

This question concerns the modernisation of the Police force in a particular direction. The other things are already there. Just now, as my senior colleague replied to Shri Ram Narain Barwa, about the other states, the same thing applies and there is nothing new in the case of Himachal Pradesh also.

[*Translation*]

**SHRI RABI RAY:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister of Home Affairs whether he has paid attention to the statement in which the Defence Minister has advised not to call army to control communal riots. He has also stated that in case of need army will be sent on the responsibility of State Government and it will have to bear the whole expenditure. I would like to submit to the Minister of Home Affairs that State Governments are usually in a state of indigence (*phakkor*). (*Interruptions*) I would like to know what steps are being taken to curb communal riots.....(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

AN HON. MEMBER: Is it a parliamentary word? (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

**SHRI RABI RAY:** Yes, it is a parliamentary word. This word means indigent. You know Hindi very well. (*Interruptions*) Both you and myself want the police force to be called. But would the Minister of Home Affairs assure the House that the constitution of the proposed National Police Force would be sufficient to control the situation. I would also like to know his views in regard to the statement of the Defence Minister that the State Government will have to bear the expenses in case army is called by them.

[*English*]

**SHRI S. B. CHAVAN:** Sir, I am in full agreement with what the hon. Defence Minister has stated. Calling the army too frequently is not

correct. But it does not rule out the possibility of army being deployed in certain areas and this is the regular thing which has been going on. When the army is called, they have to take up the work.

[*Translation*]

**SHRI ARVIND NETAM:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Naxalite problem is becoming more and more intricate despite our utmost efforts to control it, particularly in three states—Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra to which the Minister of Home Affairs belongs. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government have chalked out a scheme to solve the Naxalite problem effectively? What measures are being taken in this regard?

**SHRI S. B. CHAVAN:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have convened a meeting of the concerned Chief Ministers on 3rd August for this purpose. We would be able to take a decision after discussing the issue in that meeting.

**SHRI SOBHANA DRESWARA RAO VADDE:** Sir, I would like to know whether the hon. Minister is aware that in several districts of Telengana area in Andhra Pradesh, the writ of naxalites is running rather than that of the State Government. And in view of the fact that these naxalites are getting sophisticated arms from the LTTE people, as well as Punjab militants, will the Government help the State Government to modernise their police force with latest weapons to boost the morale of the police force to effectively combat the naxalites in Andhra Pradesh?

**SHRI S. B. CHAVAN:** This will not come under the modernisation programme. But where we find that the militants have sophisticated arms with them and because the police is having out-dated arms with them, we will definitely provide them with more sophisticated weapons. Wherever we find that militancy is there and they have to combat with that

**Linking Manali by S.T.D. Service**

1238. PROF. PREM DHUMAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Manali has been linked with other parts of the country by S.T.D. service;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be linked?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Reliable transmission media for STD from Manali to the trunk automatic exchange at New Delhi is not available.

(c) It is planned to provide STD to Manali in 93-94.

[English]

**Production of Steel by Visakhapatnam Steel Plant**

1239. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant has commenced production;

(b) if so, the installed capacity of the plant and actual production achieved;

(c) whether any financial assistance is required to make the Plant to sustain itself; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir. All the Production units, except Bar Mill, under Stage-I were commissioned, in stages, during the year 1990-91.

(b) The installed capacities of Hot Metal, Crude Steel and finished products under Stage-I are respectively 1.7 million tonnes, 1.5 million tonnes and 0.6 million tonnes. The production during 1990-91 of Hot Metal, Crude Steel and finished products was 0.68 million tonnes, 0.112 million tonnes and 0.02 million tonnes respectively. The commissioned units are still in the process of stabilisation.

(c) and (d) The Visakhapatnam Steel Plant is still under construction and necessary funds are being arranged by Government for its completion.

**American Flights over Indo-Bangladesh Border**

1240. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGARAH: I

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any information about the flights of American Army personnel over Indo-Bangladesh border recently;

(b) if so, whether any protest has been lodged with U.S. and Government of Bangladesh in this regard;

(c) whether any U.S. Aircraft crashed in Tripura while on the above mission; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAV-SINH SOLANKI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

**Telephone connections on out of turn Basis**

1304. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been cases of forgery of signatures of the former Minister of Communications in the matter of release of telephone connections on out of turn basis in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS: (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c) Some cases of fake sanction orders purported to have been issued by Telecom Directorate for provision of telephones on Out of Turn basis were reported by Telecom Field Units. An investigation into the matter by the Vigilance Branch was ordered in May, 1991. The investigation is in progress and the report is awaited.

**Employment in Lime Stone Pulvarizing Unit of Visakhapatnam Steel Plant**

1305. SHRI V. SOBHANADRE-ESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of employees, in the Lime Stone Pulvarizing Unit of Visakhapatnam Steel Plant at Jaggaiah-peta, category-wise;

(b) the number of local people employed there and the details of relaxation/preference, if any, given to them for employment in the said unit;

(c) whether the dependents whose land were acquired, have been provided employment; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) As on 20-7-91, there were 139 employees comprising 11 executives and 128 non-executives working at Jaggayyapeta lime stone mines of Visakhapatnam Steel Project.

(b) While recruitment to executives is done on all India basis, that for non-executives is through the Employment Exchanges. In case suitable candidates are not available with the Employment Exchanges, recruitment is made through advertisements. Out of the 128 non-executive employees working at Jaggayyapeta, 70 were recruited through the local Employment Exchange at Jaggayyapeta, 48 through advertisements and 10 transferred from VSP.

(c) and (d) Compensation is paid to those whose land is acquired according to the rules of the State Government. In the matter of employment, preference is given to displaced persons, whose land and dwellings are acquired, subject to the suitability of such persons. In Jaggayyapeta lime stone mines there is no displaced person who can be given preference for employment.

**Sri Ramsagar Project Stage II**

1306. SHRI V. SOBHANADRE-ESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Sri Ramsagar Project Stage II is pending with the Union Government; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the time by which it is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Sri Ramsagar Project Stage-II estimated to cost about Rs. 450 crores was received at the Centre in September, 1986. After examination it was found

that there would be no water available for this project after catering to the needs of on-going Stage-I of the project. The Stage-II proposal was, therefore, returned to the State Government in May, 1989.

**Point to Point Contact Dialling Facility in Andhra Pradesh**

1307. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide point to point contact dialling facility in various Telephone Exchanges in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof exchange-wise and the time by which this facility is likely to be available to the subscribers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Expansion of Damanjodi Alumina Plant**

1308. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have approved the proposal for expansion of Alumina Plant at Damanjodi in Orissa;

(b) if so, the progress made so far in this regard; and

(c) the details of the additional staff required on expansion of the said Plant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) According to the Detailed Project Report (DPR) prepared by the

National Aluminium Company (NALCO) the additional manpower requirement for expansion of Aluminium plant at Damanjodi is about 650.

[*Translation*]

**Constitution of Telephone Advisory Committee in Bihar**

1309. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for delay in constituting the Telephone Advisory Committee in Bihar; and

(b) the time by which the said Committee is likely to be constituted?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b) Bihar Telecom Advisory Committee and Patna Telephones Advisory Committees were constituted on 28-29/3/1991 and are under review.

[*English*]

**Production of Betel Leaves**

1310. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total value of the betel leaves produced in the country during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to provide minimum support price to the betel leaf growers and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the measures taken so far by the Government for the welfare of betel leaf growers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The estimated average value of annual production of betel leaves during the last 3 years is Rs. 700/- crores.

**PERMANENT WAGE BOARD FOR  
CENTRAL GOVERNMENT  
EMPLOYEES**

1375. SHRI V. S VIJAYARAGH-  
AN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be  
pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to set up a permanent wage board for the Central Government employees; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE) : (a) and (b) The Fourth Central Pay Commission suggested for setting up of a Permanent Wage Review Body which should be responsible for maintaining and updating the basic data on pay and allowances of Government employees and to review the pay scales and rates of allowances and other related matters. Orders were issued on 26-5-1988 setting up a small compact unit in the Ministry of Finance for maintaining and updating the basic data of pay and allowances of Government employees and other related matters. This was not however acceptable to the Staff Side who have reiterated their demand for the setting up of Permanent Wage Review Body. This issue has been discussed in several meetings with the Staff Side and a final acceptable conclusion is yet to emerge.

**EXPORT OF TEA**

1376. SHRI RAMESH CHENNI-  
THALA: Will the Minister of COM-  
MERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of tea exported during 1990-91; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to increase the tea production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) The estimated quantum of tea exported during 1990-91 was 199.48 Million Kgs. valued at Rs. 1045.41 Crores.

(b) For increasing tea production and processing capacities, Tea Board has been

providing financial assistance to the tea industry through its various developmental schemes for (a) Optimisation of inputs and improved cultural practices (b) Irrigation, Drainage, Rejuvenation, Pruning and Infilling and (c) New Plantation in traditional and non-traditional areas, Replanting etc.

**ITEMS RESERVED FOR HANDLOOM  
SECTOR**

1377. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA  
RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of  
TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of items reserved exclusively for handloom sector at present;

(b) whether the Government propose to increase the number of items reserved exclusively for handloom sector; and

(c) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : (a) A total of 22 items were reserved for exclusive production on handlooms vide notification dated 4th August 1986. List of items is given below in the statement.

(b) and (c) The Handlooms (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985 and the orders issued thereunder are inoperative because of the Stay Order of the Supreme Court and till such time the stay is vacated, there can be no modifications.

**STATEMENT**

1. Saree.
2. Kotah Doria Saree.
3. Tie & Dye saree and material.
4. Dhoti.
5. Gamcha & Angavastram.
6. Lungi.
7. Shirting.
8. Grepe Fabrics.
9. Towels.
10. Khes, Bedsheet, Bed cover, Counter pane and furnishing.
11. Table cloth, Table mat & Napkins.
12. Duster Basta.
13. Chaddar.

14. Mashru cloth.
15. Low rid pick cloth.
16. Jamakkalam durry or durret.
17. Bukram cloth.
18. Silk.
19. Kambal or Kambalies
20. Barrack blankets.
21. Shawl, Lol, Mufflers, Pankhi etc.
22. Woollen tweed.

#### EXPORT POLICY OF COTTON YARN

1378. SHRI KADAMBUR M. R. JANARTHANAN : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to encourage export of cotton yarn vis-a-vis raw cotton; and

(b) if so, the policy of the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : (a) and (b) Government's long term approach is to lay greater stress on export of value added items. However, policy with regard to export of raw cotton and cotton yarn is governed by a number of considerations like stabilisation of cotton prices, ensuring remunerative prices for cotton farmers, ensuring availability of yarn at reasonable prices for decentralised handloom and powerloom sectors etc.

#### COLLECTION OF TOLL CESS ON NATIONAL HIGHWAY NO. 5

1379. PROF. VENKATESWARLU UMMAREDDY : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated cost of the bridge constructed on National Highway No. 5 on Krishna river at Vijayawada;

(b) whether the Union Government propose to recover part of this amount as toll cess;

(c) whether tenders were called for collection of toll cess; and

(d) if so, to whom the work was entrusted and on what basis ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (d) Bridge across River Krishna including approaches was completed at a cost of Rs. 26.47 crores. The entire cost is to be recovered through toll fee. After the bridge was opened to public in 1988, the State PWD has been collecting the toll fee departmentally in certain periods and at other times through lessees. Presently the collection is being done through one Shri V. Madhusudhan Rao who was the highest bidder in public auction conducted for the current financial year.

[Translation]

#### VACANT POSTS OF JUDGES IN RAJASTHAN HIGH COURT

1380. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some posts of judges are still lying vacant in Rajasthan High Court;

(b) whether the Government of Rajasthan has sent any recommendations to the Union Government to fill up these posts; and

(c) if so, the time by which the Union Government propose to fill up these posts ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Chief Justice and the State authorities of Rajasthan have sent recommendations for filling up the available posts of Judges in the Rajasthan High Court. The further process of consultation to fill up these vacancies is on. It is not possible to indicate precisely by when these posts are likely to be filled up.

[English]

**L.R.T.S. in Hyderabad**

1545. SHRI SOBHANA DRESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have since examined the proposal to introduce Rail Transit System (LRTS) in the Hyderabad city;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme and its estimated cost thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c) The Government of Andhra Pradesh submitted the Techno-Economic Feasibility Study prepared by M/s Rail India Technical & Economic Services Ltd. (RITES) to introduce light rail transit system in the twin cities of Hyderabad and Secunderabad. The routes identified by M/s RITES are:—

- (i) Balanagar to Khairatabad
- (ii) Khairatabad to Charminar
- (iii) Mozamzahi Market to Dilsukhnagar

The estimated cost of the project is about Rs. 307 crores.

The Government of Andhra Pradesh have been asked to give detailed comments and clarifications regarding various assumptions made in the report and their plan regarding the funding pattern, subsidy element and economic viability of the project, etc. The report of the State Government on these aspects has not so far been received. Under these circumstances, it is too premature to indicate the likely date of implementation of the project.

[Translation]

**Ring Railway around Jaipur**

1546. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to formulate a scheme to link Jaipur and nearby areas with a ring railway service; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

**World Bank aided Water Supply Project in Tamil Nadu**

1547. SHRI C.K. KUPPUSWAMY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to initiate a World Bank aided Project in respect of water supply scheme at Tiruppur in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) No, Sir. However, it has been intimated by the State Government that a water Supply improvement scheme in Tiruppur Municipality, 4 town panchayats and 44 village panchayats is under implementation with LIC loan assistance.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) All the Secondary/Higher Secondary Schools require recognition by the respective State Government or Union Territory Administration. The recognition conditions prescribed under the Education Acts or Rules of the concerned State or Union Territory, exercise control over payment of salaries to the school staff and charging of fees. Some such Education Acts or Rules also prohibit charging of capitation fees and taking of donations. In order to curb the demand for admission to private schools, it is necessary to raise the standards in Government schools and bring them on par with good private schools. Upgrading of standards in government schools is being done by providing them with a broadly uniform pattern of syllabi/textbooks and improving their physical facilities and educational inputs through a number of Centrally Sponsored Schemes.

As regards technical institutions, the Central Government have been urging the State Governments to take steps to prevent charging of Capitation fees for admissions. Some States like Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Karnataka and Maharashtra have enacted legislation banning Capitation fee. Further, the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has been vested with statutory powers to lay down guidelines, *inter-alia*, in regard to fees charged by technical institutions.

[English]

#### **Import of Homoeopathic Medicines**

1662. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the officials of his Ministry visited Spain during last two years in connection with the import of homoeopathic medicines; and

(b) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN  
THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH

16--16 LSS ND/91

AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI-MATI D. K. THARADEVI SID-DHARTHA): (a) No, Sir. The Adviser (Homoeopathy) and the Director Homoeopathic Pharmacopoeia Laboratory were deputed to attend the 45th Congress of International Homoeopathic Medical League at Barcelona (Spain) from 10—13 May 1990. This visit had nothing to do with the import of Homoeopathic medicines.

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

[Translation]

#### **Proposal to Declare Magadh University as Central University**

1663. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to declare Magadh University, Bodh Gaya as a Central University;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b) No Sir. Magadh University has been established under an Act of the State Legislature of Bihar and as a matter of policy, the Central Government does not convert State Universities into Central Universities.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

#### **Development of Secondary Level Hospitals in Andhra Pradesh**

1664. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has forwarded proposal to the Union Government for development of secondary level hos-



pitals in the State under the control of A.P. Vaidya Vidhav Parishad;

(b) if so, the salient features of the scheme;

(c) whether this scheme is posed for external assistance; and

(d) if so, the latest position in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI-MATI D. K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARATHA): (a) and (b): The Government of Andhra Pradesh submitted a proposal for seeking foreign assistance for a project which seeks to develop the district level and subdistrict level hospitals, 10 cyclone based medical hospitals, 1 cyclone disaster relief training centre and a T.B. Hospital in Andhra Pradesh. The project cost is Rs. 236.70 crores and it is phased over two plan period VIIIth and IXth five year plan.

(c) and (d) The proposal has been recommended to the Ministry of Finance for foreign assistance, who have sought some clarifications from the State Government and the Planning Commission.

#### **Jobless Labour due to Sick Industrial Units**

1665. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons rendered jobless due to closure of sick industrial units; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to help the displaced labour?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) Information on closure of sick units is not maintained separate-

ly. Based on the latest available information, a Statement giving the number of workers affected by closures during 1990 by the causes of closure is attached.

(b) Industrial closure is governed by the relevant provisions of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. The Central and the State Governments have taken a series of steps to provide reliefs and concessional financial assistance through appropriate rehabilitation packages drawn up by the banks and financial institutions for revival of sick units. The Central Government is also operating a Textile Rehabilitation Fund which offers financial assistance on a tapering basis for a period of 3 years to the workers of closed Textile Mills.

#### **STATEMENT**

*Number of workers affected by closures over the causes indicated therein during 1990 (Provisional)*

<i>Cause groups</i>	<i>Workers affected</i>
1. Financial Stringency	1,186
2. Shortage of Power	0
3. Lack of Demand for Products.	806
4. Shortage of Raw Material	267
5. Break down of Machinery	0
6. Others	1,454
7. Cause Not known	191
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,904</b>

SOURCE—Labour Bureau, Shimla.

#### **Clearance to Goleti No. 2 Open Cast Block Project in Andhra Pradesh**

1666. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested the Union Government to accord clearance for using 49.75 Hectares of

forest land for non-forest purposes; as it is required for *GOLETI No. 2* open cast block, in Rebbana Reserve Forest in Bellampalli division, Adilabad district;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in giving clearance; and

(c) the time by which clearances likely to be accorded from forest and environmental angles?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The State Government of Andhra Pradesh and concerned Project Authority were requested to submit material information which has not been received so far. The case stands rejected for non-furnishing of information. The case can be reopened on receipt of the information required.

#### **Growth of Engineering Colleges Based on Capitation Fee**

1667. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is mushroom growth of private engineering colleges in different States based on capitation fee;

(b) whether the Government colleges are able to meet the man-power demands of the engineering industry;

(c) if so, the reasons for permitting engineering colleges in private sector when a large number of engineering graduates are unemployed; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to check setting up of engineering colleges in private sector?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) In ear-

ly 80's a number of private Engineering Colleges were established with the permission of the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu on self-financing/no grant basis without the prior approval of All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE).

(b) According to the information of National Technical Manpower Information System (NTMIS) the demand in conventional disciplines like Civil, Mechanical, Electrical etc. are fully met but in new emerging areas of technology, the gap between demand—supply of technical manpower do exists.

(c) All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) is not encouraging the establishment of new private engineering colleges in conventional areas but have permitted setting up of such colleges in emerging areas where there is a shortage of technical man-power.

(d) As per AICTE Act, 1987, no technical institution can now be established without the prior approval of AICTE.

[Translation]

#### **Nehru Memorial Museum and Library**

1668. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that a portion of the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library has been allotted to Nehru Cambridge Society and Kamla Nehru Hospital Society, as a result of which the main functions of the institution are being hampered;

(b) if so, whether the Government have received any complaints about it; and

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

be discussed and we should get a reply as these incidents are going on for the last so many years. (*Interruptions*)

**SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA:** These are happening in West Bengal also. Why don't you discuss about West Bengal then? (*Interruptions*)

**PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN (Mukundapuram):** Sir, I thank you very much for allowing me to raise an important matter regarding the ED employees connected with the Postal Department all over the country. The ED employees, even after completing 20 or more years of meritorious service, are not getting job security and other facilities. So, I urge upon the Government to regularise their service.

Simultaneously, the promised second promotion, after completing 26 years of service in the Postal Department, is also not implemented except in the Engineering Section of the Department. This matter also may be looked into. If the Dearness Allowance exceeds 50 per cent of the basic pay, then that excess may be added to the basic pay of that employee so that he or she may get the opportunity to have a slight increase in the pension after he or she retires.

**SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada):** Sir, I want to bring to your notice a very tragic incident which has taken place in Chilakaluripeta in Guntur District of Andhra Pradesh. Two farmers were killed when they were in the queue to get the fertilizers. In fact, I went to the village of one the persons who died. A small farmer having a small hut, Mr. Ankamma Choudhury was killed in Kavuru village of Guntur District was killed. Several farmers are critically ill in the hospital and many more have received bullet injuries. The police are shooting the farmers like birds. The hon. Finance Minister, while replying to the Budget discussions, should give a categorical

assurance that the Government would continue the subsidies on fertilizers. This is a peak period when farmers require fertilizers. Otherwise, this is going to bring about a lot of turmoil throughout the country and many more farmers have to lay their lives. I appeal to the Government to make a concrete and categorical assurance that they will continue to give the subsidy and come to the rescue of the farmers.

12.36 hrs.

## RE. REINSTATEMENT OF RAILWAY EMPLOYEES

[*English*]

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur):** Apart from supporting Shri Rao, I wish to raise the question of the Railway Minister's assurance of sympathetic consideration of the cases of the dismissed railway employees whose reinstatement was earlier announced by the previous Government. We wanted the Railway Minister to implement that decision. In the course of his reply to the Railway Budget, he has stated that he would consider it sympathetically. We wanted an answer then and there, but he said that he had to go to the Cabinet first and all those formalities had to be gone through. So far as this Government is concerned, I hope there is a functioning Cabinet. Anyway, we said that we would wait till the first of August. Today is the Fifth of August. I would like to know what the hon. Minister has to say on this. Will that decision be implemented? When will it be implemented? We want a categorical reply today and he must announce it. We agreed to wait because of your kind intervention on that day when you said that some time might be given to them to go through the modalities. Now, about 10 to 12 days have elapsed and I would request the hon. Minister to announce it today. He must tell us the date on which they would be reinstated.

to 20 per cent for those farmers only who have 5 to 10 acres of land holdings. But that should not be done. If it is done the people would be forced to further divide their land holdings. Therefore, I would request the hon. Finance Minister to reduce the prices of fertilisers without discriminating between small and big farmers. If discrimination would be done, the farmers would be forced to divide their land into small holdings.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the relief in the form of procurement price would in no way solve the problem. Therefore, without repeating this appeal I would like to submit that the 40 per cent subsidy on fertilisers should be restored and pre budget status be maintained.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to submit a point about industries also. Except 18 industries including sugar industry, the rest have been exempted from taxes. About sugar industry I would like to mention that in Maharashtra many sugar mills are in the co-operative sector. The way sugar industry is progressing there is a thing to be proud of the total production of sugar has been 120 lakh tonnes. Maharashtra alone produced 42 lakh tonnes of sugar and India occupies top position in the world so far as sugar production is concerned. Maharashtra has produced 35 per cent of the total production of sugar and the creditable thing is that 100 per cent of sugar mills are in the co-operative sector. Not even a single sugar mill is private. I would therefore request the hon. Minister that priority should be given to co-operative factories, so far as adopting policy on industrial licences is concerned. 38 factories in Maharashtra having a production capacity of 2500 tonnes have been given licences. Their cost has been increased to Rs. 34 crores and it will go up further after the Budget.

The IFCI and IDBI and other financial institutions are not ready to give them loans. Keeping this in view it would be better if factories with

1500 tonne capacity are set up because at the initial stage 2500 tonne units are not feasible. Meanwhile during the previous Government's tenure the Industries department has sought direct applications for issue of licences. These applications were first of all screened by the Food Department and then the Industrial Department used to issue licences. I would like to submit that the earlier policy was the best and it should be followed even now.

The last point is about molasses. The sugar mill used to get Rs. 120 whereas the Government used to get Rs. 120 as tax. Now the tax has been raised to Rs. 150 whereas the sugar mills get only Rs. 120 even today. There is an ambiguity in it and therefore the share of mills should also be raised to Rs. 150.

Once again I support the Budget and thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

[English]

SHRI SHOBANADREESHWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity and I will take only four or five minutes. I take this opportunity to stress only one issue which is causing heartburning to all the peasants in this country without any exception. I will not repeat in detail about this withdrawal of the subsidy and 40 per cent hike in the prices of fertilisers. The other day, the Minister of Agriculture, Shri Balram Jhakar was saying that this increase in prices of fertilisers would be compensated by way of higher procurement prices. What I want to bring to the notice of this Government is, among 90 million land-holdings in this country, 75 per cent are possessed by small and marginal farmers and they have no surplus to sell in the market. So, this is clearly an anti-peasant step that has been taken by this Government. I appeal to the Government not to take it as a false prestige and request the Finance Minister to reconsider it, because in the President's Address, in the Budget and in the Indus-

[Sh. Shobanadreeshwara Rao Vadde] trial Policy, this Government has expressed its hope that much more export can be achieved through export of agricultural products to bridge our balance of payment difference and trade deficit. But your step is not going to help in your efforts. The cost of production is going to increase and because of that, the overall production of the agricultural commodities will come down. For example, in respect of paddy while in China, they are producing 4.5 m.t. per hectare, we are producing at present, 1.5 m.t. per hectare.

Similarly, the price of fertilizer in India, compared to neighbouring countries like Pakistan and Bangladesh is higher. I would like to bring to your notice that in 1989, the Di-Ammonium Phosphate (DAP) was Rs. 3600 per tonne in our country whereas in Pakistan, it was Rs. 3211 and in Bangladesh, it was only Rs. 2700. In respect of SSP, in 1989 it was Rs. 950 in our country whereas in Pakistan it was Rs. 791 per tonne. Even with the existing subsidy available to the fertilizers, the prices in our country are quite high as compared to neighbouring countries. With the cut in subsidy and 40 per cent increase, the cost of fertilizer is going higher and the cost of production is going to increase and our agricultural products will not be in a position to compete in the world market. From that angle, how are you reviewing the entire situation and scenario?

Today I have mentioned about it during the Zero Hour and so I will not repeat it again. But I want to bring to the notice of the Government that the entire farmers are worried and agitated and it is causing a lot of concern to all the Members, on both sides of the House. Almost all the hon. Members who have spoken in the General Discussion on the Budget have expressed their concern about this. In Andhra Pradesh, in the entire State, there is a *bandh* today and *rasto roko* call which was given by different farmers association.

My submission to the Government is, you kindly examine the G.V.K. Rao committee Report which has examined this aspect. The report was submitted in 1987. It says that whenever there is increase in consumption of fertilizers by about 30 per cent in three successive years, the price of fertilizers may be increased by five to seven per cent. Now you have increased the price of fertilizer by forty per cent. How can the farmers bear the burden? As a citizen of India, he may be prepared to bear to some extent like any other section of the society, but he should not be singled out for this purpose. The limit of monopoly houses has been raised from Rs. 100 crores to Rs. 1,000 crores. You have removed the restrictions imposed by the MRTTP Act. You have opened the gates for them to expand like anything but you are going to penalise the farmers only.

I appeal to the Government in larger interests of the nation—not that I happen to be a farmer, I am not pleading merely for farmers but in the overall national interest to certainly review their decision and restore the subsidy that was being given on the fertilizers prior to introduction of this Budget.

I want to bring to the notice of the Government that even as on today—leave alone Japan and South Korea—even compared with Asian countries, compared with our neighbours, our per hectare consumption of fertilizers is lowest. While we consume only 55 kgs. of plant nutrients per hectare, Pakistan is consuming 80 kgs. and China is consuming 190 kgs. per hectare. You should understand the gravity of the situation.

One news-item has appeared in the Press that the Government is considering an idea to reduce fertilizer price to some extent in respect of small farmers. I may tell the Government that after introduction of the Land Ceiling legislation, where is the question of small farmers and big farmers? At the most, some farmers are middle

farmers. My submission to the Government is not to discriminate among the farmers.

It is practically not possible to give supplies of fertilisers at some cost to some farmers and at some other rate to other farmers. That aspect was fully and thoroughly examined by G. V. K. Rao Committee. That Committee advised that it is not practically feasible. So, you give fertiliser at the same rate to all the farmers.

I would like to bring this to the notice of the Government—You also may be aware of it—that even in your area when a father of a girl wants to perform the marriage of his daughter, he is preferring even a peon in an office rather than the son of a farmer unfortunately, because the farmer is not sure whether he will get income this year or not. It all depends on rainfall and many a time it so happens that though the entire crop of the farmer is washed away due to some natural calamities, you are not going to help him. It is a wonder.

It appeared in the press today that 65 per cent of subsidy is going to the manufacturers and only 35 per cent is going to the farmers. 65 per cent of the subsidy to the manufacturers is being borne because of the inefficient running of the fertiliser units. The retention price-cum-subsidy scheme for nitrogenous fertilisers has been taken up in tune with the decision of the high-power committee headed by Shri S. S. Marathe. Under the scheme, the retention price for each individual processing unit is fixed in such a way that the unit is able to earn a return of 12 per cent post-tax on net worth based on the 'normative capacity' utilisation and combination of norms and actuals for various cost inputs.

While the Government has taken so much care for the well-being of these factory people, and it has showered so much affection for these people who have escalated the cost of those

units and who have got so much profit into their pockets, why do you think of penalising the farmers?

I appeal to the Government to kindly reconsider and kindly to restore the price level to the pre-Budget introduction prices.

**SHRI S. MALLIKARJUNIAH** (Tumkur): I am happy I am given a chance to speak. I myself being an agriculturist, I know the difficulties of an agriculturist. In Karnataka, the Land Reforms Act has been implemented totally. So, the question of big farmer and small farmer does not arise at all.

The increase in fertiliser prices has a tremendous and direct effect on the production of foodgrains. If you are inclined to import foodgrains from foreign countries virtually none of us has got any objection. But if you want that the Government of India should be self-sufficient in foodgrains, you should give concessions to the agriculturist. Now the cost of production is also very high. You have introduced minimum wages and restricted the timings of agricultural labour. But, how much work one can expect from a agricultural labour? How many hours the farmer works on the land? Only an agriculturist knows the difficulties. Therefore, to make the agriculturist self-sufficient and to enable him to work in the field. Full subsidy should be given. The rates of fertilisers should be reduced to the earlier level, if you are very keen in self-sufficient in foodgrains.

You show lot of concessions for industrialists, but what better facilities are you giving to the agriculturist? Are you sure of providing him water? For water, he has to depend on monsoon. Are you sure that his crop is not attacked by pests? It is also not definite. Virtually, the agriculturists are also engaged in the game of gambling. Therefore, there is no use beating these agriculturists. They are like the hen giving you a golden