

ter has worked out this figure about recovery etc Sir through you, I would like to apprise the hon Minister of the factual position Under the said scheme a sum of Rs 707.81 crore was given to the beneficiaries Debt relief given by PSB and RRBs stands at Rs 2785.44 crore and Rs 786.69 crore respectively Debt amount of Cooperative Banks stands at Rs 294.34 crores So the liability of the Centre was of Rs 5666.47 crores The Central Government made a provision of Rs 1500 crore in its first Budget In the final Budget a provision of Rs 425 crore was made In 1992-93 Rs 1500 crore was provided and in 1993-94 Rs 500 crore was set aside Therefore in all the Centre has set aside Rs 4925 crore Out of which Rs 420 crore was not provided In total Rs 4505.4 crore has been disbursed and the difference is of Rs 1000 Banks have been asked to prepare final appraisal report After this the Central Government will not provide funds on account of interest and compound interest and the money provided by DGICR Only after final review clear picture will emerge This way Rs 1000 will be saved For rest of the amount provision has been already made in the Budget The Central Government is nearly freed of its responsibility

DR K. D. JFSWANI What about Gujarat?

MR. SPEAKER You can give in writing about Gujarat

SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT The practice of writing off of loans should be discontinued from the banking system and this should not be started again In 1990 scheme a mandatory condition was incorporated But it was not extended to whole of the country Wherever this scheme is in vogue is not being implemented

[English]

MR. SPEAKER It is for the entire country

[Translation]

SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT I am talking of country as a whole

[English]

MR. SPEAKER He may not have the information because this question relates to the entire country From general if you come to the specific the Minister may not have the reply

SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT I am coming to the general only

[Translation]

It has been implemented in different forms in various parts of country Only the rich farmers were provided relief under this scheme and the small farmers, with low income, were not provided any relief Therefore, this condition should be reviewed and withdrawn I would like to know whether the Government will take any decision to benefit the farmers not covered under this scheme or for providing them relief in a different manner?

DR. ABRAR AHMED Mr Speaker Sir in reply to the main question I submitted that this scheme has been totally abandoned At the time of implementing the loan waiving scheme some criteria were fixed If the Hon Member would like to know it then I am willing to come out with all these criteria

[English]

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE Mr Speaker Sir as per the guidelines given by the Union Government in respect of the Agricultural and Rural Debt Relief Scheme 1990 it is the bank authorities who have to inform the eligible beneficiary farmer the amount he owes and the amount that is being written off, and if still some more amount is to be paid by him to clear the account So this responsibility to inform the farmers has been fixed upon the bank officials Sir some eligible small farmers belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes could not avail this benefit because they were not informed in time before the scheme was closed I had brought one such case to the notice of the Hon Finance Minister There may be few other cases in respect of the other parts of the country also I would like to know from the Minister whether the Government will consider such few cases and give the benefit to those farmers

MR. SPEAKER Please do not make a speech Kindly come to the question

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE Sir I am told that the Government of India owes some money to the Andhra Pradesh Government Will the Government take necessary steps immediately to release this amount?

(b) if so, the total number of trade centres proposed to be set up by India in foreign countries till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b) Export or certain textile/garment items to some of the developed countries are restricted by quantitative limits. Exports of such products from India are regulated by Textile/Garment Export Entitlement Distribution policies formulated by the Government. Export of non-quota items to quota countries and export to non-quota non-quota countries are allowed freely. Government have taken several steps to boost textile exports in the recent past. There is however no proposal at present before the Ministry of Textiles to open trade centres in foreign countries.

[English]

Micro-Dimensional Problems to Textiles Workers

3740 SHRI SUDHIR GIRI Will the MINISTER OF LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the micro-dimensional problems faced by the textile workers all over the country;

(b) the micro-dimensional difficulties afflicting there in specific areas State-wise;

(c) the suggestions made by the representatives of the textile workers for the remedies; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P A. SANGMA): (a) to (d) The Textile industry which is one of the important industries in the national economy is faced by sickness. The largest concentration of sick cotton textile units is in Maharashtra, Gujarat and Tamil Nadu. The causes of sickness in textile industry are manifold and complex, general as well as unit specific. Due to the sickness in the industry workers are facing various kinds of problems. Ministry of Labour has revived the Tripartite Industrial Committee on Cotton Textiles to examine the problems of sickness facing this industrial sector and prescribe appropriate remedies. In the meeting of the Committee held on 12th February, 1992 the committee discussed the question of industrial sickness and problems faced by the workers due to sickness. The Committee also observed that the budgetary

support to the National Textile Corporation (NTC) should not be stopped suddenly but phased out over a period of time. The Labour side agreed to consider the proposal of NTC to re-group some units in different subsidiaries to make them financially viable. In the meeting of the Special Committee for consultation on NTC matters held on 26-6-93 representatives of the Central Trade Union Organisations suggested the need for proper planning for development of all sectors of the textile industry. As decided by the Committee, a Sub-Committee of the Special Committee has been constituted to consider the implementation of turn around strategies of NTC.

Merger of AP Cooperative Central Agricultural Development Bank and AP State Cooperative Bank

3741. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO (VADDE) Will the MINISTER OF FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has sought the permission of the Union Government to go ahead with the merger of two apex Bank viz., A. P. Cooperative Bank and A. P. State Cooperative Bank;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The State Government of Andhra Pradesh has submitted a proposal to Government in the Ministry of Agriculture for merger of Andhra Pradesh Cooperative Central Agricultural Development Bank Ltd. with Andhra Pradesh State Cooperative Bank Ltd. at the apex level. This is the second phase of integration in Andhra Pradesh as the process of integration at the level of District Central Cooperative Banks (DCCBs) and Primary Agricultural Development Banks (PADEBs) has since been completed. NABARD has reported that the Proposal for merger of the long term and short term credit structure at the apex level is feasible both from financial and organisational angles.

I would end by saying, if you do anything like that, anything outside the framework of the Quran, it will not be acceptable. That is why, that Algerian Law Minister of the Peoples Democratic, Socialist Republic of Algeria told me that his way of reforming the society, his way of re-writing a Muslim law was by going back to the roots. And by going back to the roots, Mr Chairman, he meant, going back to the holy words of Quran which is accepted by every Muslim. And if any reform you wish to introduce is presented to the people as not being in contradiction or in opposition to the Word of God, it will be accepted by the community. Then that law will not remain a piece of paper a dead letter. The law will become a living reality. That is how, I wish you to proceed in the matter of uniform civil code not by just passing a law by brute majority, "we apply it here and now"

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijaywada) Mr Chairman, Sir thank you for giving the opportunity. At the outset, I congratulate the Mover of the Resolution to have given this House an opportunity to discuss a very important constitutional provision. Earlier also, some discussions have taken place in Lok Sabha as well as in Rajya Sabha. In Rajya Sabha on 11th May 1962, Dr Shrimati Sita Parmanand had moved that. And in Lok Sabha on 21st December, 1967, a discussion took place again.

I remember very well you were also there during the Eighth Lok Sabha that Shri Banatwala a Member of the Indian Union of Muslim League moved a Private Member's Bill seeking deletion of Article 44.

Sir, the very fact that it was incorporated in the Directive Principles chapter itself shows that it is a long range goal to be achieved just as several other provisions in the Directive Principles, which cannot be done very immediately. For example, take the provision of compulsory and free education to the children upto the age of 14 years or workers participation in management in the industries or raising the level of nutrition. All these things are laudable objectives but, they could be achieved by the Government, if proper strategies are followed. For example take Article 40 concerning the formation of village panchayats. It took so many years for us to give a constitutional shape to the Panchayati Raj and Nagarapalika Bills regarding local self-government.

At the time of discussion in the Constituent Assembly, several members who have opposed, also agreed, Shri Hossein Imam observed and I quote

"India is too big a country with a large population, so diversified and it is almost impossible to stamp them with one kind of anything"

He further said

"In a country so diverse, is it possible to have a uniformity in civil law?"

He expressed his doubt but said

"Sir, I feel that it is all right and a very desirable thing to have a uniform law but, at a very distant date for that, we should await coming of that event, when the whole of India has got educated, when mass illiteracy has been removed when people have advanced when their economic conditions are better when each man is able to stand on his own legs and fight his own battles. Then you can have a uniform civil code.

My point is, even some hon. members who have opposed in principle but at the same length they have also agreed that it is a thing which should be achieved at a distant future."

And Dr B. R. Ambedkar the most important person in framing the Constitution referring to the doubts expressed by Shri Imam said

"My friend, Shri Hossein Imam, in rising to support the amendment asked whether it was possible and desirable to have a uniform code of law for a country so vast as this. Now I must confess that I was very much surprised at the statement for the simple reason that we have in this country a uniform code of law covering almost every aspect of human relationship. We have a uniform and complete criminal code operating throughout the country which is contained in the Penal Code and the Criminal Procedure Code. We have the law of Transfer of Property, we have the law of Negotiable Instruments Act etc., which are uniform for all the persons, to whatever religion they follow."

He also said

"I think most of my friends who have spoken on this amendment have quite forgotten that upto 1935 the North-West Frontier Province was not subjected to Shariat law. It followed

the Hindu law in the matter of succession and in other matters. So much so that it was in 1939 that the Central Legislature had to come into the field and to abrogate the application of the Hindu law to the Muslims of the North-West Frontier Province and to apply the Shariat law to them. That is not all. My hon. friends have forgotten that apart from the North-West Frontier Province, up-till 1937 in the rest of India, in various parts such as the United Provinces, the Central Provinces and Bombay the Muslims to a large extent were governed by the Hindu law in the matter of succession. In order to bring them on the plane of uniformity with regard to the other Muslims who observed their Shariat law the Legislature had to intervene in 1937 and to pass an enactment applying the Shariat law to the rest of India."

So, though Muslims in some part of our country were not initially governed by the Shariat Law keeping their sentiments in view the then Governments have passed legislations to respect their wishes and brought amendments.

It is only in respect of marriage succession and divorce we have different personal laws that is family laws. I would like to say that even in the matter of codification of the Hindu Law a lot of efforts have been made to change some of the previous practices which were not humanistic and several Acts have been brought forward like Hindu Widow Marriages Act 1856, Hindu Wills Act 1870, Child Marriage Restraint Act 1929, Hindu Marriage Disabilities Removal Act 1946, Hindu Marriage Validity Act 1949 which validated the marriages not only between different castes, but also between Hindu, Sikhs and Jains, Hindu Marriage Act 1955 which prescribed monogamy and Hindu Succession Act which brings all laws of succession among Hindus, Buddhists, Sikhs, Jains etc. together. It also has given right in the property to widow daughter, mother, when the family head is no more.

In spite of so many Acts being there—the Hindu Code Bill being there, Dowry Act being there—as my friend has pointed out, we come across so many dowry deaths many times. That is because the daughter does not have a right in her father's property when he is alive. Only after his death she is getting something.

About the Parsee law, the Zoroastrians who migrated to India in the 8th century were having the Parsee Marriages and Divorce Act 1865.

But at the suggestion of a Committee of Parsee Law Association and the intellectuals among Parsees they have felt the need to bring amendments in tune with the changing times and in 1936 it was amended.

In respect of Christian Law the Indian Christian Marriages Act 1872, the Indian Divorce Act 1869, Indian Succession Act 1825 are there which govern them. But a Bill was brought to codify them.

Just now my friend Shri Shahabuddin was saying that there is need to codify various personal laws. An effort was made and basing upon the recommendations of the Law Commission a Bill was introduced in 1962 but unfortunately it was not passed.

I feel in the personal laws of various religions there are good points. One must have the broad mind to take the good aspects of every family law of the various religions and they must be codified to have a uniform civil code which them will not give the feeling to persons following a particular religion that they are forced to follow the dictates of others.

Just now my friend Shri Rajvir Singh was telling that the time may not be far off when the minorities may become majority and the majority may become minorities. It is most unfortunate.

This is not just in this House but outside this House also a political party and some organisations are making lot of efforts to give this impression to the people, mainly innocent people. But this is not the fact. I would like to say that very recently, the Union Government has given a statistical data in the form of a small leaflet which was circulated through our Distribution Branch. It says that in 1961, the Muslim population was 4.69 crores, out of a total population of 43.9 crores. It means that it comes to 10.68 per cent. It further says that in 1981, the Muslim population was 7.56 crores out of a total population of 68.5 crores. It means that it comes to 11.03 per cent. So, over a period of 20 years, remember Mr. Chairman Sir, the Muslim Population has increased at the rate of only 0.5 per cent. Even after several hundred years what our BJP friends apprehend will not happen. But, with a motive with a definite intention to spread some misinformation among the majority community people, to create an apprehension or fear among those people, to win their sympathy to get their votes, consistent efforts are being made by some

political parties and some organisations. It is most unfortunate.

Sir it is also a very unfortunate thing. Till a few years back the Criminal Procedure Code was uniform to all the citizens of this country to whatever religious faith they may belong to. But unfortunately it happened subsequent to the Supreme Court judgement on Shah Banu case. Ravi Gandhi Government did it. I remember very well we are all Members in the Fifth Lok Sabha. Mr Arif Mohammed Khan has argued very fervently in support of the Supreme Court judgement. But unfortunately after some time when some organisations and some people have been pressing for a change in the effect of the judgement, this Section 125 of the Criminal Procedure Code has been brought into which is contrary to the spirit of our Constitution. He was telling about the Special Marriages Act he was correct. When a person following a certain religion converts into another religion or a marriage takes place between two persons you are correct, it is a first step towards Uniform Civil Code.

My request to the Government is that it must take suitable steps to bring forward an atmosphere which is conducive for acceptance of uniform civil code and for that I really congratulate Mr Shahabuddin to have said that the people, the well-minded citizens, the intelligentsia in various religious communities must come forward to bring forward reforms in the social and other fronts so that the people living in this country to whatever religious faith they may belong to will have a uniform family law. After all they are children of their parents to whatever religion they may belong to but they share the blood of their parents and for nine months the mother was carrying the child and she gave birth to the child. So there need not be much differences. Similarly when a lady a woman lives with her husband they lead a life for several decades after sometime for some reason, whether justified or not some differences crop up and when she divorces definitely she must be given adequate means of survival and for this humanistic elementary things, the religious faiths need not come in the way.

17-00 hrs.

I agree that it must be done on a voluntary basis. A beginning should be made even now. The other day women belonging to Islamic faith were raising their voice against the triple talaq. I congratulate

Even Hindu Code Bill has also to be changed. Mr Shahabuddin has rightly pointed out that the Hindu joint family is having a definite advantage in respect of taxes. That is there. All these things should also be taken into consideration. A religious community just because it is in a majority should not act in such a manner that minority community feel that they are being dictated that feeling should not be there.

17-01 hrs.

(MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

I again congratulate the mover of the resolution to have given the opportunity in this House. But I am sorry to say that your party has spoiled the atmosphere on December 6 1992. At the present juncture the Muslim minority people are very much worried about their very existence in this country due to your demolition of the Babri Masjid.

I appeal to the Government and to all the political parties to see that this apprehension, this fear, this agony is slowly removed from the minds of the minorities. Only after that, they will be in a position to give a serious thinking for bringing out a uniform family law or civil code. I thank you for a giving me the opportunity.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA (Andaman and Nicobar Islands) Mr Deputy Speaker Sir I am sorry that I cannot support the Resolution moved by Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan regarding the Uniform Civil Code. If she had not brought forward this Resolution for a political purpose, there would have been a meaningful discussion for the benefit of people belonging to different religions. Also the points mentioned by her in the Resolution are not proper. She knows how many wives King Dashratha had. (*interruptions*)

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH How many wives Lord Ram had? Lord Ram is known as monogamist. (*interruptions*)

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA Mr Deputy Speaker Sir Shri Syed Shahabuddin has just delivered a very fine speech in the House. He did not mention anything out of fanaticism but enlightened us by explaining the thing in detail. I would like to say that after independence when the Constitution was being framed the distinguished members of the Con-

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri V S Rao.

(Interruptions)

SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES (Udipi): Sir, I am on a point of order. I would like to know whether the Opposition can do this when the Chair has given a ruling; and whether what they are doing is right. The ruling given by the Chair is final.

(Translation)

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhinagar): Shri Nitish Kumar has given a suggestion. Anyone can tell the Government about its discrepancy and he should express regret and say that this will not happen in future. The matter would have ended here. I do not want to go into details, but I know as to why this discrepancy is there.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: It was not clear to me in this noise what you people want. The Deputy Speaker gave the ruling.....

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: He had not given.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: He had given and had called Shri Rao to speak. I have no hesitation in expressing regret about the fact that Hindi version could not be provided.

18.33 hrs

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE: DISAPPROVAL OF CONSUMER PROTECTION (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE, AND CONSUMER PROTECTION (AMENDMENT) BILL AS PASSED BY RAJYA SABHA.

(English)

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijaywada): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Consumer Protection (Amendment) Bill, 1993.

We welcome the amendments that are being brought forward by the Government. They are suggested by the working group to overcome some of the deficiencies and lacunae that have been observed in its functioning during the last six years. We hope that the Government will bring forward, in the near future, some other amendments that were suggested by the working group. Several consumer organisations have been demanding certain amendments also.

First of all, coming to the amendment Bill, we welcome the amendments to section 2 relating to definitions whereby the amendment has given an opportunity to other consumer also, who is having the same interest, to make a complaint to the District Forum or the State Commission. In Section 6, the word 'services' has been added to the word 'food'. Section 10 is about composition of District Forum, section 16 is about composition of the State Commission and section 20 is about the composition of the National Commission. I feel that amendments to sections 10, 16 and 20 will improve the credibility of these Commissions in the eyes of the public because certain minimum norms have been fixed.

You have also announced the selection committees. The selection committees have to select non-official members. That is a good thing you have done.

In sections 11, 17 and 21, the jurisdiction of the District Forum has been enhanced from Rs. 1 lakh to Rs. 5 lakh, that of the State Commission from Rs. 10 lakh to Rs. 20 lakh and that of the National Commission it is above Rs. 20 lakh. It is also a very welcome step because during the last seven years, the escalation in the cost of commodities has enhanced. You have done a right thing. We welcome all these measures.

Amendment to section 2 is also very necessary. This relates to trade practices. Many a time, several shop-owners or business firms are compelling the consumer to purchase some other item also in addition to the item which he is selling. The consumer is burdened additionally for purchasing those items.

Insertion of clause 5 is also very much necessary regarding hazardous items which are dangerous to life.

There is clause (b) which will enable the self-employed people to seek redressal in respect of goods which they have purchased. We also welcome section 26 because that will take care of mischief-mongers who just file a complaint. That is also a good thing. Only persons who have a genuine grouse or who have been put to a loss will make a complaint. We appreciate that.

We feel disappointed because you have not included the main item services in Government hospitals. Of course, you have expressed the hope that situation will improve. If it really does not improve, you told that you will bring the

amendment. But we would like to know what is meant by 'improvement'. What is in your mind? During your reply, please make it clear. What steps are you going to take apart from the doctors and other personnel working in the hospitals who render good service to the consumers—to the patients. From the Government side, what are you going to do? You please explain it.

By and large, the success of the Consumer Protection Act will depend upon the implementation at the district levels. It will depend upon the effective functioning of the District Fora. My own experience from my State of Andhra Pradesh is that out of 23 districts—subject to correction—to my information, only four districts are having full-time Chairmen. In 19 districts, District Judges are acting as Chairmen of the District Fora. Consequently, in a week for only one day, the Chairman of the District Forum, that is, the District Judge himself, has to take up the cases. Consequently, what is happening is that the pendency of these cases is increasing and increasing. Actually, these petitions to district forums are to be cleared within three or five months. But it is not happening so. I would like to bring this to the notice of the hon. Ministers, both Antonyji and Ahmedji. I would like to tell that in Andhra Pradesh, out of 40205 cases filed, 29267 cases were settled upto March, 1993. That means, as on the end of March, 1993, 10938 cases are pending. At the State Council level, 735 cases were filed last year and only 94 cases were settled and out of 11207 appeals, only 201 appeals were cleared. So, my suggestion to the Government is that they should take necessary steps for appointment of full-time chairmen for all the districts.

I would like to draw your attention to one point. Where there are full-time chairmen in the district forums, awareness has increased. Insights of the functioning of the full-time chairmen, more cases are coming. That means, consumers are realising their rights and they are inclined to fight and get redressal at the forum level. My suggestion is to appoint full-time chairmen in district forums where they do not exist. I would like to quote Mahatma Gandhi in this regard.

"Consumer is our most important guest; he is not dependent on us. Moreover, we are dependent on him. It is not that we are favouring him. In fact, it is he who is giving us an opportunity to serve him."

Let us remind ourselves of these great words of the father of our nation and see that consumer rights are protected. You are aware that farmers are suffering due to adulteration in pesticides and fertilisers and by inferior quality seeds. Even big multinational companies are cheating the public and the farmers. I would request the Government to see that consumer awareness increases many-fold. For that, adequate education is important through media specially through Doordarshan which is a powerful media. I request the Government to provide more funds to publish literature in different languages so that literature reaches the consumers and awareness is created and ultimately, a strong consumer momentum is built up just as it is happening in other countries.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, many hon. Members have participated and lot of time has been taken. So, may I request the hon. Minister to reply?

[Translation]

SHRI GIRIDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have also given notice of amendment.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: We shall take the amendments one by one.

(Interruptions)

SHRI M. R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN (Tirunelveli): Sir, you give some time to speak. Our party is represented by eleven Members. (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Kindly excuse me. Mr. Janarthanan, we have taken more time than allotted. In spite of ringing the bell, speakers did not oblige and as a result, most of the time had been consumed by earlier speakers.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You shall have to bear with the Chair. You can have a chance to speak in some other discussion.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad): I have also not been given chance to speak. (Interruptions)

[English]

Milk Booths

1160. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Delhi Milk Scheme booths constructed recently;

(b) the number out of them which are supplying milk to residents of Delhi;

(c) whether some of the milk booths constructed recently are occupied by unauthorised persons; and

(d) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to get them vacated and make the milk booths functional?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) and (b). The Delhi Milk Scheme (DMS) have got constructed seven milk booths during 1993 in replacement of the old milk booths. Milk is being supplied to the residents from all the seven booths.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Harvesting of Sugarcane

1161. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Council of Agricultural Research or private organisations have evolved suitable machinery for harvesting sugarcane which is otherwise a very cumbersome process;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the probable cost of machinery; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to make available this

machine to farmers at reasonable rate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b). In view of the need of appropriate mechanization of sugarcane harvesting operation, Indian Council of Agricultural Research has been undertaking research to develop a tractor rear-mounted sugarcane harvester. Prototypes of the design developed at Indian Sugarcane Research Institute, Lucknow are under extensive evaluation. Based on the above design; Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana is undertaking research to develop a two-row tractor front-mounted sugarcane harvester. Simultaneous efforts are underway for possible collaboration with small-scale manufacturers for product multiplication. The estimated cost of prototype of above machine is around Rs. 50,000/-.

It is understood that a few Indian Manufacturers are making efforts to collaborate with leading Australian firms for introduction of sugarcane harvester in India. As per available information, such tractor-operated single row machines cut the wholestic cane and drop them at right angle to the row on soil where the crop is to be topped manually. Such machines may cost about Rs. 5.00 lakhs.

(c) I.C.A.R is a research organisation. The research designs, which found fieldworthy, will be made available to the interested organisations for further exploitation.

[Translation]

New Divisions in Bihar

1162. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUHARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of divisional offices

[English]

cies as on June, 1993;

Commercial Utilisation of Surplus Railway Land

1302. SHRI. SOBHANA DRESSWARA RAOVADDE: will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) The Latest stage of the scheme to commercially utilise the surplus land available with the Railways;

(b) the extent of the land proposed to be commercially utilised;

(d) the reasons for the delay in implementation of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) to (d) The proposal is still under consideration of Government.

[Translation]

Storage Facilities for Foodgrains

1303. SHRI N. S. RAMAR: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) Whether due to excess procurement of foodgrains, there is a lack of adequate storing arrangement in the Government warehouses;

(b) if not, the total capacity of storage facility available with the Government agen-

(c) the capacity of the rented storage out of them;

(d) whether the foodgrains are lying in open at many places in the country; and

(e) if so, the names of the places where it was lying in open alongwith quantity thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY FOOD (SHRI KIALP NATH RAI)

(a) The all time record level of procurement of 128.2 lakh tonnes during the 193—94 Rabi Marketing season coupled with the less than usual offtake under PDS during the first 6 months of 1993, had led to certain short term problems of storage. This problem has been overcome by hiring of additional storage space both in the procuring and in the consuming regions.

(b) and (c). The total storage capacity available with Food Corporation of India for storage of foodgrain as on 1. 6. 1993 was 21.33 million tonnes. out of this, about 8 million tonnes capacity was hired/ rented by Food Corporation of India from different agencies.

(d) and (e). In exigent situations, Food Corporation of India resorts to CAP Covered and Plinth) storage. This type of storage is considered to be scientific and foodgrains can be preserved safely. A statement showing the State—wise CAP capacity alongwith quantity stored as on 1. 6. 1993 is attached.

been mentioned in the reply. I want to know in that regard whether recommendations made in the Conference have been implemented or not. If not what are the hurdles to implement the recommendations? Whether any time limit has been fixed to implement the recommendations made by the Conference?

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: Sir, as far as the question is concerned. I have answered it completely. Regarding the Environment and Forest Ministry, the method of granting consent, for water and air polluting small scale industries, has been simplified, except for 17 critically polluting centres. In all other cases small scale industries will merely have to file an application and obtain the acknowledgement which will serve the purpose of consent.

Regarding implementation, we have passed the Minutes of the Conference to the State Governments. It is upto the State Governments to take action and we will pursue. I will again write to the State Governments in this regard.

SHRI G. DEVARAYA NAIK: My second supplementary is whether the Government proposes to delegate powers to the State Governments to give extension certificate in the small scale industries?

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: The small scale industry is under the purview of the State Governments so it is upto the State Governments to decide.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, some time back the hon. Prime Minister was good enough to say that this Inspectors Raj, means Inspectors visiting scale units and harassing the entrepreneurs, will be given a go-by.

I would like to know categorically whether concrete instructions have been issued to

that effect to put an end to that practice, which is causing lot of harassment to the small scale industries. On another point I would like to have a clarification from the hon. Minister. Earlier, each District Industry Centre was being given Rs.5 lakh per year. I am told that the amount has been reduced in recent years.

MR. SPEAKER: The question relates to the Conference of Industries Ministries.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: I want to know whether that reduction will not be made and the normal amount which was being given would be given to the Centres so that it will help the industries to develop and grow.

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: I am answering the later part of the question regarding the District Industries Centres. The National Development Council had decided that this scheme had to be given back to the State Governments. We have given it to the State Governments. It is up to the State Governments now to maintain the District Industries Centres.

Coming to the inspector raj, the Ministry of Finance have inspected instructed the various departments and small scale industry inspections have been limited to once in a year, condition being that the approval has to be obtained from the next higher authorities. The Ministry of Labour has given instructions to the State Governments to simplify the procedure to restrict the inspections of small scale industries.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, a conference of the Ministers of Small Scale Industry was held in New Delhi in which it was decided as has been stated by the hon. Minister just now that if an entrepreneur wants to set up his industry, he

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

(b) if so, the State-wise details of rural houses constructed by HUDCO assistance during the last year?

[English]

HUDCO Assistance for Rural Housing

1454 SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether HUDCO provides financial help for rural housing; and

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) and (b). HUDCO provides loans to various housing agencies admitted by State Govts. Actual construction is done by the implementing agencies. The State-wise details of dwelling units sanctioned by HUDCO, in rural areas, during 1992-93 are given in the enclosed Statement.

STATEMENT

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the State</i>	<i>Dwelling units and sanctioned</i>
1.	Andhra Pradesh	29037
2.	Assam	1500
3.	Bihar	Nil
4.	Gujarat	9414
5.	Himachal Pradesh	Nil
6.	Ha.yana	2564
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	Nil
8.	Kerala	21930
9.	Karnataka	6000
10.	Meghalaya	Nil
11.	Maharashtra	2399
12.	Madhya Pradesh	Nil
13.	Orissa	14611
14.		

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the State</i>	<i>Dwelling units and sanctioned</i>
15.	Rajasthan	Nil
16.	Sikkim	500
17.	Tamil Nadu	22570
18.	Tripura	Nil
19.	Uttar Pradesh	49554
20.	West Bengal	8300
Total		168379

[*Translation*]

Yes, Sir.

Mining Programme in Indian Ocean

1455. SHRI RAM SINGH KASHWAN:
Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Phase-I research work of survey of mining programme in the basement of Indian Ocean has been completed;

(b) if so, the main targets of the said programme;

(c) the square kilometers for which the survey work has been completed by the Scientists; and

(d) the details of outcome of the survey work and the extent of amount spent thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT) AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJANKUMARAMANGALAM): (a)

(b) As a part of its obligations as a registered pioneer investor, India has to relinquish 50% of the area of the mining site in the Central Indian Ocean. The survey and exploration work was directed mainly to assess the relative concentration and quality characteristics of nodules and broad seabed topography towards fulfilment of this obligation as a pioneer investor.

(c) A first order survey of entire pioneer area of 1,50,000 sq. kilometres has been completed by multi-beam bathymetric system.

(d) A report on relinquishment of 20% of the pioneer area, on the basis of the survey and exploration work carried out so far, has been prepared. The sampling grid has been progressively reduced from 100 kilometres to 25 kilometres to get the information on nodule abundance. About, 4,20,000 line kilometres of bathymetric data 2,65,000 line kilometres of magnetic data and 70,000 line kilometres of gravimetric data have been collected. Baseline oceanographic data on physical, chemical and biological parameters have also been collected. A total of about 51.2 tonnes of nodules have been collected from Central Ocean Basin for extractive

(c) whether the facilities of proper investigation of HIV blood are not available in all the blood banks; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to provide such facilities in all the blood banks?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b). The training for clinical diagnosis and management of AIDS patients are being provided in the following hospitals of Delhi, with the financial support from Government of India.

1. Dr. Rammanohar Lohia Hospital, New Delhi
2. Safdarjang Hospital, New Delhi
3. All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi
4. L.N.J.P. Hospital, New Delhi
5. Guru Tegh Bahadur Hospital, New Delhi
6. Sucheta Kriplani Hospital, attached to Lady Hardinge Medical College, New Delhi

In addition to this Delhi Administration is also conducting regularly training programme for doctors and other Health Care Workers in their hospitals as well as those in the private sector.

(c) & (d). For testing of blood for HIV Government have established 180 Zonal Blood Testing Centres in the Government, Voluntary and Private sector have been linked to these. Zonal Blood Testing Centres, Rapid Testing Kits have been provided for district level blood banks. Besides this

the rules under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act for inspection of Blood Banks have been revised and made more stringent. It now provides compulsory testing of blood for blood transmissible diseases.

[English]

Irrigation System

1674. SHRI NURUL ISLAM:
SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA
RAO VADDE:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the total investment made for development of irrigation system in the country during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether any long term plan has been drawn up for irrigation facilities by the end of the century; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCE (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) A statement showing total investment made for developing irrigation in the country through Major and Medium Projects, Minor Irrigation schemes and Command Area Development Programme is enclosed.

(b) and (c). No plan has been prepared for irrigation by the end of the century. However, Eighth Five Year Plan which goes upto 1997 envisages creation of additional Irrigation potential to the extent of 5.09 and 10.7 million hectares through Major & Me-

dium Surface Waster Irrigation Projects and Minor Irrigation schemes respectively in the country. During the Eighth Plan period, Rs. 22. 415 crores, Rs. 5,977 crores and Rs.

2,510 crores have been allocated to Major & Medium Projects, Minor Irrigation schemes and Command Area Development programme respectively.

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR):

(a) According to Indian Council of Medical Research studies conducted in Western Countries and in India do not confirm this view.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). Prevention of heart diseases is part of the health education programme of the Government.

Leakage in Gas Pipeline

1687. SHRISHOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of times the gas pipeline from K.G. Basin leaked during the last 132 months;

(b) the estimated loss to ONGC due to these leakages;

(c) the estimated losses to the adjacent farmers;

(d) the reasons for the frequent leakages; and

(e) the action taken against the persons/organisations responsible for this sub-standard work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) There were 97 leaks on Tatipaka Kovur Pipeline and 44 leaks in gas flow lines from wells in past 12 months.

(b) There were no tangible losses to ONGC or GAIL as the leaks were arrested immediately

(c) The leakages were due to deterioration of the coating of pipeline and due to high water table and corrosive soil conditions which led to corrosion.

(e) Does not arise in view of (d) above

Producers Association

1688. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All India Wax Producers Association has made a representation in regard to the problems faced by their industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the action taken by the Government to resolve their problems?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b) The Association has raised issues concerning pricing of slack wax and stoppage of import of paraffin wax etc.

(c) A present paraff wax Type I and Type II are imported to make good the shortfall in domestic production. The processors of slack wax are not affected by these imports as they are predominantly involved in making Type III. paraffin wax.

LPG Cylinders Manufacturing unit

1689. SHRI C.P. MUDALAGIRIYAPPA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

[English]

SICK INDUSTRIES REFERRED TO BIFR

1977. SHRI SOBHANA DREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria adopted by the Government for referring sick industrial units to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR);

(b) the number of sick units referred to BIFR in each State during the last two years and during the current financial year so far;

(c) the details of the units which have been rehabilitated in each State during the above period and the target fixed for 1993-94;

(d) whether there is any proposal to open more offices of BIFR in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR.

ABRAR AHMED): (a) Section 15(1) of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 (SICA) requires the Board of Directors of an industrial company to make a reference to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) if it has become sick. Under Section 15(2) of the above Act, the Central Government, State Government, Reserve Bank of India, public financial institution, a State-level institution or a scheduled bank can also make a reference to BIFR if they have sufficient reasons to believe that the industrial company has become sick.

(b) The number of sick units registered with BIFR in each State during the last two years and upto 30-6-93 is given in the *Statement-I* attached.

(c) The names of units which have been rehabilitated during the above period is given in the *Statement-II*. No target can be fixed for this purpose as the number of companies which will be declared no longer sick during 1993-94 would depend on the actual performance of the companies.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Statement-I

Sl. No.	State	No. of Ref. Regd.			
		1991	1992	Upto June '93	Total
1.	Andhra Pradesh	21	25	13	59
2.	Bihar	4	8	2	14
3.	Goa, Daman & Diu	0	1	0	1
4.	Gujarat	8	11	4	23
5.	Haryana	6	3	2	11
6.	Himachal Pradesh	1	3	3	7
7.	Kerala	7	16	6	29
8.	Karnataka	10	13	4	27
9.	Madhya Pradesh	7	7	2	16
10.	Maharashtra	25	21	10	57
11.	Nagaland	0	1	0	1
12.	Orissa	5	5	3	13
13.	Pondicherry(B)	2	1	0	3
14.	Punjab	5	1	4	10
15.	Rajasthan	5	6	4	15
16.	Tamil Nadu	15	6	4	25
17.	Tripura	0	1	0	1
18.	Uttar Pradesh	22	30	6	57
19.	West Bengal	8	17	3	28
20.	Assam	2	1	2	5
21.	J & K	2	0	0	2
Total		155	177	72	404

Statement-II

1. Shri Sulphurics Ltd
 2. Nadiambal Textile Mills
 3. Sujani Textiles
 4. Mukerian Papers
 5. Shri Manufacturing
 6. The Embay Co. Ltd
 7. Karnataka Woollens
 8. Dandeli Ferro Alloys
 9. Elde Textiles
 10. VST Tillers
 11. Star Paper Ltd.
 12. Tri Star Soya Products Ltd.
 13. Kirtampudi Sugar Mills
- RESTRUCTURING OF RRBs

1978. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN
PRABHU ZANTYE :

SHRI GAYA PRASAD KORI :
SHRI S. B. SIDNAL :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have worked out action plan to restructure regional rural banks to make them vibrant and viable to serve the rural sector effectively and to make them profitable; and

(b) if so, the details of the plan worked out for implementation during the Fifth Five Year Plan and the targets set in this regard, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) Government have been considering a mechanism in order to bring back Regional Rural Banks ((RRBs) from their moribund state into a viable and vibrant part of the institutional credit delivery system for serving the rural poor. In this regard, a number of models have been studied including the proposal for establishment of a National Rural Bank of India (NRBI). However, no final decision has been taken so far.

**DECLINE IN EXPORT OF
CARDAMOM**

1979. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a sharp decline in the export of cardamom ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) the steps taken by the Spices Board to enhance the export of cardamom during the remaining period of the Eighth Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) Yes, Sir. India's export of cardamom (small) during 1992-93 was 175 M.T. valued at Rs. 6.80 crore as compared to 553 M.T. valued at Rs. 16.07 crores exported during 1991-92.

(b) Major reasons for decline in the export of cardamom (Small) are :—

(i) Very high domestic price as compared to the international price and decline in production have made our cardamom highly uncompetitive in the international markets ;

(ii) Low production during 1992-93 was due to severe cyclone and flood damages in the cardamom growing areas; and

(iii) Saudia Arabia, which is the biggest market for cardamom, now prefers cheaper Gautemalam cardamom.

(c) Major steps taken by the Board to enhance export of cardamom (small) are :—

(i) With a view to improving production and productivity of cardamom in the country and to make available sufficient surpluses at competitive prices in

India (RBI) to all scheduled commercial banks, interest rates on term deposits/savings deposits as also on advances have been reduced recently as under :

Term Deposits : Interest Rate for maturity of 46 days to 3 years and above was reduced by one percentage point from

'not exceeding 12.0% p.a.' to 'not exceeding 11.0% p.a.' with effect from 1st March 1993.

Saving Deposits : Interest Rate was reduced by one percentage point from 6.0% p.a. to 5.0% p.a. with effect from 1st July 1993.

Advances :

Size of Limit	Rate of Interest (% p.a.)	
	Upto 23-6-93	Revised rate effective 24-6-1993
(i) for over Rs. 25000 and upto Rs. 2 lakhs	16.5	16.0 (fixed)
(ii) Over Rs. 2 lakhs	17.0 (minimum)	16.0 (minimum)

(c) to (e) The structure of lending rate is determined by RBI taking with account a number of factors like the growth of the economy, the rate of inflation, the pace of monetary expansion, the cost of raising resources by banks, the profitability of banks, etc. RBI feels that the current structure of rates for deposits and lending is appropriate. The data given in the Table below show a steady growth in aggregate deposits and bank credit by all scheduled commercial banks.

TABLE

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Deposits	Credit
December 1990	184961	121984
December 1991	219542	133745
December 1992	261588	153256

[English]

AMOUNT RELEASED TO STATES UNDER ARDRS

1902. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE :

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE :

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN :

SHRI RAMLAKHAN SINGH YADAV :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether State Cooperative Banks, State Land Development Banks and Regional Rural Banks have submitted the final claims under the Agricultural and Rural Debt Relief Scheme, 1990 ;

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

(c) the amount released to each State under the above scheme as on June 30, 1993 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (c) The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that the State Cooperative Banks (SCBs), State Land Development Banks (SLDBs) and Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) are yet to submit their final/revised claim statements after complying with the instructions issued by NABARD. The State-wise details of claims received by NABARD and the amounts sanctioned to banks are given in the *Statement* attached.

information to the House. I demand that information may please be supplied.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (Aonla) : I also want to say something in this regard.

MR. SPEAKER : Please don't make it lengthy.

[English]

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given a notice for raising a very important matter. Please permit me to raise that matter... (*Interruptions*) Sir, through you, I draw the attention of this Government to a very serious matter. Thousands of trucks in Andhra Pradesh and in several other States are off the roads because of the harassment which they are subjected to.

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister has already made a statement on that point.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE : Please hear me, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister has already made a statement.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE : He made a statement, but, what is the use, Sir? Till now, the problem is not resolved.

MR. SPEAKER : You cannot raise it again and again.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE : The trucks are off the roads. The prices of essential commodities are increasing.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Rao, you are always bulldozing like this in the House.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE : What is this, Sir? I am exercising my democratic right to raise a very important matter.

MR. SPEAKER : This is not correct. I am not allowing it.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE : Thousands of lorry operators are suffering.

MR. SPEAKER : I am not allowing it. The Minister made a statement and if you want a discuss, I will allow it in a proper way. But, you cannot always bulldoze like this in the House. Now, you may please sit down.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE : **

MR. SPEAKER : This will not go on record.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE : Please excuse me, Sir.

DR. K. D. JESWANI (Kheda) : Sir, it seems that the Punjab terrorists have started hiding shelter in the State of Gujarat. The last two years have witnessed sporadic incidents which are taking place there. Recently, on 23rd July, a group of five terrorists who are very well recognized, were being followed by the Punjab police. Ultimately, there was a fierce encounter between the police and the terrorists in Khamholaj village of Kheda district, which is in my constituency. It is reported that they have hideouts there and they have abducted persons from Nasik in the vicinity of Khamholaj village. During the encounter, one ASI was shot dead and some other police officers were also injured. But, all the terrorists could manage to escape. This has generated lot of fear in the surrounding areas of my constituency and practically, whole of Gujarat is stunned as a result of this act of terrorism. This is a direct outcome of the disturbed law and order situation in the State of Gujarat over the last two years.

I myself and all the other MPs from our Gujarat State have raised that issue in the House and through letters, it was brought to the notice of the Home Minister on several occasions. But, we are very sorry to say that neither the State Government nor the Government of India seems to have realised the seriousness of the situation.

MR. SPEAKER : Law and Order, is a State subject.

DR. K. D. JASWANI : This is an issue of terrorism. It is not simply a law and

****Not recorded.**

(b) the progress achieved so far; and

(c) the reasons for delay in completion of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) (a) Dhansiri irrigation project was approved by Planning Commission in June, 1975 for Rs. 15.83 crores. The latest estimated cost is about Rs. 133 crores. While the expenditure incurred upto March 1993 is about Rs. 87.38 crores, an an outlay of Rs. 8.50 crores has been made for 1993-94.

(b) The work on Barrage, Head regulator and main Canal has almost been completed. The progress on earthwork of branches and distribution system and canal structures is about 91.8% and 76.8% respectively.

(c) The main reasons for delay in completion of project are problems in acquisition of land for completing small portion of main canal and construction of upstream right guide bund which falls in Bhutan.

PLAN OUTLAY FOR HEALTH SERVICES

2617. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAOVADDE :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of the Plan Outlay on Medical and Health services; and

(b) the per-capita expenditure incurred by Government on Medical and Health services?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) (a) The Total outlay for Health Sector (including States/UTs) and Family Welfare Sector for Seventh and Eighth Plans is given below :

(Rs. in crores)

Period	Total Health Sector including States/UTs.	Family Welfare	Total
7th Plan	3683.8 (1.7%)	3105.21 (1.4%)	6789.0 (3.1%)
8th Plan	7582.19 (1.7%)	6500.00 (1.50%)	14082.19 (3.24%)

(b) The annual per capital expenditure during 1985-90 was as under :

(in Rupees)

Year	Medical & Public Health (excluding Water Supply & Sanitation)	Family Welfare
7th Plan (Mid Plan)	36.09	9.02

CONFERENCE OF CENTRAL COUNCIL OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

2618. SHRI ARVIND TULSHIRAM KAMBLE :

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a conference of the Central Council of Health and Family Welfare was held recently in New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details of the discussions/decisions arrived at the conference; and

(c) the follow up action Government propose to take to achieve desired goals in the field of family welfare?

Branches of public sectors banks in Meghalaya during the current financial year; and

(b) if so, the details and the locations thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) Under Branch Expansion Programme 1990-95, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has not fixed any year-wise and State wise target for opening of bank branches. The opening of bank branches is an on-going process and the bank are expected to open branches at centres allotted to them in a phased manner during 1990-95. RBI has reported that as on 30-6-1992, there were 51 branches of Regional Rural Banks in Meghalaya. Besides, there were 122 branches of other scheduled commercial banks in the State of which 83 were in rural areas.

[Translation]

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR DEVELOPMENT OF TOURIST SPOTS

2774. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH :
SHRI KODAKANI GOWDANA SHIVAPPA :
SHRI ASTBHUJA PRASAD SHUKLA :
SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE :
DR. K. V. R. CHOWDARY :

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

(a) the names of the tourist spots in the country for the development of which financial assistance was given by the Union Government during the last three years;

(b) the amount of financial assistance sanctioned and released, tourist spot-wise and year-wise;

(c) the amount of financial assistance received from foreign countries for the development of tourist spots in the country particularly the Buddhist pilgrimages during the last three years, yearwise;

(d) the names of the tourist spots for which such assistance was received; and

(e) the amount of such foreign assistance allocated to each State/Union Territory, year-wise ?

THE MINISTER FOR CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) The Union Government sanction 672 projects/schemes amounting to Rs. 8615.84 lakhs during the last three years viz. 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93 to all the States and Union Territories. An amount of Rs. 4789.27 lakhs has been released against sanctioned amount till date.

(b) Information is given in the attached statement.

(c) to (e) Government of India signed a loan agreement with Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF) of Japan for financial assistance to the tune of Yen 9.244 Billion for the development of infrastructure facilities along the Buddhist Travel Circuits in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. The places, under the scheme, covered are Sarnath, Kushinagar, Sravasti and Piparhwa in Uttar Pradesh and Bodhgaya, Nalanda and Rajgir in Bihar. Under this scheme OECF has reimbursed Rs. 20.66 crores to the State Governments of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.

The Central Government has also signed another loan agreement with OECF for Yen 3744 Million Rs. (70.00 crores approx) for conservation and development of Ajanta and Ellora region in Maharashtra.

STATEMENT
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR DEVELOPMENT OF TOURIST SPOTS CENTRAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE SANCTIONED & RELEASE TO THE STATE GOVERNMENTS/U.T.s DURING 1990-91, 1991-92 & 1992-93

S. No.	Name of the State	1990-91			1991-92			1992-93		
		No. of Projects/ Schemes Sanctioned	Amount sanctioned	Amount released	No. of Projects/ sanctioned	Amount sanctioned	Amount Released	No. of Projects/ sanctioned	Amount sanctioned	Amount Released
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10	73.47	37.50	9	88.36	46.86	4	9.51	7.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	7.35	5.50	1	24.00	1.00	6	48.27	28.00
3.	Assam	2	22.67	11.50	15	174.79	91.47	6	78.66	37.94
4.	Bihar	11	146.96	84.23	12	150.31	74.15	5	54.41	26.33
5.	Goa	—	—	—	5	41.78	40.09	6	47.71	22.76
6.	Gujarat	8	98.55	42.59	15	141.58	76.85	2	20.90	8.00
7.	Haryana	17	203.16	135.74	18	159.01	102.25	8	104.97	49.50
8.	Himachal Pradesh	7	80.08	41.61	10	150.96	93.43	9	111.94	44.36
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	7	90.89	61.97	6	65.25	35.00	10	152.75	73.69
10.	Karnataka	9	91.11	45.50	13	185.26	82.85	12	176.79	89.79
11.	Kerala	17	190.19	150.97	8	305.29	278.98	3	114.08	10.75
12.	Madhya Pradesh	12	234.36	168.66	21	285.77	163.26	4	39.07	13.70
13.	Maharashtra	8	135.68	123.41	15	313.53	235.65	13	203.18	61.00
14.	Manipur	4	15.12	7.50	—	—	—	9	66.24	34.38
15.	Meghalaya	3	22.33	12.49	4	92.54	40.00	1	9.77	5.00
16.	Mizoram	2	20.02	14.50	5	62.04	31.91	5	47.70	23.45
17.	Nagaland	3	34.54	18.10	7	69.24	46.19	1	7.17	4.00

18. Orissa	9	121.61	53.83	18	214.60	113.80	4	63	
19. Punjab	5	68.13	20.90	4	31.25	16.00	6	---	
20. Rajasthan	18	152.16	99.88	19	181.38	86.9	16	---	
21. Sikkim	8	59.71	44.11	10	119.98	73.70	7	49.12	
22. Tamil Nadu	13	145.37	76.30	8	74.04	46.04	8	107.42	
23. Tripura	4	23.55	20.20	5	77.29	32.50	5	80.28	
24. Uttar Pradesh	36	397.87	234.75	10	160.59	60.80	8	97.24	
25. West Bengal	10	320.15	168.00	12	189.23	91.17	4	94.10	
UNION TERRITORIES :									
1. Andaman & Nicobar	---	---	---	4	79.35	45.52	3	93.50	
2. Chandigarh	---	---	---	1	17.11	8.55	1	13.70	
3. Dadar & Nagar Haveli	1	3.60	3.00	2	5.52	3.00	---	---	
4. Daman & Diu	---	---	---	2	15.75	6.25	---	---	
5. Delhi	4	20.52	18.28	6	7.22	18.25	---	28.50	
6. Lakshadweep	2	9.25	7.75	2	32.26	15.00	---	58.34	
7. Pondicherry	---	---	---	3	47.23	31.23	---	---	
TOTAL	226	2768.40	1708.68	270	3575.51	2088.75	176	2271.93	991.84

persons should be recruited for this job who come under this category. The Safai Karamcharis working in the towns, notified areas, Municipal Corporations do not get their salary for six to eight months. Their number should also be increased in proportion to the ever increasing population. A special scheme should be chalked out for providing proper residential facilities to them. Besides, the facility of reservation provided for their upliftment should not be provided in the matter of services only, but also in issuing licences and other professions as well. Apart from this, they should be given equal opportunities at every level for their economic development. Now, the Government has adopted the system of privatisation and free trade. The people who have been provided the facility of reservation so far, are not going to be benefited under the new system. Therefore, the Government should think of issuing them licences and providing other facilities to make them economically strong.

With regard to the Commission, I would like to say that the term of the Commission should be extended from 3 years to 5 years and members of the Commission should be appointed from those who are already engaged in this professions. With these words, I support the Bill.

[English]

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (VIJAYAWADA): Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you giving me the opportunity. I rise to support the Bill, for setting up of a National Commission for Safai Karamcharis, on behalf of our party.

In fact, this is a long overdue Bill. The objectives of this Bill are quite laudable. My only fear is that unless the Government take concrete action, the objectives may not be fulfilled. We have our own example of the Dowry Prohibition Bill. In spite of the Bill, we come across several dowry deaths almost everyday in the Press because woman is not provided a right in the property of her father. That is one of the main reasons. Similarly, though the Government has got very good intention to do away with the manual scavenging by the end of the Eighth Five-Year Plan, unless the Government provide adequate funds, not only for the rehabilitation and uplift of the scavengers but also to improve the sanitation conditions in the urban areas as well as in the rural areas, this is not going to be really completely eradicated, though to some extent it may certainly help.

Among the functions of the Commission, I have not found two important components. Apart from the functions which are stated in the Bill, my suggestion is that this Commission should also assess the magnitude of the problem as it exists today in the cities, in the towns and in big villages and provide funds required to improve the sanitary conditions throughout the country. Coming from the rural area, you are quite aware that still in rural areas, not even two per cent of the population is enjoying this septic latrines facility. It is a matter of shame of find women folk going for call of nature of the public roads where so many men move about. They have no other alternative because they do not have enough financial capability to have septic latrines in their own homes. I am very sorry that the Government has not taken care of this problem. Though you want to do away with the dry latrines but unless you provide funds for construction of septic latrine, it is not going to help. I know you are providing some help from CAPART or some other agencies to some extent.

In reply to a question in Parliament you have stated that the Government intends to spend nearly Rs. 30 crores in the year 1993-94 under the Centrally sponsored rural sanitation programme. It will be very-very inadequate when compared with the problem that exists today. You are spending so much money for meeting the physical conditions in the urban areas especially in the cities. Although there are beautiful lighting arrangements, still you want to spend more money on the sodium vapour lamps so that even in the night times we may feel as if it is day time. But you do not have any care about the bare necessities of the rural women, especially the poor.

My suggestion to the Government is to kindly provide funds for meeting the sanitation conditions in the rural areas and in the towns. Just your saying that you will be doing away with manual scavenging will not hold good unless the house owner who is having that dry latrine facility—as the situation is today—is made to have the underground drainage facility or something like that. Then only it will be helpful to the people. My suggestion to the Government is to kindly take care of that particular aspect also. Then only your intentions can be achieved.

I am sure it is a right step in the right direction. With these words, I am happy to say that the Government will take the suggestions that

have been made by the hon. Members during the discussion and accept certain amendments to really take care of this problem which is very very long overdue.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH (Mirzapur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis Bill is indeed a good Bill. In spite of a good policy, much depends upon the intention of the Government. We are apprehensive about the intention of the Government. The reason behind it is that the objects for which the commissions have been set up by the Congress Government so far, have never been properly implemented. Therefore, it is natural that we are apprehensive. The matter of surprise is that the man who performs the work of scavenging is considered a man of lower category whereas a man who spreads filth is considered a man of higher level. It is really surprising. I would like to state categorically that we will have to change this concept.

When Pt. Deen Dayalji and Dr. Lohia used to deliver speeches from a common stage. Pt. Deen Dayalji had said in 1967, that serving the poor is the real worship of God. In the same manner, Dr. Lohia had also said that the queen and the maid servant should get their education in the same school. I mean to say that Pt. Deen Dayalji and Dr. Lohia also used to advocate this philosophy. It was their firm conviction that serving the poor is the worship of God. Supporting their ideology, I would like to say that while endeavouring to provide several facilities to Safai Karamcharis, the Government will have to prepare itself for curtailing the amenities given to the upper class persons. Only then it can be proved that the Government has provided facilities to the Safai Karamcharis in the real sense. If our facilities are to be curtailed, I am ready for that and I know that all of my colleagues sitting on this side are also ready for that. I am aware that even today the Congressmen require more Safai Karamcharis for scavenging. On the one hand, the Government introduces Bill to provide facilities to Safai Karamcharis and on the other hand, they need more Safai Karamcharis for scavenging work. In this way, on seeing the difference between their policy and intention, it does not appear that the proposed Commission will be of any use.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, arrangements should be made in this Bill for proper education of their

children. They are considered of the lowest strata of society, but I do not consider them so. I consider them among the good people of the society. Bapuji once told that in order to maintain the unity in the society, people of the higher classes had performed sanitation work in the colonies of scavengers which helped in generating confidence among them and a feeling that the people belonging to upper classes also belong to their society. Today the hon. Members of either side, be it treasury benches or the opposition benches, would hardly be prepared to do so. For this purpose, we have to prepare ourselves mentally. They have to go to the villages to accomplish political task, to strengthen the unity and create confidence among the different people of our society. The people in villages are poor. Therefore, they perform sanitation work. Therefore, Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you I would like to state that in order to create confidence among them, the Commission have to do something. They are important part of our society. Therefore, confidence needs to be generated among them.

In the Bill it has been mentioned that financial assistance will be provided to them. They have been given financial assistance earlier also. But the aid is swallowed by the middlemen. In my constituency, I had recommended some cases to the financial institutions for providing assistance, but the middlemen have swallowed the funds. They are in pitiable condition. Therefore, there should be a proper procedure for penalising such people and it should be enforced strictly so that people belonging to upper classes may not grab the share of the people lower classes.

These Safai Karamcharis work in the municipalities and it has been mentioned in this Bill that financial assistance would be given to them. But it is also a fact that there are frequent strikes in municipalities. Why does it happen? They do so because they work throughout the month but they are not paid on time and adequately for their work. They are suffering from hunger and that is why they go on strike. On account of their strikes garbage is not removed from the cities and towns as a result of which garbage remain dumped and causes several diseases and take many lives.

I, therefore, would like to request the Government that while setting up the Commission, it should be ensured that the Safai Karamcharis in Municipal Corporation get their wages regularly and according to their labour. It

hostile to the Government? That question crops up in my mind and on that only I rise to express my views.

Although almost all the leaders have announced that Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of the country, even though it is pronounced by the hon. Prime Minister on many occasions and even recently on the 15th August from the Red Fort, it is my impression, that the people think that something is missing. Something is missing from our side. That means some feeling of uncertainty in respect of Kashmir is in the minds of those people who do not think as the leaders feel.

So, this has to be taken care of. Otherwise, the public opinion would be very doubtful about the determination of this Government in restoring a popular Government in Kashmir.

Sir, it is my consideration that since independence of this country, we have been committing mistakes in respect of Kashmir. When the question of annexation came up, there were two opinions. One was led by Sardar Patelji, who wanted to deal with Kashmir in the style in which he dealt with Hyderabad. But, Nehruji's decision has prevailed. So, since then, there has been a confrontation in respect of the affairs of Kashmir.

Now, simply I would like to express my consideration in respect of making Kashmir an integral part of the country. Many bureaucratic officers who are posted in that State sometimes deal with the people as if they are masters; they dominate the people and they treat them as if they are in the occupied area. That attitude must be changed. They must change their outlook and their approach. Even in our State, in the troubled areas, when President's Rule was imposed, practically officers run the Government and with the bureaucratic attitude, they dealt with the people and their attitude was against the interests of the people. So, I would propose that when posting officers to such troubled areas like Jammu and Kashmir, we must select officers who would treat the people with a great sense of responsibility.

The sooner the popular Ministry is restored in Kashmir, it will be better and it will be in the interests of the nation.

With these words, I support the Demands.

(16.44 hours)

SHRI SOBHANADREESWAR RAO VADDE (VIJAYAWADA): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Appropriation Bill moved by the Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance.

With a heavy heart we are doing this because this Parliament has been burdened with voting on the Demands for Grants in respect of Kashmir since quite a long time. Each and every time, we were wishing that normalcy will be restored in Kashmir and Parliament will be relieved from this responsibility. Unfortunately, it is not happening.

The situation is going from bad to worse. You are aware, Sir, that Kashmir was considered as one of the most attractive places in our country and, in fact, many newly wedded people used to go to Kashmir to have their honeymoon there. But things have completely changed, as a result of which the revenue that has been accruing to the State, is going down and down. The tourist travel itself has almost come to a grinding halt. This also has a tremendous bearing on the financial condition of the people of Kashmir. Most of them are poor. In spite of the fact that the Government of India has been spending a lot of money for the State of Jammu and Kashmir, unfortunately, that money has been going into the pockets of the politicians or the bureaucrats. Not many of the common people of Kashmir derived the benefit. It is a fact. My only query to the Government is that is it not a fact that a considerable percentage of population in Kashmir appears to have been alienated from the mainstream? Is it not a fact that a very large number of people are having grouse, discontent and anger against the Government of India? And Sir, this to happen in Kashmir is really most unfortunate because that great man, Sher-e-Kashmir Sheikh Abdullah, had played a very pivotal role in seeing that Kashmir continued to be a part of India, apart from our great leaders Jawaharlal Nehru and Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. We cannot belittle the stature of Sheikh Abdullah. He was the man who opposed Jinnah's two-nation theory. When Jinnah was touring Kashmir to lend support for that, it was Sheikh Abdullah who fought against that and who ultimately saw to it that Mr. Jinnah went out of Kashmir. In spite of that, why today a large number of people, especially the youth are acting in different way? Has the Government analysed the reasons? I only appeal to the Government to give a deep thinking to the reasons that are behind this aliena-

tion of a large number of people in Kashmir.

Several omissions and commissions have taken place. Is it not as fact that many a time elections were rigged in Kashmir? Was opportunity given to the people to exercise their franchise freely and fairly? Except the elections that took place in the initial stage after Independence and the election which was conducted when Morarjibhai was the Prime Minister of this country, almost at all other times the elections were rigged. Is it not an unfortunate and ghastly mistake in bringing down the Government of Mr. Farook Abdullah? There are several reasons. I ask the Government to give a deep thinking to this and only then by taking some steps, you can bring back normalcy in the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

My humble submission to the Government is that they should constitute an all-party committee, giving representation to different important groups, both in the Valley as well as in the Jammu area.

Because of that the administration which is now under the direct reins of the Union Government can pass on to the needy people. Sir, the tourism has come to a grinding halt in Kashmir. What is the position of the people of Kashmir today, especially the poor? You have allocated very small amount for social welfare in your Appropriation Bill—only Rs. 14 crores on revenue account and Rs. 7 crores on capital account. My suggestion to the Government is that there is a definite necessity to enhance the allocation under the head of social welfare. You must examine that and please help the poor people of Kashmir who, for no fault of theirs, are suffering.

It is only because of this mindless headless acts of these militants at the behest of our neighbour, Pakistan—that these innocent people, the farmers or the small handicrafts people, the weavers and the workers, are suffering. I also appeal to the Government to have a dialogue with various groups in Kashmir including the militant groups also. There is nothing wrong in it. There were days when in the North East insurgency had taken place and there were some groups and some parties and some outfits who were actually fighting our Indian forces. Later Government thought it fit to have a dialogue with them and they had been given power also.

My only suggestion is to interact with different groups and ascertain the reasons behind this alienation and then kindly take suitable steps to restore normalcy which will ultimately lead to conduction of free and fairpoll in Kashmir which will relieve this Parliament of approving the Demands for Grants again and again.

With these words I conclude my speech. Thank you.

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI (DARBHANGA): Mr. Chairman, Sir, today the budget of Jammu and Kashmir is being discussed in the House and with a heavy heart I rise to speak in support of it. The reason being that not even a single M. P. from that State is in the House. I do not think that in a true manner we can hold a discussion about Jammu and Kashmir unless the representatives of the State make their suggestions and participate in the discussion. We can only know about the prevailing situation of Kashmir, the issues for which funds are required and the places where welfare activities are to be carried, when M. Ps from the state are also present in the House.

Some time back, the Government set up a committee on Kashmir issue. I was also taken a member of the committee from my party, but not even a single meeting has taken place in last 3—4 months since the constitution of the committee. This shows the seriousness of the Government to solve the Kashmir problem.

Under the prevailing circumstances, leave aside the idea of setting up of new industries, even the existing industries are on the verge of closure. The educational institutions are also facing closure. The youth of Kashmir have joined colleges in different parts of the country. Hundreds of boys and girls are studying in remote areas like that of ours. Now, the point to see is whether the budget being passed here is utilized in a proper way or not.

Under the prevailing circumstances the businessmen who deal in carpet export and other items are opening their offices in Delhi and other places due to the terror of the militants. They are unable to compete in the international market, which is causing loss of foreign exchange to the nation substantially.

Just now, one of our friends was saying that since trouble started in the valley, no Prime Minister has ever visited Kashmir. We do hear about the visits of the Home Minister sometimes by an aeroplane or a Helicopter. Some-