in the mean time come and gone. Shri Pranab Mukherjee was there; many Congress ministers were there; other ministers were also there. The nexus was very strong. Partly also - I don't know whether that also is a consequence of the nexus - the law Minis-

try was seldom unambiguous about its opinion. I think Shri Santosh Mohan Dev will agree with me.

The Public Accounts Committee was unanimous despite a little kind of bitterness that such a law is feasible and such a law should be there in our statute book. There is no difference of opinion on that. Therefore, is our full support on this. The only spanner I want to give is this. Chapter II-A says that there should be indication of the amount of duty in the price of goods, etc., for the purpose of refund and crediting certain amounts to the fund. The recommendation that a fund be there was partly due to the judicial pronouncements. It was also the Public Accounts Committee's view that since the ultimate bearer of the burden cannot be identified, therefore, it is wise to have a central fund for some good purpose.

Now this provision that he be asked to mention the part of excised duty which he is absorbing and the part which he is passing on is of an enormous nature. I will illustrate by simple arithmetic without going into any algebra. Suppose the excise duty - special excise duty or any other duty - is only five per cent. A very simple thing could be that he raises the price of the commodity itself by six per cent. And the excise duty after the rise of six per cent would be the amount. If the same five per cent goes, it will be approximately six per cent. Then, he will say that he is not passing on anything at all or only one per cent so that he will come back to claim the refund. This is the least that is involved in this provision about which I should warn the Finance Minister if it has escaped his notice or if he is too much trusting the manufacturer or his department. If it were not there, I am sure a good deal of Comptroller and Auditor General's report would not come at all. If the manufacturers and the Assistant Collectors were sure that nothing can go back to the manufacturers, such things should not be there at all. Henceforward, the only kind of cases that will flood the Excise Department would be short levy cases, not excess levy cases. There is no doubt about it. Short levy cases will be there. Because of

[Sh. Nirmal Kanti Chatterje]

short levy, he will try to claim and there will be adjustment. Because of short levy, there will be advantage and then there can be adjustment. I warn the Minister of State also who was in the Public Accounts Committee. He knows. I will just request him to reconsider whether this provision is a necessity in legal terms. If not, it is better to do away with this. With these words, I support this Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to make a submission on an issue which has been often discussed here. This issue is the bone of contention since 1986-87. When Shri Madhu Dandavate was the Finance Minister, this issue came up for discussion and it was stated that excise duty worth Rs. 1300 crore would be refunded to industrialists. The relief in excise duty does not reach the consumers. The amount is refunded to the companies but the benefit does not reach the consumers and that is why it is illegal transfer of money.

The Public Accounts Committee recommended introduction of a Bill to check this illegal transfer of money. Now according to this Bill the money would be returned only in case the company has not charged from the consumer or the retailer. Many writ petitions against this system are pending in the Supreme Court. An amount of about Rs. 88 crore 43 lakh has been refunded from April to June this year but the number of those who have been refunded money voluntarily and those under Court's orders is still not clear. From 1986-87 to 1989-90 about Rs. 1018 crore 89 lakhs have been refunded. There is a provision in clause 11 of the Excise Act that if a wrong figure has been filed, the amount would be refunded to the consumer. This figure comes to about Rs. 300 crore and any such cases are pending with the Supreme Court. All right we agree that a Consumer Protection Fund would be set up and it would take care of the welfare of consumers, but the Bill is not clear as to how the Fund would

be created and how it would benefit the consumers. The hon. Minister deserves congratulations for bringing forward a Bill which was pending since 1986-87 but so far it is not clear as to how it would benefit the consumers in general. The definition of Consumer is very wide. How would the common consumer be benefited through this measure? The hon. Finance Minister should bear this in mind while replying to the Debate. I mean to say how much would be credited to this Consumer Protection Fund since Shri Madhu Dandavate has put a ban on it. The hon. Minister should categorically state while replying to the Debate as to how the funds would be utilized.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had also given notice for an amendment but it was not allowed as my name did not catch your eye. My aim was not to move the amendment but to express my views and happiness in welcoming this Bill. The idea was mooted by the ousted Janata Dal Government and this Bill has been brought forward in that context. Besides, can we not find a method through which the consumer is not forced to bear the burden of extra taxation. If they have to pay the excise duty, that should be deposited in the Consumer Protection Fund or some thing of this sort should be evolved. But how it would be done or how would the funds be utilized, is not clear in the Bill. The manufacturers and producers' self interest was involved in getting the refund of the money and that is why they fought the cases in High Court and the Supreme Court. Do you think the Consumer too would be capable enough to fight cases to get refund of his money. The Bill seeks to make some arrangements to look into such cases through the Divisional Assistant Collectors. But the problem is that these officers are already overburdened with work and they are not able to cope up with their own work. It is difficult to say at this stage whether they would be able to execute the scheme properly. I would like to know the way in which cases of dispute between the manufacturers and the Custom and Central Excise Department regarding the classification of products and their price would be

dealt. The details about legal and technical procedures to be followed have not been laid down anywhere. Therefore my suggestion is that efforts should be made to ensure that the consumer does not pay extra duty under any circumstance. If this cannot be done then a simple procedure must be found out to enable him to get refund of his money through the Consumer Protection Fund. Besides provision must be made so that the consumer is benefited through this Bill. It would be better if the Parliamentary Consultative Committee attached to your Department deliberates on this Bill and constitutes a sub-committee to evolve a simple procedure which could benefit the consumers and then bring forward a comprehensive Bill to this effect. I think it would prove to be more effective. With this suggestion I welcome the Bill and thank the hon. Minister for it.

[English]

SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH (Eluru):

The hon. Finance Minister has introduced a Bill on the Central Excise and Salt Act, 1944. The principle underlying the Bill is very good but certain problems may arise while implementing the provisions.

The concept of undue enrichment naturally appears glaring on the face, in respect of indirect taxes like Customs, Excise and Sales Tax, but the actual tax payer, viz. the manufacturer, the importer or the trader as the case may be will understand the confusion more practically than the persons who try to make politics out of small issues and situations.

Every tax statute does carry a provision for making good the short collection or refunding the excess collection which is a fundamental ingredient of a tax law for the reason that any imposition of tax is bound to result in disputes which would either enhance or reduce the duty liability than the one that is levied and paid at the actual payment of tax. In other words, a tax statute without the mechanism for realisation of the short collection or refunding the excess collection would make the act itself lifeless and ineffective.

Indirect taxation does not mean payment of tax by the consumer himself. The fact that the gross price includes the element of taxes does not necessarily mean that the entire tax has been paid by the consumer since the manufacturer might also have sold the product at a loss by not covering even the cost of production and taxes. In such cases, a part of the tax already paid to the revenue is borne by the manufacturer himself and all the tax is not paid or incurred by the consumer.

It is wrong to presume that every trader necessarily sells all his goods for profit only as the concept of cost of production should be treated as the sum total of the cost of raw materials, the cost of operation and tax which nevertheless is covered in many cases. In respect of the goods sold by the public sector and some private sector units, it is more evident as they consistently incur losses and the sale price is less than cost of production.

Now, as per this amendment, it becomes necessary as the central excise carried an existing condition that the refund claim should be filled within a period of so many months with the full details of the proving the particulars that the burden of excess duty paid by the manufacturer has been passed on to the consumer or not. It is just impossible in its practicality to pass on the proportionate benefit to the actual consumer because for most of the consumable items, the actual consumer cannot be identified or the actual consumer cannot be the same person who has initially paid and the department has no mechanism to ensure such distribution. Hence the allegation of undue enrichment is not sustainable with success as it causes complex problems to the manufacturer. Government has to find out a mechanism to meet the problems that may arise while implementing the provisions.

With regard to introduction of new Section 11D and the modifications to the present Section 11C of the Central Excise Act, I must submit that it will add to the manufacturers' existing problems. Since the amendment to Section 11C is interlinked with the amendment to Section 11B, similar problems will

[Sh. Bolla Bulli Ramaiah]

arise in practical implementation.

That is the reason why, it is a very well established thing to put it in a separate clause, such as a welfare fund. But the problems that will arise while implementing it should be properly taken care of by the Finance Ministry. I hope he will look into all these aspects and consider all the problems that may arise at the time of actual implementation.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani): Sir, I would like to draw the hon. Finance Minister's attention towards some points. One point is regarding irregularities in the collection of customs duty. Last year when I visited Jeddah in Saudi Arabia, I came to know that a number of 'Hajis' living there were unaware that their name were being used to smuggle goods into India. This is a regular feature. The staff at the Indian consulate show their helplessness because according to them, no action is taken on information sent by them to Bombay. This means that some officials of the Customs Department work in connivance with the smugglers. I too belong to an area that lies on the country's border. Large-scale smuggling takes place in Raxaul, Madhwapur, Jayanagar and Dheodha. When we launch an agitation to check this practices, those who bring such goods in small quantities for their own use are apprehended whereas the big-time smugglers who can give bribes go scot-free. No action is taken against the latter. The Customs department is responsible for this. So I request the Government to take stringent measures in this direction.

Secondly, people should know where the goods which come by air are available so that they avoid clandestine methods to get such goods. The Excise Act of 1944 which was framed by the British Government has not been changed till now. The Cr. P.C. was changed in 1974 and a number of other laws were changed but this was not changed. For

example the Salt Excise Act. Mahatma Gandhi launched the Salt Satyagraha in protest against the salt tax laws. The Bill before us is an amendment to that Act. Can't we make salt tax-free? It is not a big thing but a question of national sentiment and it is also a question of basic necessity of the people. It is not a major source of income for the public exchequer. Salt item should be deleted from this Act with a view to provide relief to the people. We should do everything possible to contribute to the national movement launched by Mahatma Gandhi.

There is another important matter regarding excise duty. Crores of rupees are due as tax arrears and no concerted step is being taken to recover the arrears. Some cases are pending in courts, barring a few people among the defaulters, all black-marketers. The Government is so handicapped that it cannot recover these arrears. Every year, new taxes are introduced. We are facing an economic crisis because crores of rupees due to the Government are lying with the tax-evaders. Therefore, I request the Government that a Bill should be brought in the current session and if necessary an Ordinance be issued to recover the arrears of taxes over the last 2-3 years. So that tax-evaders may realise that the law/Act has some force behind it and the Government also can do something against the defaulters. So the laws should be strictly followed. This impression should not be there that laws are meant for the poor only and there is nothing for the affluent and the tax-evaders.

With these words, I conclude.

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota): Sir, this matter has been pending since 1968. It has been taken up for discussion time and again but no action has been taken by any Government. In the last session, an allegation was levelled directly against the former Finance Minister, Shri Dandavate even though he was not present in the House. Later, he refuted the allegation and presented the whole matter before the Public Accounts Committee. In its assessment the Public Accounts Committee. In its assess-

ment the Public Accounts Committee had severely criticised Revenue Officials and the Revenue Secretary... *... Now this Government has woken up to this fact and proposes to take some positive steps... (*Interruptions*)...

MR. SPEAKER: Names of officials should not be mentioned.

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI: The Public Accounts Committee has alleged that the former Finance Minister kept the matter pending for eight months and did not take any effective action. I request the hon. Finance Minister to look into the recommendations of the Public Accounts Committee and the charges made by it against various officials. This law which is in force since 1968 has some lacunae which need to be removed. Consumers in India are a harassed lot and there is no protection for them. Today, the hon. Minister said that a fund would be created but to what extent will this fund be able to provide relief. I think everyone is aware of the amount of expenditure incurred by each department. Excise duty evasion has become common these days. Big industrialists regularly evade excise duty. When the Government takes stringent action to recover excise duty dues, the people go to court. Many such cases are pending in the Supreme Court for a long time.

Sir, while bringing the Bill, the hon. Minister may please take stock of the number of the number of cases relating to his department pending in the Supreme Court. I regret to say that I have evidence to prove that lawyers of the Government cannot match lawyers like Palkiwalas etc. of rich people... (*Interruptions*) Even today, there are cases pending in the courts for the number of years.

I request the hon. Minister to turn his attention to the corruption in his department. Steps must be taken to provide relief to the consumer.

[*English*]

SHRI M. RAMANNA RAI (Kasargod): Sir, I rise to support the Bill. The aspect regarding unjust enrichment was discussed sufficiently in the Ninth Lok Sabha also. On the basis of the discussion, rightly the Public Accounts Committee come to the conclusion that some loopholes are there and they should be plugged.

This Bill, I presume, is to that effect. Of course, nobody should be allowed to make unjust benefit or nobody should be allowed to exploit the poor people; that is there. But the question is how to remedy it.

As per this Act, a consumer's welfare fund is to be established because all the money that is otherwise going to big people, coffers should be diverted to this fund. Now, my doubt is How this fund - though the name is a consumer's welfare fund - is going to the real benefit of the consumers? May be in rules that are going to be framed, this thing will be made clear. Anyhow, I believe, the Government, while framing the rules, will make the necessary arrangements. So, without going into the details regarding demerits and merits of this Section, I support the Bill.

[*Translation*]

PROF. PREMDHUMAL (Hamirpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I support the spirit behind the Central Excise and Customs Duty (Amendment) Bill 1991. I was listening to earlier speakers with rapt attention. After going through the objectives of the Bill I would like to point out to the hon. Minister of Finance, that the provisions of Bill should be treated as a temporary measure just as the present Budget is meant for a few months only. The hon. Minister of Finance must go into the genesis of the report of PAC on unjust enrichment. What is unjust enrichment? As long as the Government does not know the necessity of excise refund, the consumers cannot be benefited by the provision of the Bill. Therefore, I request the Government to

[Prof. Prem Dhuma]

simplify the procedure of central excise duty.

I would like to cite an example. Once excise duty rates were revised by 15 per cent. Many small manufactures could not understand for days the implications of revision of excise duty by 15 per cent and continued to know at the doors of chartered accountants for full knowledge of the revision of excise duty by 15 per cent.

Sir, if the old slabs of excise duty are examined afresh, then it will be found that the basic policy of excise duty is wrong. I urge the Government to conduct a study before the presentation of next Budget. If the procedure is simplified then the question of refund will not, at all, arise and the consumers will directly get the benefits. I do not know the criteria the Government would like to follow while constituting a Consumer Welfare Fund. Committee headed by Shri Santosh Mohan Dev did a good job by detecting scandals, but the solution sorted out to benefit the consumers will not be fully successful. It will get entangled in red-tapsim. Till the money remains in the coffers of the Government, it won't unjustly enrich anyone, but the Central Government. Therefore, I urge the hon. Minister of Finance, who takes interest in such matters, to conduct a comprehensive study on the subject. As per existing rates of excise duty small manufacturers are not in a position to maintain records of excise duty and when the time to levy excise duty comes, the small entrepreneurs bifurcate their units. Units are multiplied but the production does not increase. The Government is no way benefited by this.

Sir, the Government must take note of the high rise in the rates of raw materials. The Government will definitely admit that there has been a steep rise in the rates of raw materials after the presentation of this Budget, but there has been no revision in the limits of excise duty by the Government. Evasion of excise duty will again start. Because of the complicated and confused rates, the benefits will not really pass on to the consumers.

In the name of benefits the consumers' unjust enrichment' is being withdrawn from the manufactures, but is not being passed on to the consumers and is being pocketed by the Government. Till the rules are simplified and reframed how will the benefits trickle down to the consumers?

Suppose that today I buy a commodity in the market at the enhanced excise duty rates and after that the manufacturer is not refunded the enhanced excise duty.

[English]

How do that amount reach me as a consumer?

It will never. Therefore, I suggest that there is a need basically for changing the rates and the slabs of central excise duty so that they become simple and directly the consumer gets the things at cheaper rate at the time of buying. It cannot be given to him after you create a fund for that and then find out who was the man, who has paid much more than what he should have and then start refunding. This is not going to help.

[Translation]

I again appeal that till the basic central excise duty rates are revised, the consumers are not going to be benefited. The Government must revise the slabs of units for increasing revenue from excise duty from the industry. The Government may revise these for one year on an experimental basis. Exemption from excise duty can be given for 5 per cent or 10 per cent production and after that excise duty at the rate 15 per cent may be levied on total output if it exceeds the exemption limit. Earlier the raw materials were available at Rs. 30 per kilogram. Cost of raw materials has since increased. As such the entrepreneur will be constrained to multiply his units. On the one hand the Government wants to check 'unjust enrichment' on the other hand, it would suffer losses due to multiplication of units.

Therefore, I suggest that if central ex-

cise duty rates are reduced and excise procedure is simplified by the Government, then there will be no need to bring forward any further legislations on the subject.

With these words I appreciate the intentions of the Government with which it has brought forward this Bill for the benefit of the consumers. Once again I request the Government to reduce the central excise duty rates.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not want to make a speech. I would just convey my thanks to the Finance Ministry and to the Law Ministry... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You are as well responsible for it.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: When the report was submitted, there was a doubt whether it will come into existence. Our guidance and request was that within six months, this should be done. Sir, now this has been done within six months.

I congratulate the Finance Ministry and the Law Ministry for the action they have taken in this regard.

MR. SPEAKER: You are congratulating yourselves.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): Honourable Speaker, Sir, we are really grateful to the hon. Members who have participated in the debate and have made a number of valuable and constructive suggestions.

Sir, almost all participants have appreciated the contents of this Bill broadly and also the stand of the Finance Minister for having brought this Bill in fulfillment of the commitment made by the Finance Minister in his speech as well as our commitment to the suggestion made by the Public Accounts

Committee in their report to bring this Bill within six months.

Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee appreciated the contents of the Bill and she enquired about the machinery to implement this Bill. We assure the hon. Member that, in the existing organisation, in the Department of Customs and Excise, we will take a special care by framing the rules particularly for the Consumer Welfare Fund and shall ensure that there will be no difficulty in regard to the implementation of the provisions of this Bill. We will try our best to implement the contents of the Bill in letter and spirit. We will also see that no harassment is there to any consumer or any producer or anybody who will be effected by the provisions of this Bill.

Some Members have made very valuable suggestions that we should simplify and rationalise the provisions of the Bill. The hon. Finance Minister has said that along with the policy to make structural changes in the economic policy, industrial policy and the trade policy, efforts are now on way to make substantial change in the direct and indirect tax laws which include customs and excise laws, to simplify them.

It was rightly pointed out by Bhogendra Jhaji that we have got the name of Custom and Salt Act. Certainly it is not befitting and we will take care of the suggestions made about the name and also about the contents of the law and shall try to make them as simple as possible, as rational as possible so that the disputes are minimized and those who are effected - the manufacturers, importers, consumers as well as the assessing officers - have no difficulty in implementing the law in future.

There was a general point in regard to the complication that we get by issuing notification every month, every week and sometimes daily. I would like to assure the hon. Members that as per the decision of the Finance Minister and our Ministry, now there is no such system of issuing notifications every day, every week or even every month. The decision is primarily to have notifica-

[Sh. Rameshwar Thakur]

tions to give effect to the provisions of the Budget and may be in very important and urgent cases some notifications may be there - may be half-yearly but very rarely, but no regular notifications will be there.

Shri Rasa Singh Rawat: has been good enough to ask about various aspects. To day in his own words:-

[Translation]

He says that it could be certified that tax had not been recovered from the buyer. Now let me deal with the term 'buyer' which has been provided in the Bill. This Bill provides that the producer will have to evaluate the actual cost of production, the sale price and the tax to be paid. All these details will have to be furnished to the Government and then the Tax department will calculate the tax to be paid by the producer. In order to avoid that the producer does not grab the tax amount, he will be asked to deposit the same with the department in advance. Now we will treat the claim submitted by the producer as final without sending it for adjudication. The money deposited by the producer is actually not the money which was collected from the consumers. In this case, the money deposited by the producer will be refunded to him. Now the tax amount which the producer will collect from the consumers would be deposited by the producer will be refunded to him. Now the tax amount which the producer will collect from the consumers would be deposited in the Consumer Welfare Fund. While framing rules for the fund, various suggestions that have been made by the hon. Members would be considered. At the same time, it would be seen whether the duty collected from the consumers could be refunded to them. If this scheme does not prove practical, the Government would enact laws which would prove beneficial to the consumers. It has been asked as to why the amount that was collected earlier has not been transferred to the Consumer Welfare Fund. This happened earlier because the

law to this effect has not been enacted. That is why the Public Accounts Committee recommended for enacting a law. The Government will strictly follow this law to utilise the extra that was collected in a wrong manner. But there is no provision to utilise the money which has already been collected. Efforts will be made to implement the scheme with retrospective effect. We will make all endeavours to ensure that the above amount is also deposited in the Consumer Welfare Fund. Shri Chatterjee said that

[English]

nexus between the manufacturers as well as the collecting authorities and so on. He is a very knowledgeable person. We have already appreciated his contributions to the PAC and in fact it was one of his suggestions about the Consumers Welfare Fund which we have established. But the question is that there may be some weakness in the system. But, so far, we have got a very bright and good officer, may be some weaknesses are there, We will try our best to ensure that the taxes which are due are paid to the Government, refund should go to the consumers refunds which can not be given to the consumers, will go to this fund. These efforts will be made. As regards his clarifications, we will take care as has already been explained under Sections 11. They will have to explain what is the price, what is the duty and, therefore, there will be no difficulty and as you said they will be merged together. They will have to explain it because it has to be approved by the Department in advance.

Similarly, there were other successions. Let me assure the hon. Members that their suggestions will be duly considered and we will take full advantage of their suggestions. We are grateful to them for their whole-hearted support to our Bill and this Bill will be a historic Bill.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is: "That the Bill further to amend the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944 and the Customs Act, 1962, be taken into consideration".

The Motion was adopted

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The House will now take up Clause by Clause consideration of the Bill. There are no amendments. The question is:

MR. SPEAKER: Whether the Bill should be passed or not, I would like to congratulate Mr. Dev and the Ministers in the Finance Ministry and the Members of the Committee for making a good recommendation, and not only making a good recommendation but turning it into a law also.

"That Clauses 2 to 15 stand part of the Bill"

The Motion was adopted

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: My request is that let this be the turning point.

Clause 2 to 15 were added to the Bill

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 1, the enacting formula and the long title stand part of the Bill".

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to submit that the hon. Minister made an announcement that Consumer's Welfare Fund would be constituted. However, it has not been made clear as to when it would be constituted. Will it remain as an announcement only or a particular time will be fixed during which the said Welfare Fund would be constituted?

The Motion was adopted

Clause 1, the Enacting formula, and the Long title were added to the Bill"

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister may now move that the Bill be passed.

SHRI. RAMESHWAR THAKUR: Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed"

SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, immediately after this Bill is passed, announcement in regard to setting up of Consumer Welfare Fund would be made. In fact, the proposal to constitute the fund is being accepted legally along with the Bill and there would be no delay in it. It will be implemented properly. I express my gratitude to the Chairman and the members of the Public Accounts Committee who have done a commendable work.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed".

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dum Dum): Sir, just one clarification I want to ask. This is one of the rare occasion when the recommendations of the PAC have been heeded to by the Government. One of the difficulties that we discussed in the PAC is that more often than not the recommendations of the PAC do not reach the political path of the execution. I draw your attention in particular to this witness of the functioning of the Parliament itself that... *(Interruptions)*.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed.."

The Motion was adopted

MR. SPEAKER: I have to bring to your notice that at this stage this thing is not discussed.

REMITTANCES OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE
AND INVESTMENT IN FOREIGN EX-
CHANGE BONDS (IMMUNITIES AND
EXEMPTIONS) BILL

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now we shall take up item No. 9. The Minister may move that the Bill be taken into consideration...

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH): Sir, I beg to move.*

"That the Bill to provide for certain immunities to persons receiving remittances in foreign exchange and to persons owning the Foreign Exchange Bonds and for certain exemptions from direct taxes in relation to such remittances and bonds and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Sir, I have to make a submission at this stage. The other Bill is much more controversial and there has to be a debate on that. At this late hour, it cannot be taken up. We have helped you in passing the earlier Bill...(Interruptions). It is just not possible, Sir...

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): This is not fair, Sir. We have decided in the leaders' meeting in the morning that the Bills will be passed. So, we decide something in the meeting and do something inside the House.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: We never knew that the Place of Worship Bill will take so much time ...(Interruptions).

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: We have been worshipping since yesterday morning...(Interruptions).

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: It is already eight o'clock, Sir.

[Translation]

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: We will provide meals to you here.

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: This is not fair, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: We would not have pressed for discussing and passing of this Bill but for the fact that tomorrow the Finance Bill is to be taken up and there are other Bills also. The difficulty is that if we do not pass the Bills here and if they do not go to Rajya Sabha, then it is not possible to extend the House also. In view of all that, we know that very sincerely some of the Members have been sitting in the House since morning itself. But you know sometimes we shall have to put in more efforts to express our views and to pinpoint what has to be done. So, in view of this and in view of the fact that there was agreement that we should pass this Bill, I am doing it.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: I will rather suggest that this Bill which is closely connected with the Budget Speech - the Excise and Customs Bill was on an entirely different footing - should be taken up along with the Finance Bill, rather than this being discussed now, because this is one more amnesty scheme in terms of foreign exchange. There is an amnesty scheme otherwise provided for in the Finance Bill. Therefore, I suggest that these two be taken up together tomorrow and that is much better than spending two hours today here.

MR. SPEAKER: If you agree that this Bill as well as the Finance Bill can be taken up together...

(Interruptions)

AN HON. MEMBER: They are two separate Bills, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: I can either go by the agreement which is arrived at in the meeting or I can go by the agreement which can be arrived at in the House or you shall have to go by what I say. You shall have to choose one of the three things.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: They are separate Bills but can be discussed together.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You are saying; but others are not agreeing.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: We move that this should be discussed tomorrow. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack): The two Bills will be moved separately. But the discussion and subsequent voting can be taken up together. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Let us understand that if we agreed on certain things, we agreed because of the difficulties. If we do not stick to it, then it becomes very difficult. We have change the entire programme afterwards.

(Interruptions)

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH (Rajgarh): No Sir. it has to be passed today at any cost.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: If these are taken together, we are unable to agree with that. Whoever it may be it is preposterous to make these Bills to be discussed together. On the other hand...

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not pass judgements on others. The same thing can be said about your suggestion also.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: No, it cannot be. That is what I am trying to argue.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: No, no please. Let us not pass any judgement on others. Let us consider. Let us start the discussion and then we will see.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: It is not possible *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: This was agreed to.

SHRI. GULAM NABI AZAD: Something was agreed in the meeting and then you disagree with it. It is not correct. Either you should not have agreed. *(Interruptions)*

It was decided that even if it were to be one-o'clock in the midnight it will be passed. It was you who pursued that the Worship Bill should not be passed yesterday and today we will pass it. You agreed that we will pass these two bills today. Whenever you want to speak, you want to linger on the House and whenever it comes to Government business, you want to go home. I am sorry. This is not correct. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:
"That the Bill to provide for certain immunities to persons receiving remittances in foreign exchange and to persons owning the Foreign Exchange Bonds and for certain exemptions from direct taxes in relation to such remittances and bonds and for matters connected therewith or incidental there to, be taken into consideration."

Shri Mohan Singh...

(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Sir, I beg to move

"That the Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by the 6th December, 1991". (1)

SHRI GIRDHARILAL BHARGAVA
(Jaipur): Sir, I beg to move

"That the Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by the 12th December, 1991". (2)

[*Translation*]

SHRI BHARGAWAN SHANKAR RAWAT (Agra): Sir, I beg to move.

"That the Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by the 18th December, 1991". (5)

[*English*]

SHRI SRIKANT JENA (Cuttack): Sir, we may not pass it today. Tomorrow, we can pass it.

MR. SPEAKER: Please. Let us discuss it.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: What amnesty you are going to get? Are you getting something from foreign? (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER; Shri Hannan Mollah. if you want some more time, let Shri Rawat speak. Either you speak or sit down.

(*Interruptions*)

AN HON. MEMBER: We can sit for another half-an-hour.

MR. SPEAKER : We will see. Now Shri Rawat.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT (Agra): Sir, the declared objectives of the *Remittances of Foreign Exchange And Investment in Foreign Exchange Bond (Immunities And Exemptions) Bill* are appeared to me as an illusion. Of course, it is correct that

the country needs foreign exchange. It is assented to earn foreign exchange but the efforts and means to get it should be lawful and reasonable. If it is not kept in mind the faith of the crores of people, who believe in the sanctity of law, will be shattered into pieces. Though this Bill looks very purposeful and we also hope that we will have foreign exchange in abundance too yet we will not be able to resolve our economic crisis. Therefore I would like to say that through this Bill the economy of the country is being disrupted. According to the provisions of this Bill any foreigner can send money to anybody in this country, whether this money is earned by legal or illegal means. The Government will not be able to ask the recipient of the money how it has been earned, how it has been received by him. In this connection, no investigation and enquiry can be made against the recipient of the money. With due regard, it allegation against this Bill that this provision will not fulfill the real objective of the non-resident Indians who wish to send foreign exchange to India to provide strength to Indian economy.

Since 1947, the money earned by the politicians, multinationals and their agents, whether it be earned through illegal means i.e. commission in Defence deals including Bofors guns etc. has been deposited in Swiss Banks or other foreign banks. This is a way to legalise that amount which has been earned by those persons. The main lacuna of this Act is that, there can be a legal enquiry till date against those who have been depositing illegal money in Swiss banks. We are adopting the same process in the case of Bofors as well, but the money which will come as a gift, cannot be now challenged for its legality and no enquiry can be made against it. Even the senders, name can not be asked. Therefore, it is a great scandle and it is an attempt being made by some vested interests to convert their black money into white money.

Secondly, I want to say that the moving of this Bill in Parliament has stopped the incoming of foreign exchange. Today, the people do not want to bring foreign ex-

change to India Because of so many taxes etc. Now they know that it is going to be free hand. besides, after taking 40% of black money for the purpose of National Housing Bank the rest 60% has been permitted to be converted into white money, but today the situation is that the inflow in that scheme is decreasing. Its inflow will come down because in foreign countries they take 20 per cent of the amount and the rest amount they return to the individual in foreign exchange. A very big racket is going on in the world on a large scale. This business is also running in the Arab countries as well as in the western countries Indian capitalists take their money there and get their black money converted into white money. In spite of these things, it is being hoped that the day this Bill is passed, they will bring this money back. Therefore, after paying 20 per cent discount on the amount in foreign countries, instead of 40 per cent here, their money will come back here after being converted into white money and they will get respect as well. The Indian Finance Minister will be full of appreciation of them, he will welcome them for bringing foreign exchange to our country. I want to say that through this Bill, the people who are doing illegal business, whether they are smugglers or missionaries which are involved in converting religion on which there was some control upto now, they will find an opportunity, the terrorists will get an opportunity and those who are earning foreign exchange through narcotics drugs will also get an opportunity to send money. So it has become a threat to the freedom, integrity, law and order, and to the social structure of the country.

20.09 hrs.

[SHRI P.M. SAYEED *in the Chair*]

I would like to request you that there is the provision of Foreign Exchange Bonds in this Bill. The overseas corporate bodies or the non-resident Indians have the right to buy these Foreign Exchange Bonds. This has one great lacunae that the structure of the Overseas Corporate bodies is very strange. The clause 5 of the Bill states that

any institution; association or body whether incorporated or not, established under the laws of the country outside India wherein any non-resident Indian has any interest. It is very serious provision. Taking the advantage of this clause, any foreign personnel or institution, having a very nominal interest of the person of Indian origin, may constitute such Overseas Corporate Body a may have a little interest of Indians and have major interest of foreign personals. Therefore I would like to state that such bond shall be inadmissible as evidence in any proceedings relating to any offence against the owners of such bonds received through the overseas Corporate bodies. Even, it cannot be asked from him, if it was a foreign money, and whether this money was given by the persons of Indian origin or of what kind, it was.

In addition to it, provision has not been made about the use of foreign exchange received as donation as has been made in the case of national housing bank 40 per cent of the money deposited in this bank will not be allowed to be withdrawn and rest of the 60 per cent will be converted into white money. But what nodalities will be adopted in this regard? Nothing has been said about the money that will be received in foreign exchange, and about its use. It may destroy the countries economy and it may also be misused. I would like to say that present Government has failed to provide any facility in the present budget to the tax payers and crores of law abiding people. It does not seem that the Administration has any intention to take action against those political leaders and bureaucrats who are responsible for the destruction of the economy of the country. Who have devastated this country to such an extent that India is facing difficulties even in getting loan. And now we are helplessly going around with begging bowls in our hands to seek loans. We are not providing any relief to the tax payers of this country. We are not providing any relief or assistance to the producers and manufacturers which may inspire the peasants, labourers of this country to rise and improve the economy of this country by increasing the production.

There is a great resentment among the tax payers because on the one hand there are several restrictions on an exploitation of Law abiding people, on the other hand the deeds of law breaking people which were crime till yesterday, under "FERA" are getting Government protection today. Why should they then tolerate atrocities and troubles? Mr. Speaker Sir, I want to recite few lines of a "Sher" to the honourable Minister of Finance on behalf of Indian Youth which have been presented by the youth of my constituency to convey to you:-

"Najnin Bamko Tumse Hai gila
Hamse Karti Ho Perda aur
gairon Se Karti Ho Wafa."

You are harassing and creating problem for hardworking peasants and labourers. You are not providing any facility to them while countless facilities are being provided to non-resident Indians.

Sir, it may be possible that honourable Minister of Finance will not like my submission but the clear position may be before cabinet and the country after having known the mandate once. The country had been under the fetters of slavery and victim of the conspiracy of East India Company and now this time again it is going to become a victim of the capitalists and the other conspirators.

Mr. Speaker, Sir this case is not so simple that it should be passed but it is a web. Save this country from being entangled in this web. With these words, I oppose this Bill and appeal to the government to withdraw it.

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE:
Let the House be adjourned now and we will discuss this Bill tomorrow as the first item.

SHRI BASU DEB AHCARIA: This is a Bill on which much has to be said.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDAS (Muzaffarpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, please take it up tomorrow. You as well as we are tired. Please accept our submission. The full day has passed crying. Now you please conclude it, please take it up tomorrow.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: No party has given any names. So, it will take another 10 or 15 minutes only.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE:
We all would like to speak on this Bill.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Nirmalji will speak for one hour.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE:
Tomorrow let us sit again upto 8.00 p.m.

[Translation]

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Mr. Chairman, Sir, Our problem is this that the promise which we make in the morning is forgotten in the evening and the promise which we make in the evening is forgotten in the morning.

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE
(Dum Dum): We will sit up to 8 P.M. tomorrow but not beyond that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned to meet again tomorrow at 11 AM.

20.15 hrs.

The lok sabha then adjourned till eleven of the clock on Wednesday, September 11, 1991/Bhadra 20, 1913 (Saka).