

(a) the details of the facilities being provided by the Government to encourage the industries in Anand Parvat in Karol Bagh area of Delhi;

(b) whether the Government propose to formulate a policy to give more incentives to these industries; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): (a) to (c). According to Delhi Administration, Anand Parvat is a non-conforming area for establishment of industry under the provisions of the Delhi Master Plan. In view of this, SSI registration has been issued from time to time to units having a municipal licence given by the Municipal Corporation of Delhi. No proposal to give more incentives to these industries is presently under consideration of that Administration. However, facilities being provided to units which are already registered on permanent basis in the Anand Parvat, Karol Bagh area; are the same as those provided to SSI registered units elsewhere in Delhi.

[English]

Trained Man-Power in Foot-wear Industry

5588. SHRI V. SOBHANAD-REESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is shortage of trained Man-Power in the Foot-wear industry; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to see that more hands are available to run the foot-wear industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Re-imbursment of Central Investment Subsidy

5589. SHRI A. CHARLES: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the re-imbursment of Central Investment Subsidy was being paid to the Government of Kerala for the last nearly two years without insisting pre-registration;

(b) if so, from which date and under what circumstances the Government are now insisting on pre-registration;

(c) the total amount of Central Investment Subsidy pending re-imbursment to Kerala till date;

(d) whether any request has been received from the Government of Kerala for waiving the above condition; and

(e) if so, what action has been taken by the Government and the stage at which the matter stands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): (a) to (e). Government of India have received a representation from the Government of Kerala for waiving the condition of pre-registration for grant of the Central Investment Subsidy. While the registration was a requirement under the Scheme, the State Governments were allowed to waive this condition.

The Central Investment subsidy Scheme was withdrawn w.e.f. 1.10.88. Following this, the Central Government advised States/UTs to disburse Subsidy to non-manufacturing activities by 30.9.1989 and to manufacturing activities by 31.12.1989, provided the projects were approved by the State Level Committee/District Level Committee on or before

**Supply of Sulphuric Acid to Kerala by
F.A.C.T**

5680. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the F.A.C.T. has been supplying Sulphuric acid to small scale units in Kerala for a long time;

(b) whether this supply of Sulphuric acid has suddenly been stopped;

(c) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) FACT produces Sulphuric Acid for manufacture of Phosphoric Acid and fertilizers. In 1990-91, because of uncertainty of availability of imported Sulphur and Phosphoric Acid and the necessity to maximise indigenous production of fertilizers, the availability of Sulphuric Acid in FACT become critical. As captive production of Sulphuric Acid was not sufficient to meet the requirements, FACT itself had to purchase Sulphuric Acid from other sources. It was under these circumstances the FACT had to curtail sales to others.

(d) Presently, FACT is not in a position to resume supplies of Sulphuric Acid to other users, because its production and availability continue to be insufficient for their own production. However, as the earlier consumers of FACT's have arranged alternative sources of supply of acid, no remedial measures are called for.

**Rural Water Supply and Sanitation
Programme In Orissa**

5681. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Orissa Government has sent any proposal under the Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Programme for approval for the Year 1991-92; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL): (a) The State Government of Orissa has sent revised estimates involving an additional expenditure of Rs. 4.24 crores for various schemes in mini mission project areas of Phulbani, five blocks of Ganjam, Koraput and Mayurbhanj districts. A proposal for central assistance for coverage of 1000 Scheduled Cast/Scheduled Tribe habitations with safe drinking water facilities has also been received. No proposal has been received for technical clearance under the Centrally Sponsored Rural Sanitation Programme.

(b) The schemes are under scrutiny.

Selection of Serials by Doordarshan

5682. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Doordarshan has invited proposals for serials under New Sponsorship programme under some categories; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the names of the serials selected?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRJAVYAS):

(a) and (b). Doordarshan invited proposals for serials under the new sponsorship scheme in the following categories:

- (i) Family Serials
- (ii) Comedy serials
- (iii) Serials based on classics/novels
- (iv) Short stories
- (v) Detective serials
- (vi) Socially relevant Environment serials
- (vii) Science fiction
- (viii) Historicals/cultural
- (ix) Quiz programmes
- (x) Childrens 'serials (Cartoon/childrens' serials/animation)
- (xi) Documentaries

None of these proposed serials has so far been selected for telecast.

Telugu External Broadcast Service

5683. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the time allotted for Telugu External Service Programme of All India Radio;

(b) whether the Government propose to enhance the time limit for this purpose;

(c) whether the Government also propose to extend the Telugu External Service on All India Radio to benefit a large number of Telugu people living in United States of America and elsewhere; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRJA VYAS): (a) The time allotted to Telugu in the External Service of All India Radio is half-an-hour every day.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) There is, at present, no proposal to beam this service to United States of America and to the uncovered parts of the world.

(d) Does not arise.

Project of Maharashtra Pending Clearance

5684. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the projects of Maharashtra pending with the Planning Commission for its approval; and

(b) the time by which these projects are likely to be given approval?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) The details of Major Irrigation Projects of Maharashtra pending for action in Planning Commission are given below:-

ernments. special Employment Programmes are not being implemented through a single agency. The implementing agencies vary, depending upon the scope, structure and coverage of the programmes and the target group they cater to.

[English]

Benefits Enjoyed by Staff Artists of AIR

5694. SHRI C.K. KUPPUSWAMY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the staff artists in All India Radio are enjoying the benefits applicable to Central Government employees including pensionary benefits;

(b) if so, the details of benefits enjoyed by them; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) to (c). The Staff Artists of All India Radio enjoy all benefits as admissible to Central Government Servants except for Pension, Leave encashment and Central Government Employees Group Insurance Scheme, 1980.

In lieu of Pension and Leave encashment, the Staff Artists are entitled to Contributory Provident Fund and the benefit of terminal leave upto 120 days respectively. They are also covered by the Central Government Employees Insurance Scheme, 1977 instead of Central Government Employees Group Insurance Scheme-1980 applicable to Government Servants.

Norms for Backward districts

5695. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to refix the norms for declaring certain districts as backward districts; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF P.J. KURIEN): (a) No, Sir,

(b) Does not arise.

Price of Photographic Materials

5696. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHONSLE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government's attention has been drawn to the concern expressed by South Indian Photographic and Allied Trade Association over the steep hike in the prices of photographic materials including colour, graphic art and even black and white films which will wipe out the trade;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to take some measures to ease the position; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF P.J. KURIEN): (a) to (d). While the Government is not aware of the representation made by South Indian Photographic and Allied Trade Association about the steep hike in the prices of photographic materials etc., it is seized of the problem through representations received from other similar organisations.

The price of photographic material is not controlled by the Government. However in regard to price hike in respect of cine colour

De-Hiring Of Rigs By Private Companies

5374. SHRI RABI RAY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the de-hiring of rigs by private companies in the Bombay High has commenced recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have made an assessment of the impact of de-hiring of rigs by private companies on the annual production of Crude oil in the Bombay High; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR): (a) and (b). On completion of the contracts, one jack up rig 'Miss Kitty' and one drillship 'Viking Driller' have been de-hired by ONGC on 31st July and 8th May, 1991 respectively.

(c) and (d). The de-hiring of these rigs do not have an immediate impact on the production of Crude oil from Bombay High. However, ONGC have already initiated action for charter hiring jack up rigs for which contracts have expired or are due to expire shortly.

Coal Resources in Andhra Pradesh

5375. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested his Ministry to develop coal resources in the state; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard during the current year, and proposed to be taken during the Eighth Five Year Plan?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) Yes, Sir, Singareni Collieries Co. Ltd. (SCCL), a joint undertaking of the Govt. of India and the Govt. of Andhra Pradesh, has sought the assistance of the Ministry of Coal to develop coal resources in Andhra Pradesh.

(b) A Plan Outlay of Rs. 340.00 crores (including Rs. 11.00 crores Andhra Pradesh State Govt's share of equity) for 1991-92 has been approved by the Govt. of India for development of coal projects of SCCL. The coal production target for SCCL for 1991-92 has been fixed at 20.50 million tonnes. The proposals for the development of Singareni Coal projects during the Eighth Five Year Plan (1992-97) are under formulation by SCCL.

Tourism Development

5376. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have developed any tourist resorts in the country as an alternative to Kashmir;

(c) the names of places developed so far; and

(b) the provision made for this purpose in 1990-91 and 1991-92?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Development of tourist resorts is primarily the responsibility of State Governments and they are being developed by concerned state Governments. The question of developing any tourist resort by the Central Government in the country as an alternative to Kashmir therefore does not arise.

[English]

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**Electronic Telephone Exchange at
Joggiahpetta, Andhra Pradesh****5846. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA
RAO VADDE:** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up an electronic automatic exchange at Joggiahpetta in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the date by which it is likely to start functioning ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS: (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Yes, Sir A 1500 lines Electronic Exchange is proposed to be set up in Joggiahpetta in Andhra Pradesh.

(b) The exchange is likely to be commissioned in 1993-94.

**C-Dot Telephone Exchanges in Krishna
District of Andhra Pradesh****5847. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA
RAO VADDE:** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been made in to the functioning of C-DOT system in rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Department propose to provide C-DOT telephone exchanges in some places in Krishna District of Andhra Pradesh;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the date by which the Tiruvuru exchange is likely to be provided with direct dialling facility with Vijayawada?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS: (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) No special study has been undertaken.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) At present there are twelve C-DOT 128 port exchanges working in Krishna District. It is proposed to commission 8 nos. of 128 port C-DOT exchanges during 1991-92 at the following places tentatively subject to availability of equipment:-

1. Banthumilli
2. Chinnapuram
3. Moturu
4. Koduni
5. Chandralapadu
6. Jamilgolvepalli
7. Mustabad
8. Kuchipudi.

It is further Proposed to install C-DOT MAX exchanges at

1. Gudivada
2. Joggiahpetta
3. Machilipatnam
4. Nuzvid

during 8th Five Year Plan

(e) STD at Tiruvuru is likely to be provided after automation and building up of stable media by 1993-94.

and both large and small municipalities and municipal corporations to take up such things. So, this is primarily being done by the Urban Development Ministry for pollution caused by urban centers.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister spoke about Varanasi just now.

MR. SPEAKER: He asked a question and I allowed him.

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: I have also a related question. The Hon. Prime Minister inaugurated special bodies to check pollution in Varanasi and Kanpur and crores of rupees have already been spent. The hon. Minister has stated in his reply that dhobi ghats also contribute to the pollution load of Ganga. Large number of dhobis have been stopped from using dhobi ghats in Varanasi and Kanpur, thereby depriving them of their means of livelihood. What arrangement has the Central Government made for them? Besides, hundreds of dead bodies are cremated at the Manikanika ghat and the Harish Chandra Ghat every day, thereby further increasing the pollution level. Though an electric crematorium has been set up there but for the last three years it has not been functioning and it is in a bad shape. The dead bodies continue to be cremated at Manikanika Ghat and Harish Chandra Ghat in Varanasi and the ashes are thrown in the Ganga. What has the Government thought about these *dhobis* and the cremation of dead bodies?

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, maximum funds have been spent in Varanasi, and maximum schemes have been launched there. So far as the question of dhobis and cremation of dead bodies is concerned it is a State subject and the State Government is definitely paying attention to it.

[*English*]

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in part 'C' of the reply the hon. Minister has stated that the Central Pollution Control Board has identified some highly polluted stretches in Krishna river. The river Krishna is highly polluted near Vijayawada city. So, will his Ministry take appropriate steps to reduce water pollution?

Further, a scheme was sanctioned earlier for sewage treatment, but now the Government of India says that it is not possible to go ahead with that because of the cost escalation. But, in view of the importance of water pollution, will his Ministry take necessary steps in consultation and in coordination with the Ministry of Urban Development, to reduce water pollution in Krishna river near Vijayawada city.

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Sir river Krishna undoubtedly has some very heavily polluted stretches. One of them is from Karad to Sangli. This has been identified and the source of pollution is the waste from sugar and distillery industries, especially in this belt between Karad and Sangli. I had stated earlier also in this House that there are new schemes which are aided by World Bank for pollution control and the industries can take advantage of those schemes; for clusters of small scale industries there is 50 per cent grant and for other industries loan facility is available.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: My question is regarding letting of sewage near Vijayawada city in river Krishna.

SHRI KAMAL NATH: I am coming to that point. I am talking about industrial pollution in river Krishna. As far as the question of sewage disposal leading to pollution in river Krishna is concerned, we shall take up the matter with the Urban Development Ministry to see what can be done.

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN: Sir, the hon. Minister has just now stated that

river Krishna is highly polluted between Karad and Sangli. We all know that the main reason for pollution is molasses which is released from the sugar factories. I would like to know whether any prosecution has been launched against the sugar factories in that region. I would also like to know whether there is any proposal to give them some incentives or some funds to install water pollution control equipments from the Sugar Development Fund.

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Sir, these industries have been given time till 31st December, 1991 to instal effluent treatment and pollution control equipments. After that also, if they do not do so, steps will be taken. As far as the question of incentives is concerned, there are adequate incentives and I think, one of the incentives will be this enforcement which we are going to do after 31st December, 1991. With regard to fiscal incentives there are World Bank schemes where industries will be able to take loans at attractive terms; for cluster of small scale industries, 50 per cent shall be grant and 40 per cent shall be loan.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RABI RAY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to request the hon. Minister to reply to the question seriously as it is a very important question. Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Member who put the question had asked whether the water of 70% rivers in this country was polluted and in reply to which it was stated on behalf of the Government that they did not have figures available, which means the Government had accepted it. Here, there are a number of hon. Members who hail from the villages situated on the banks of rivers and they would be knowing that the water of almost all the rivers is polluted. Crores of people of India drink water of these rivers. Keeping all this in view I would like to know that the State Governments that seek 50% grants from the Centre do not comply with the guidelines laid down for them in this regard and the crores of people of the country have to face hardships. I would like to know whether there are any guidelines or not

or there is any dearth of funds.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the other thing is that the business houses, which have set up their industries on the banks of rivers, as I think and as given in a number of reports, violate the guidelines laid down by the Government I would like to know from the hon. Minister how many such houses are there who have violated the Government guidelines putting crores of people to hardship and whether he has any figures available to show that actions have been taken against them. I want a specific information from the hon. Minister whether it is in his knowledge that as per the report of the Parliamentary Committee a business house has violated the guidelines by setting up an Industry on the bank of the river Rishikulya in Orrisa and whether the State Government has taken any action against them and if so, what action has been taken?

[*English*]

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Sir, expert group was set up which identified 542 industrial units which discharged effluents into the Ganga water. They were 191 in Uttar Pradesh, 6 in Bihar and so on and so forth. They were discharging into the river gross pollutants. Out of these 68 units have been identified as causing pollution of a very high magnitude. We have identified them.

As I said, there are some units which have been prosecuted; some are public sector undertakings; some are State units.

I have no information regarding the particular unit which Mr. Rabi Ray has referred to. But if he does give it to me, I shall take steps against that unit.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RABI RAY: It means that no action has been taken against any business houses.

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Against whom action has not been taken ?

[English]

**Air Pollution In Vijayawada And
Visakhapatnam**

6183. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY
SHRI V. SODHANADREES-
WARA RAO VADDE.

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT &
FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the air pollution in Vijayawada and Visakhapatnam cities has exceeded the permissible limits;

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) The steps taken by the Government to see that the air pollution is brought to the minimum permissible limits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) In the case of Vijayawada the air pollution levels are within the prescribed limits. In the case of Visakhapatnam see on certain occasions, sulphur dioxide concentration in ambient air exceeds the permissible limit.

(c) The steps taken by the government to minimise air pollution include:-

(1) To minimise air pollution at Visakhapatnam an action plan was prepared and communicated to industries so as to bring down the air pollution levels within the prescribed limits by the end of December, 1991.

(2) The major polluting industries have installed pollution control equipment and in other industries modification and upgradation of equipment is being carried out by the industries.

(3) A high level committee was constituted by the Government of Andhra Pradesh to review the situation and suggest measures, if any, to minimise the air pollution problem.

Replacement of I/V Fluids

6184. SHRI SUDARSAN
RAYCHAUDHURI:
SHRI CHANDRASHEKARA
MURTHY:
SHRI RAJVEER SINGH:
SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU:
DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME:
SHRI V. SREENIVASA
PRASAD:
DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN:
SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to the reply given on March 8, 1989 to Starred Question No. 191 and state:

(a) Whether it is a fact that in May, 1989 the Drug Controller (India) had ordered to get the stocks of I/V fluids replaced;

(b) Whether it is also a fact that he himself alongwith the Drug Controller (Delhi) had cleared the same stocks in February-March, 1989; and

(c) If the reply to Parts (a) and (b) above be affirmative, whether it had been established during April/May, 1989 that the stocks were indeed contaminated and therefore replacement of stocks was warranted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SRIMATI. D.K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) No, Sir. The Drugs Controller (India) had suggested to the Drugs

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUN-ACHALAM): (a) and (b). Water supply is a State subject. It is the responsibility of the State Government and Urban Local bodies to plan and implement water supply scheme in the urban areas. As per the information received from the Govt. of Orissa, water supply to Sonepur is nearing completion. Schemes for augmentation of water supply in Titilagarh and Bolangir have been prepared for assistance from the Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO), and Water supply schemes in Patanagarh and Kantabanji are in running condition.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Environmental Clearance to Industries

6221. DR. V. RAJESHWARAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether under the new Industrial Policy no environmental clearance is necessary from the Government for expansion of units by the industries:

(b) if so, whether it would create environmental hazards and increase pollution;

(c) whether the Government propose to enact a law by which industrial activities should be governed by a set of environmental rules; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). No, Sir. The new Industrial policy provides that zoning and land use regulation and environmental legislation will continue to regulate

industrial locations. As such, environmental clearance will still be required to obviate environmental pollution & hazards;

(c) and (d). The provisions available presently under different acts are adequate to regulate industrial activities from the environmental angle.

Availability of Ayurvedic Herbs in A.P.

6222. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the presence of Ayurvedic herbs in and around Kondapalli, Ibrehimpatnam Krishna Districts in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether any scheme has been drawn up for identification and conservation of these herbs;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). Ministry of Environment & Forest have informed that Botanical Survey of India under one of their Schemes had identified about 30 potential medicinal plants of special importance and their distribution in districts have been worked out with a view to start an experimental drug farm in suitable areas. One of the areas recommended is Kondapalli forest.

Pollution by Five Star Hotels

6223. SHRI K. THULASIAH VANDAYAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(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

[*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?

Telecast of 'Parliament News'.

6598. SHRI. RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION & BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the object of telecasting the "Parliament News" programme is to convey the daily activities of the Government to the people; and

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to change the time to telecast the programme earlier than it is being telecast; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) No, Sir, The "Parliament News" telecast by Doordarshan is intended to provide to the viewers a summary of the daily proceedings in the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha.

(b) and (c). No, Sir. There is no such proposal at present on account of the constraints of programme requirements and transmission time.

Drinking Water Problem Orissa

6599. SHRI. MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes included/proposed in the current Five Year Plan for the Permanent solution of the problem of drinking water in Orissa and the total amount allocated for each scheme; and

(b) if there is no such scheme, the reasons therefor?

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI

UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL): (a) and (b) The details of the schemes to be taken up and the outlay required in the Eighth Five Year Plan for solution of the problem of drinking water in Orissa will be worked out only after approach, policy and outlays for the Eighth Plan are finalised by Planning Commission.

[English]

New Industrial Policy

6601. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY: SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: SHRI CHITTA BASU:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new industrial policy is likely to lead to laying off the labour force in the industrial section;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the remedial action proposed to be taken by the Government to face this situation and to avoid any unemployment caused as a result of this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): (a) to (c). The Statement on Industrial policy tabled in Parliament on 24th July, 1991 unambiguously declares the Government will fully protect the interests of labour, enhance their welfare and equip them in all respects to deal with the inevitability of technological change.

[Translation]

Water Facility In Rural Areas

6602. SHRI RAM NARAIN BERWA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

[*Translation*]

SHRI VISHWANATH SHASTRI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, secondly, I would like to know the impact of this scheme, if the policy of delicensing is adopted?

[*English*]

SHRI K.C. LENKA: Sir, the review report, submitted by three joint commissions, commended the performance of the Operation Flood. They suggested that the Anand pattern type, which they have implemented through Operation Flood, have great impact all over the State, especially in the rural areas. The whole object of the Operation Flood is to strengthen the marketing and processing position of rural cooperatives so as to produce more milk.

[*Transiation*]

SHRI VISHWANATH SHASTRI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to know the impact of the delicensing as well as of the policy of allowing other persons to come into the field on this project. How will the Government be able to counter this impact? Instead of replying to my questions the hon. Minister is giving detail of the evaluation of the various aspects of this scheme.

[*English*]

SHRI. K.C. LENKA: Sir, I think the hon. Member wants to know whether the delicensing of milk products will have an impact on the cooperatives or not. Government has taken a conscious decision to delicense the milk products. Sir, keeping in view that more private persons will come to the field and invest their money in the rural areas, more investment will be made in the Dairy Sector which will augment the dairy products in the country. It will give an impetus to the rural farmers to produce more milk and thus it will not affect cooperatives as it is. But, it is true that after delicensing the Dairy Cooperatives have complained that it will hamper the performance of the cooperatives and the Department is looking into this matter.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Sir, in view of the importance of the Operation Flood programme, which is aimed at increasing the total milk production as required by the increasing population and at the same time improving the incomes of the rural people, especially the small farmers and agricultural labours, will the Government take immediate steps to implement the Operation Flood III programme in Andhra Pradesh. The State of Andhra Pradesh has already taken up the Anand Pattern in a good spirit. I would also like to know will the Government take immediate steps also to improve the milk yield of the milched cattles in certain areas like Assam, Madhya Pradesh, etc. Where the yield is very very less. Though, the Government says it has a programme in this regard but it is not making good progress.

The Minister has just how said that because of delicensing some companies will come up to produce milk products, which will give more profit to them, rather than to collect and distribute milk to the people in urban areas and also in rural areas who are in need of it. So, will the Government take care of this particular aspect and see that these companies do not come to rural areas to help the rural people and in turn end up by earning profit out of it. I would also like to know whether the Government will think seriously about it and will take adequate steps to see that such things do not take place.

SHRI K.C. LENKA: Sir, Operation Flood Stage-III is already in operation. In our country, in twenty two States, including Andhra Pradesh, this programme is under operation.

The hon. Member has an apprehension that the private persons or the multi-nationals who are interested in having the milk-products industry in the country, may exploit the farmers, who are engaged in the procurement of milk in the co-operative sector.

Sir, this matter has already been examined and precautions will be taken to see

and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Cellular Telephones in Bombay

6849. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to instal cellular phones in Bombay;

(b) if so, the total outlay for introduction of this service and the foreign exchange component involved therein; and

(c) whether the Government propose to scrap this proposal in view of the prevailing economic situation in the country.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b). A proposal to provide this facility to registrants in foreign exchange is under consideration in consultation with Ministry of Finance. The matter is in the preliminary state of examination and details are yet to be worked out.

(c) No, Sir. All aspects of the proposal are under examination.

Parking Facilities in Delhi

6850. SHRIRAJNATHSONKARSHASTRI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether car and two-wheeler owners in Delhi find it difficult to park their vehicles and are being exploited by unauthorised persons at parking lots; and

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to provide adequate parking sites and to prescribe uniform rate of parking all over the city?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) The provision of parking facilities in the Union territory of Delhi is primarily the concern of civic bodies. The parking facilities are not commensurate with the number of vehicles in Delhi. Both the Municipal Corporation of Delhi and New Delhi Municipal Committee have, however, reported that there is no exploitation of car and two-wheeler owners by unauthorised persons in the parking lots under their control.

(b) The New Delhi Municipal Committee has plans to set up 9 more parking lots. The Municipal Corporation of Delhi has plans to set up 3 underground/multi-level parking lots. The rates of parking are determined by the concerned civic bodies.

Fire Incidents in Visakhapatnam Steel Plant

6851. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARARAO VADDE: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of fire incidents occurred in the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant during last three years; and

(b) the reasons therefor and the measures taken by the Government to prevent the recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The total number of fire incidents during the last three years, i.e. 1988 to 1990 was 284.

(b) The incidents occurred due to the sparks of welding/gas cutting operations being carried out by multiple agencies engaged in construction, falling on conveyor belt, waste jute, waste packing material,

minor electrical short circuits and spontaneous combustion of coal etc. The Management has taken extensive measures in terms of intensive fire vigilance, elaborate network of fire detection and alarm and protection systems throughout the plant besides educating employees in avoiding fire incidents and effective fire fighting.

Entry of Multi-National Companies in Poultry Industries

6852. SHRI BJOY KRISHNA HAN-
DIQUE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of multi-national companies are trying to enter the poultry industries in collaboration with major Indian industrial houses;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have assessed the impact of entry of these multi-nationals on small and marginal farmers in the country; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to protect the Indian Poultry Industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K.C.
LENKA): (a) No, Sir.

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

New Research Centres in Kerala

6853. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) propose to set up new Research Centres for cash and horticultural crops in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the contribution made by the existing Research Centres in Kerala for development of agriculture in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K.C.
LENKA): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The existing research centres in Kerala have developed around 50 improved varieties of various horticultural and plantation crops, viz. 7 in Coconut, 3 in Arecanut, 4 in Cashewnut, 8 in black-pepper, 4 in small Cardamom, 1 in ginger, 3 in turmeric 1 in pumpkin, 18 in tuber crops and 1 in lemon-grass. The Centres have also developed production technologies and coconut based cropping systems which have contributed towards increased productivity and income.

[*Translation*]

Electronics Telephone Exchanges in Gujarat

6854. SHRI CHANDUBHAI
DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephone exchanges in Surat, Baroda and Bharuch districts of Gujarat separately and the number of electronic exchanges out of them; and

(b) the details of the exchanges of those districts likely to be converted into electronic exchanges during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI
RAJESH PILOT): (a) The number of telephone exchanges in Surat, Baroda and Bharuch districts of Gujarat as on 31.8.91 are 52, 55 and 33 respectively. The number

(a) whether the Orissa State Agro Industries Corporation has submitted any scheme for agricultural development in the State to NABARD for clearance;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken for early clearance of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Question do not arise.

Gujarat Public Works Contracts Disputes Arbitration Tribunal Ordinance

6880. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Gujarat public works Contracts Disputes Arbitration Tribunal Ordinances is pending with the Union Government; and

(b) if so, the reasons for the delay in according clearance to the said Ordinance and the time by which it is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) and (b). No, Sir. The previous instructions of the president for the promulgation of the Gujarat Public Works Contracts Disputes Arbitration Tribunal Ordinance, 1989 have been conveyed to the State Government on 4.9.1991.

Andaman and Nicobar Islands (Municipal Board) Regulations 1957

6881. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for amendment of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands (Municipal Board) Regulations 1957 has been forwarded by the Andaman and Nicobar Islands Administration to the Union Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) and (b). In 1989, the Andaman and Nicobar administration sent a proposal to the Ministry of Urban Development to amend the Andaman and Nicobar Islands (Municipal Board) Regulations, 1957 thereby increasing the number of members of the Municipal Board, increasing the term of the Municipal Board, providing for direct elections for the Chairman of the Municipal Board, increasing the term of office of the Chairman of the Board and to lower the age of voters from 21 years to 18 years.

Necessary amendments to lower the age of voters from 21 years to 18 years have been carried out.

Pollution due to Release of Effluents by Hindustan Zinc Limited

6882. SHRI M.V.V. S. MURTHI: SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the effluents released by the Hindustan Zinc Limited (HZL) in Visakhapatnam is causing air and water pollution;

(b) if so, the remedial steps taken by the HZL in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) Liquid effluents and Gaseous emissions released by Hindustan Zinc Limited conform to the standards prescribed by Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board.

(b) In the Smelter of Hindustan Zinc Limited at Visakhapatnam, Sulphur Dioxide Gas produced during smelting of zinc and lead is converted into Sulphuric Acid. The liquid effluents from the Lead and Zinc Smelter Plant, after being treated in the Effluent Treatment Plant, is discharged and this effluent conforms to the Standards prescribed by the Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board. The treated effluents from treatment plant conform to be tolerance limits of Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board in terms of ph, suspended solids and metals like Zinc, Lead, Cadmium, Copper, Mercury Arsenic etc. Sulphur Dioxide content of gaseous emission is maintained below 2000 PPM prescribed by Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board. Hindustan Zinc Limited has invested Rs. 16 crores on installation of effluent treatment plant and other measures not only to contain pollution within the permissible limit but to further reduce the same. Recurring expenditure is Rs. 1.5 crores per annum.

(c) Does not arise.

Developmental Programmes for Drought Affected Districts In Orissa

6883. SHRI RABI RAY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minister of State for agriculture visited drought affected districts in Orissa to review the implementation of various developmental programmes in the area;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the follow up action taken by the Government on those recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b). A Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture visited several areas of Kalahandi and Phulbani districts of Orissa in July, 1991 to review the prevailing rainfall and crop situation, the readiness of the district administration to tackle the situation and the implementation of various development programmes.

(c) The State Government of Orissa has been advised to make an indepth study of the Area Development Approach for Poverty Termination programme.

[*Translation*]

Aluminium Factory at Latehar in Bihar

6884. SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Birla Group have obtained lease for setting up of an aluminium factory in the bauxite located area of Latehar in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government propose to set up an aluminium factory in Latehar; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Prime Minister to check the prices from soaring high further.

It is during National Front rule there was a steep price increase. The seed sown so that time is yet to be weeded out. So I would request our dynamic Finance Minister to curb price rise if rolling them back is not possible now.

Illustrious Shri T.T. Krishnamachari from the southern India was once our Finance Minister. He had rendered a remarkable Service during his stint as a Union Finance Minister. Able Finance Ministers like R.K. Shanmugam Chettiar from Tamil Nadu, Mr. John Mathews from Kerala have all contributed their mite as Finance Ministers in the union cabinets, I wish and I would like to see the present Finance Minister achieve more and carve a niche for himself in the economic history of this country. Fiscal balancing, Financial stability, steady income growth, stable politico-economic structure should be ensured under his able stewardship.

Sir, I thank again the Chair for extending me an opportunity to express my views on the second Finance Bill submitted by the Government in this august House.

[English]

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE(Vijayawada): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I have the Highest respect to the Finance Minister as an eminent economist. Though I do not subscribe to some of His views, I do not question his sincerity or his commitment to improve the economy of our country.

I have some suggestions to make in respect of the Finance Bill.

Sir, the Government has proposed to give amnesty to very big people, who have got lot of black money. And two schemes have been proposed giving them lot of benefit. But I wonder as to why the Finance Minister was not so kind towards the salaried class people, to the middle income people.

Sir, you are aware that the purchasing power of a rupee has gone down, lot of inflation is there. Right at the moment, the inflation rate is 15.5 per cent and the predictions are that the inflation rate may go up to 20 per cent. In view of this fact, I request the Finance Minister to consider the plight of the middle income group people, who are genuinely submitting the returns. The salaried class people have on other option but to declare their income. Kindly enhance the Income-tax exemption limit to Rs. 30, 000 from the present level of Rs. 22, 000/- or whatever may be the amount that would take care of the inflation rate, the price rise and the purchasing power of a rupee. I suggest to the Government to bring down the tax rates because not only in our country but all over the world, it has been found that the reduction in the income-tax rates have brought more revenue to the Government.

Tax collection will definitely increase; black money would reduce and get channelised into the more productive sectors. So, in this connection, I have a suggestion for the consideration of the Hon. Finance Minister to bring down the rates of income taxes (i) above Rs. 30000/- to Rs.50000/- it may be around 20 per cent; (ii) between Rs.50000/- to Rs. 100000/- it may be 25 per cent; (iii) between Rs. 100000/- to 200000/- it may be 30 per cent; and (i v) above Rs. 200000/- it may be 40 per cent. I suggest the Finance Minister to examine this.

It is really a wonder why this interest tax @ 3 per cent of interest received by all credit institutions, banks, financial institutions, it is being introduced now again. Earlier, it was introduced in 1974, as the Hon. Finance Minister has stated in his Budget Speech. It was withdrawn in 1978 and again introduced in 1980, withdrawn in 1985 and now again introduced. I wonder what prompted the Government to take this decision. This is going to affect the trade and small scale industries. Of course, I congratulate the Hon. Finance Minister. Yesterday, he brought some amendments to earlier proposals where he has exempted Cooperative Agricultural credit Societies, the Land Develop-

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ment Banks and the Land Mortgage Banks from the Purview of this present amendment. It is but natural also because he has said that these banks and financial institutions including cooperative societies are under the Banking Regulation Act. But, my information is that the banking Regulation Act does not cover both the land Mortgage Bank and the Land Development Bank. Anyway, I sincerely express my thanks for that.

Regarding providing tax deduction at source on interest accrued over Rs. 25, 00/- this is going to psychologically affect many people who save their income and deposit in the banks. They may not come forward so enthusiastically as they hitherto are coming. This provision may also be again reconsidered and and withdrawn.

I wonder why the Government is so harsh towards this interest on tax papers refund issue. Some time back it was 15 per cent in respect of both the interest on the amount to be paid in the Government as well as the amount to be given from the Government to the tax payers by way of refund. But, later on it was enhanced to 24 per cent and 18 per cent respectively. Now, you have got that 18 per cent, still six per cent less. what is the rationale, I do not understand. When the tax payer is due to the Government you are charging 24 per cent and when the Government is to give back some money to the tax payers who has paid the excess, he is proposed to be paid only at 18 per cent. I certainly feel that this is a definite item which has to be taken care of by the Finance Minister.

In the Memorandum you have said "it is a pleasure for simplification and Rationalisation". This reduction, that means omitting of the words half per cent, I wonder what is the simplification or rationalisation you are proposing to achieve by way of omitting those words. The sur-charge on corporate tax earlier was introduced during the drought period. The drought was over after three

years. We have good monsoon and we have good crops, but you have not withdrawn the sur-charge. Then, the Gulf crisis came. Again you have enhanced it to 12 per cent, but still it continues even after the Gulf war. So, there is no rational in continuation of the sur-charge on this corporate taxes. So, I request the Finance Minister to consider that and remove that.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude as there are many Hon. Members who want to speak.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: If the Government is really sincere to bring down the black money—it is estimated that every year almost nearly forty thousand crores of rupees are added to the black money pool if they have really some definite idea to cut the circulation of black money, why don't they demonetise the five-hundred rupee notes? Why don't they take that decision? So many *crorepatis* are there having tons of money with them. At least to some extent the Government can definitely bring down that black money.

Regarding Schedule III to rule 12 of the Wealth-tax Act, the Government has propose one amendment. They are not justified in respect of this one also. Earlier it was introduced in 1958 but withdrawn in 1960. Again it was brought in 1981 but the draft rules did not see the light of the day. Again in 1986, draft rules were published but the proposal was withdrawn. Again through Direct Tax Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1988, it was passed in this House but after some time, the then Finance Minister, Shri S.B. Chavan, had withdrawn that. I will quote only two sentences from what he said on that day.

Regarding the rules for determining the value of assets, as provided in Schedule III to the Wealth-tax Act, regarding the manner in which the value of an unquoted equity share in the investment company is to be determined, he admitted: "Such a method of Valuation will be administratively very cumbersome and the cost of compliance would be very great. Apart from that, a shareholder

of an investment company has no control over the disposal of the shares of the company and, therefore, unrealised gain, if any of the investment company is of no consequence to the shareholder. Keeping in view this hardship, I propose to amend rule 12 of Schedule III to the Wealth-tax Act, 1957 to provide that the difficulties of the nature expressed in the matter of Valuation of shares of investment companies are remedied" It was drawn in 1989.

Four times it was withdrawn. What prompted the Government to bring it again in this Bill? I request the H hon. Finance Minister to kindly think over and withdraw that.

At least for the time being you do not give it effect and before the next budget you kindly discuss that with all concerned people and come forward with a new proposal in the next budget.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Rao, kindly excuse me. if the timings are not properly regularised...

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: I am making only suggestions, Sir. I am the first speaker from my party. I will not take much time.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You should be more sympathetic to the next speaker also. You are a senior man.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: I assure you, Sir, I will not take much time, though I have many point to make. I am not going to speak about certain things.

Sir, in his Budget Speech on 29th February, 1988, the then Union Finance Minister had announced that a National Agricultural Credit Relief Fund would be set up to help the farmers affected by natural calamities. Somehow, though the Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri P. Tripathi, Additional Secretary gave recommendations but it was

not implemented. I urge upon the Finance Minister to seriously think about this proposal and bring forward this NACRF because without that the farmers in coastal Andhra, coastal Orissa, coastal Tamil Nadu or West Bengal are going to suffer a lot because especially during the harvesting periods, the cyclone and the tidal waves are causing lot of damage and the backbone of farmers in those areas is being broken. Unless you come forward with such a proposal, the farmers have no safety.

Regarding the issue of licences for sugar factories, I suggest to the Government that Andhra Pradesh has got a lot of potential; but somehow its due share was denied by the previous governments. I suggest to the Government that keeping in view the high sucrose corn syrup latest technology innovation, they may see that the integrated units manufacturing sugar, paper and other things are issued licences.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Rao, shall I call the next Member to speak? kindly conclude. It is too much.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Sir, I am concluding.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: There should be a uniform rule for everybody. Kindly conclude.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Sir, regarding sugar and other integrated units, I request you to kindly give preference for them and give more licences for sugar factories in our State.

Sir, regarding the interest rebate to farm sector, I submit that in our State of Andhra Pradesh, earlier our Telugu Desam Government gave a rebate of 5 1/2 per cent to the farmers who paid back their due instalments in time. It had really given very good results. More farmers got loans and the amount disbursed increased three fold. The farmers were give the loans. I am sure that this will definitely improve the economic discipline. I suggest to the Government to

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take steps in this regard for as that would improve the recovery of loans from farmers.

Finally, I appeal to the Government and to the hon. Finance Minister to examine this fact that whether the step-motherly treatment of the Union Government, till now, towards the agricultural sector is responsible for the poverty that is continuing in our country. There is lot of unemployment in the rural areas and also under-employment. All this is merely because of lack of adequate investment made in the agricultural sector by the successive governments all these years. I would like to say that except in the years 1977-78 and 1987-79 when Janata Government was there, almost the investment in agriculture - both public and private sectors - has been coming down. because of which we would not realise full potential in agricultural production.

I would urge upon the Finance Minister to kindly—I am again repeating my appeal, before I conclude—think over again on the matter of fertiliser prices. It is going to cause lot of hard ship to the farmers. I appeal to the Government not to take it as a prestige issue. You kindly reduce it to the level of increase by 5 or 7 or maximum 10 per cent increase. Otherwise the farmers are going to suffer very much. And also the agricultural Production in this country is going to suffer. I submit that it is against the national interest. I once again appeal to the Government to kindly re-think on that issue and bring down the prices of fertilisers to the farmers. I would like to mention that those farmers whom you are thinking as rich farmers are not really so and most of them are only middle or lower middle level farmers.

Thank you for the opportunity given to me.

[Translation]

SHRIGUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali): Mr. Deputy Speaker, sir there has been a mixed reaction to the widespread changes that our

hon. Minister of Finance has tried to made in our economy. One thing is very clear from the Finance Bill and the Budget that our national economy has been completely ruined by the experiments we made on nationalisation, public sector industries, etc, during the last 40 years. The hon. Minister of Finance has acknowledged the above position in the present Budget and the Finance Bill and made an effort to allow free enterprise in trade and industry and give freedom to the private sector.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER, Sir, I do not like to go into this philosophy. But one thing is certain that all the countries including the frontline communist countries of the world have come to the conclusion that their last 50-60 years experiment has completely ruined their economy.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, no communist country has ever claimed that there was communism anywhere in the world. Communism has never been the future goal of any country. One may call it self as a communist Government or socialistic set up, but no one has ever made a claim for communism.

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, now that situation has come. We will need long hours if we start discussion on communism and socialism. But whatever philosophy that one may like to call it whether it is socialism or philosophy of Lenin, Mars or Stalin or whatever experiments. We made, whether it was the case of nationalisation or anything else, I am not going to delve on their merits or demerits. But it is certain that the hon. Minister of Finance has made this effort this time by admitting the failure of the aforesaid experiments. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has made various provisions in the Budget, in the national policy and the Finance Bill after admitting the above failure. I would like to draw the attention of the august House towards a point which has been raised by others also. The point is that the salaried class, the clerks, the class IV employees of the Government are the most