

Welfare Scheme for the Industrial Workers

4347. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any Welfare Scheme for the industrial workers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have introduced Group Insurance Scheme, for workers and all the workers come under the purview of Employees State Insurance Scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) to (b). The Government has framed the ESI Scheme which provides for medical care and payment of certain cash benefits to the industrial workers of the country in the contingencies of sickness, maternity etc. The scheme is applicable to the persons employed in power-using factories employing 10 or more persons and non-power using factories/establishments employing 20 or more persons and drawing wages not exceeding Rs. 3,000/- p.m. Welfare Schemes such as Health, Housing, Education and Recreation etc. are being implemented by the Government for the Welfare of Beedi workers and Mine workers engaged in Beedi establishments and mining.

(c) and (d). A Group Insurance Scheme has been introduced with effect from 1.4.1992 for Beedi workers only. It is applicable to such Beedi workers who are in the age group of 18 to 60 years

and are holding genuine identity cards and are not subscribing towards Employees Provident Fund. The premium for the Scheme is paid in equal shares out of the Beedi Workers Welfare Fund and Social Security Fund of Life Insurance Corporation of India. Under the scheme, a lumpsum payment of Rs. 3000/- in case of natural death and Rs. 6000/- in case of accidental death is paid to the family of a deceased worker.

As regards the applicability of Employees State Insurance Scheme to all workers, it is clarified that the coverage of the ESI Scheme is according to the ESI Act, 1948 and is not universal. Moreover ESI Scheme is being extended in a phased manner covering industrial workers employed in factories/ establishments located in the areas notified from time to time.

[Translation]

New Stock Exchanges

4348. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:
SHRI SOBHANADREES-
WARA RAO VADDE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to recognise and approve some more stock exchanges including one each at Surat and Vijayawada;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the steps being taken by the Government to prohibit the trading of shares and other securities at the places where there are no recognised stock exchanges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and (b). The Government has recently conveyed permission for organising a Stock Exchange at Ranchi. Apart from this, the Government does not intend, at present, to grant recognition to any new Stock Exchange in the country, including at Surat and Vijayawada.

(c) if the trading in shares and other securities is taking place through unauthorised Stock Exchanges, it would be an offence under the provisions of the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956. In order to safeguard the interest of the investing public, the Securities and Exchange Board of India has issued a Press Release in November, 1992 and also sent a letter to the Chief Secretaries of the State Governments and Union Territories, regarding prohibition of transactions in securities through stock exchanges other than those formally recognised.

**Assistance to Voluntary Agencies
by I.D.B.I.**

4349. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has provided any assistance to voluntary agencies from Rural Development Fund;

(b) if so, the procedure of this type of assistance; and

(c) the details of the works executed by these agencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V.

CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) The Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has reported that it has provided financial assistance to voluntary agencies from its Technical Assistance Fund (TAF) and not from Rural Development Fund (RDF).

(b) and (c). IDBI has reported that the sanctions and release of funds to voluntary agencies are based on proposals received from them. The voluntary agencies engaged in economic upliftment of under privileged through creation of opportunities for wage/self-employment in industrial fields are eligible for assistance. To be eligible, the voluntary agencies should be registered organisations and schemes proposed by them should arrange for part of the capital expenditure as also for recurring expenditure. As on March 31, 1994, assistance aggregating Rs. 13.20 crore has been provided by IDBI to 142 voluntary agencies. The time and labour involved in preparation of statements giving details of the works executed by these agencies may not commensurate with the results to be achieved.

[English]

Trade with U.S.A.

4350. DR. ASIM BALA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reached an understanding with the U.S.A. for exploring the major consumer markets; and

(b) if so, the details and likely impact thereof on our consumer industry?

(a) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh has requested the Union Government to provide loan on priority basis to the persons engaged in fishery work to create more opportunities of employment and to boost fishery work as is being given to the farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHADRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c). Government have not received any request from Government of Madhya Pradesh to provide loan on priority basis to the persons engaged in fishery work. Commercial Banks, however, provide short-term loans as well as medium and long term loans to farmers for development of fisheries in all its aspects i.e. from fish catching to stage of export, financing of equipment necessary for deep sea fishing, rehabilitation of tanks (fresh water fishing), fish breeding, etc.

[English]

Export of Ornaments by Neighbouring Countries

4431. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some neighbouring countries have decontrolled the export of ornaments; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the impact thereof on Indian markets?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and

(b). On the basis of information obtained from some of our neighbouring countries, it is observed that except for Nepal which lifted the minimum value addition requirements for export of ornaments in July, 1993, none of the other countries has instituted major policy changes in the recent past for the export of ornaments.

Purchase of VFC Tobacco From Outside the Auction Platforms

4432. SHRI V. SOBHANA-DREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether same traders/ companies have purchased VFC Tobacco outside the Auction Platforms;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Tobacco Board in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). No case has so far been registered by the Board during the ongoing, 1994 marketing season in Andhra Pradesh.

(c) Board has constituted vigilance squads to curb illegal transactions of tobacco.

Trade Unions

4433. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to ban trade unions based on caste, creed, community and religion;

[*Translation*]

Savings Schemes

4477. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps to mobilise resources by encouraging savings within the country instead of taking loans from foreign countries; and

(b) if so, the details of the schemes prepared by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and (b). For promoting savings it is imperative to improve the parameters which have a bearing on savings behaviour. These include rate of growth in the economy, level of fiscal deficit, tax policies, inflation, efficiency of the banking system and the capital markets and confidence in the economy. The various economic reform measures undertaken so far are expected to have a favourable impact on the aggregate savings.

[*English*]

Leasing of Storage Unit to a Private Organisation by MPEDA

4478. SHRI SOBHANADREE-SWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) has taken serious exception in awarding the lease of 500 tonnes storage unit to a private

organisation by Marine Products Export Development Authority;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHARJEE): (a) and (c). The CAG has pointed out the loss in running the 500 tonnes cold storage by MPEDA. The 500 tonnes storage unit was set up at a cost of Rs. 1.02 crores in 1983 for operating it on a no profit-on-loss basis. During the period 1983-84, the unit sustained a loss of Rs. 8 lakhs in its operation when it was run departmentally. From November, 1984 to January, 1989 the unit was shut down for repairs. MPEDA, finding sale or lease to highest bidder as impractical, leased it out to Sea Food Exporters Association of India on a monthly rent of Rs. 21,500 from February, 1989. Comptroller and Auditor General of India has pointed out that this leasing arrangement caused a loss of Rs. 37.93 lakhs between the period February 1989 to April 1992, on account of salary of MPEDA staff and repairs. This observation is based upon a formula calculating interest at the rate of 10% on investment and the equated annual depreciation on plant and machinery. Sea-food Exporters Association of India is a registered association of Indian sea-food exporters. Since the MPEDA was incurring heavy losses in running the unit departmentally and since the purpose of setting up the same was to provide the cold storage facilities to sea food exporters at reasonable cost, MPEDA was decided to lease it out to SEAI in the best interest of sea-food exports. The terms of agreement of lease worked out at that time was the most suitable that could be agreed to. The licence fee has since been enhanced to

Rs. 43,000/- per month effect from 15-9-1993. According to the current arrangement, management and maintenance of the storage will be the responsibility of SEAL.

Setting UP of Exporters Grievances Redressal Cell

4479. SHRI GEORGE FER-NANDES: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state.

(a) whether any decision has been taken to constitute an Exporters Grievances Redressal Cell in his Ministry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Textiles has constituted an Exporters' Grievances Redressal Cell to look into and follow up all complaints/Grievances/Problems/Suggestions relating to exports of Textiles. An officer of the rank of Deputy Secretary in the Ministry is kept incharge of the Cell.

[*Translation*]

Export of Leather Goods

4480. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any target has been fixed for the export of leather products during 1993-94;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total quantity of leather product exported and the foreign

exchange earned therefrom during the above period, country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The target for export of leather and leather products for the year 1993-94 has been fixed at Rs. 4768 Crores.

Item-wise break-up of the target is as follows:

<i>(Value in Rs. Crores)</i>	
1. Finished Leather	928.00
2. Leather Footwear	736.00
3. Footwear Components	752.00
4. Leather Garments	1328.00
5. Leather Goods	1024.00
	4768.00

(c) A *Statement* is enclosed.

STATEMENT

Quantitative figures of exports are not maintained. However country-wise provisional export figures of leather and leather products for the year 1993-94 are as follows:-

<i>(Value in Rs. Crores)</i>	
Country	1993-94
1. Germany	998.34
2. Italy	375.30
3. U.K.	518.23
4. Belgium	29.06

Telephone Connections

4556. SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA
KAUR (DEEPA)
SHRI HARISH NARAYAN
PRABHU ZANTYE:
SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:
SHRI SOBHANADREES-
WARA RAO VADDE:
SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA
RAJE:
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:
SHRI K. PRADHANI:
SHRI SIMON MARANDI:
PROF. RASA SINGH
RAWAT:
SHRI S.B. SIDNAL:
SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICA-
TIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons on the
waiting list of telephone connections as on
date, State/Union Territory-wise;

(b) the number of telephone con-
nections released during the last three

years and current year, State-wise, and
category-wise;

(c) the target fixed for 1993-94,
State-wise; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to
be taken to reduce the waiting list?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V.
RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Information is
given in Col. '3' of the attached *State-
ment*.

(b) Information is being compiled
and will be placed on the Table of the
House.

(c) Information is given in Col. 4 of
the attached *Statement*.

(d) 8th Five Year Plan of Deptt. of
Telecommunication envisages waiting pe-
riod not to exceed two years in large
telephone systems and telephone practi-
cally on demand in rural/tribal areas.

STATEMENT

S. No. Name of the State		Waiting list as on 31.3.1994	DELs Target for 1993-94
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	155426	77000
2.	Assam	9820	13000
3.	Bihar	35544	27000
4.	Gujarat (Includes Dadar & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu, U.Ts.)	198808	81000
5.	Haryana	67335	41000
6.	Himachal Pradesh	18415	10000

1	2	3	4
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	18190	7000
8.	Karnataka	165886	62000
9.	Kerala (Includes Lakshdweep U.T.)	314442	53000
10.	Madhya Pradesh	52587	98000
11.	Maharashtra (Includes Goa State)	341529	156800
12.	North East (Includes Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland & Tripura)	5217	7300
13.	Orissa	4171	26000
14.	Punjab (Includes Chandigarh U.T.)	189462	51000
15.	Rajasthan	162571	62000
16.	Tamil Nadu (Includes Pondicherry U.T.)	310992	96700
17.	Uttar Pradesh	125496	115000
18.	West Bengal (Includes Sikkim State, Andaman & Nicobar Islands)	68083	93600
19.	Delhi	250901	76600

[English]

**Development of National Highways
In Assam**

4557. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN:
Will the Minister of SOURCE TRANS-
PORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of projects for devel-
opment of the National Highways in the
State sent by the Government of Assam
during last year;

(b) the number out of them cleared
or sent back for review; and

(c) the fund sanctioned for the
cleared projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF
THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANS-

PORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to
(c). 33 National Highway project propos-
als aggregating to Rs. 90.27 crores were
received from the Government of Assam
for Development of National Highways in
the State during the year 1993-94. Out of
these 21 projects aggregating to Rs. 4.48
crores have been sanctioned and 8
projects aggregating to Rs. 69.55 crores
have been sent back for review.

[Translation]

**Assistance for Identifying Investment
Potentials**

4558. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUD-
HARY: Will the Minister of FOOD PRO-
CESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to
state:

(a) the assistance provided by the
Government to organisations, for identi-

problems. Consonant with the need for security in the issue of passports, Government undertakes an on-going process relating to staffing patterns, policy, equipment and premises in order to simplify procedures for the issue of passports.

New Telecommunications System

4654. SHRI DHARMANNA
MONDAYYA SADUL:
SHRI SOBHANADREES-
WARA RAO VADDE:
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY:
SHRI D. VENKATESWARA
RAO:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to permit US based Hughes network system to introduce their telecommunication system in telecom sector in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the outstanding features of the system and the advantages likely to be derived as a result thereof?

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

(b) and (c). Do not arise in view of answer to (a) above.

Works in Maharashtra Under Central Road Fund

4655. SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT:
SHRI DATTA MEGHE:

Will the Minister SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Maharashtra has submitted a number of proposals relating to works to be executed under Central Road Fund and requested for its expeditious implementation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action being taken by the Government thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). In 1989, the Government of Maharashtra sent 801 schemes costing Rs. 365.59 crores to be financed under augmented Central Road Fund. Out of these schemes, 42 schemes have been approved taking into account the likely accruals upto 31.3.92 as per Old Resolution. Since actual augmentation of Central Road Fund has not taken place so far, it is too early to indicate the time by which the remaining schemes would be approved.

Disposing of unclaimed vessels

4656. PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of unclaimed 'ocean going vessels' repaired and lying in the country at various shipyards for the past three years;

(b) if so, the action the shipbuilding companies have initiated for disposing of the unclaimed vessels; and

Year	States/Union Territory	No. of Food Processing Training Centres assisted
	Tripura	1
	Mizoram	1
	Kerala	1
	Maharashtra	3
	West Bengal	1
	Gujarat	1
		83

[English]

Multinational Companies

4659. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE:
SHRI SURYA NARAYAN SINGH:
SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHORTI:
SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA:
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:
SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:
SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI:
SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether multinational companies have been involved in operation and maintenance of telecom network, particularly for value added services in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof with reasons along with the names of the companies and the work undertaken in each State;

(c) whether any memorandum has been received by the Government against the involvement of these companies;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No Sir, However, tenders/proposals have been invited from registered Indian companies for franchising of value added services. The Indian Companies, may have joint venture with foreign companies/ multinational companies.

(b) Details of provisionally selected Indian companies having joint ventures, are given in the attached *Statement*.

(c) No, Sir.

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

STATEMENT

Radio Paging

15 Bidders as mentioned below have been provisionally selected for franchising Radio Paging Service in 27 cities. Some of the unsuccessful bidders have filed civil writ petitions in the High Court of Delhi and the matter is sub-judice. However, there does not exist any stay by the Court

Sl. No.	Name of the Regd. Indian Co.	Cities	Foreign Collaborator.
1.	M/s. Arya Communications and Electronics, 105 Maker Chambers VI, 220, Narimam Point, Bombay-400021.	Bombay Bangalore.	Motorola Intl. Paging Inc. USA
2.	M/s. Matrix Paging (India) Pvt. Ltd., Anil Chambers (Near Crown Mills) Andheri-Kurla Road, Sakimaka, Bombay-400072.	Pune, Vadodara, Rajkot, Surat.	Matrix Telecom. Ltd. Australia.
3.	M/s. Telesistme (India) Pvt. Ltd., 23/1, XIth Main Road, Near Post Office, Vasant Nagar, Bangalore-560052.	Madras, Bangalore. Ernakulam, Coimbatore Trivandrum, Madurai.	Telesistem SDN BHD, Malaysia.
4.	M/s. Essjay Telecom Services Pvt. Ltd., 13, Masjid Moth, DDA, Commercial Complex, New Delhi-110048.	Delhi Bombay.	Telecom Intl. Newzealand.
5.	M/s. India Telecom, Telecom House, L-12, South Extension-II New Delhi-110049.	Bombay, Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Pune, Hyderabad, Kanpur, Lucknow, Delhi, Calcutta, Madras.	1. Steamers Telecom Pvt. Ltd., Singapore. 2. Electcoms SDN BHD. Malaysia.
6.	M/s. Mobile Communications Ltd., 505, New Delhi House 27, Bara Khamba Road, New Delhi-110001.	Delhi, Calcutta, Madras, Ahmedabad, Hyderabad, Jaipur Pune.	1. NITTI, Japan. 2. C-ITOH, Japan.

Sl. No.	Name of the Regd. Indian Co.	Cities	Foreign Collaborator.
7.	M/s. Hutchison Max. Telecom., 12th Floor, Devika Tower, 6 Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019.	Ahmedabad, Bangalore Pune, Vadodara, Chandigarh. Hyderabad, Ludhiana.	Hutchinson Telecom Hongkong.
8.	M/s. Modi Telecommunications Ltd., 12, Friends Colony, New Delhi-110065.	Madras, Bhopal, Knapur, Jaipur, Chandigarh, Lucknow, Indore, Varanasi.	Nynex Network Systems, USA.
9.	M/s. Easy Call communications (India) Pvt. Ltd., LB/5, Ansal Bhawan, 16, Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi-110001.	Calcutta, Hyderabad, Nagpur, Indore, Bhopal, Vishakapatnam, Patna.	Easyca 11 Commn, Phillippines.
10.	M/s. Microwave Communications Ltd., 1202, Chiranjiv Tower, 43, Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019.	Bombay, Calcutta, Vadodara. Ahmedabad, Surat, Rajkot.	FONES West USA.
11.	M/s. ABC Communications (India) Pvt. Ltd., 44B, Nariman Bhawan, Nariman Point, Bombay-400021.	Delhi, Kanpur, Jaipur, Chandigarh, Varanasi, Ludhiana, Amritsar.	ABC Communications Ltd., Hongkong.
12.	M/s. Usha Martin Telekom Ltd., 16, Community Centre, Saket, New Delhi-110017	Nagpur, Rajkot, Ernakulam, Indore, Coimbatore, Bhopal, Varanasi, Patna, Madurai, Vishakapatnam.	Telecom Malaysia Berhad, Malaysia,
13.	M/s. Weston Pagers Pvt. Ltd., Weston House, Okhla Industrial Estate, New Delhi-110020.	Kanpur, Nagpur, Surat, Jaipur, Vadodara Chandigarh, Rajkot, Lucknow, Vishakapatnam, Trivandrum.	1. Champion Tachnology Ltd. Hongkong. 2. Harilela Kanton Telecom Ltd. Hongkong.
14.	M/s. BPL System and Projects Ltd., 64 Chrucl Street,	Ernakulam Trivandrum.	1. France Telecom Mobiles

Sl. No.	Name of the Regd. Indian Co.	Cities	Foreign Collaborator
15.	M/s. Beltron Telecommunications Ltd., J-189, Peoples Co-operative, Lohianagar, Patna-800020.	Surat, Nagpur, Patna, Ludhiana, Amritsar.	IMS, USA.

Cellular Mobile Telephone

8 Bidders, two for each city, as mentioned below have been provisionally selected. Some of the bidders have filed civil writ petitions/special leave petitions in the Supreme Court of India. The matter is sub-judice in the Supreme Court. Hearings in the case are over and judgment is awaited.

Sl. No.	Name of the Regd. Indian Company	City	Name of the foreign Collaborator
1.	M/s. Hutchison Max Telecom., Devika Tower, 6, Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019.	Bombay	M/s. Hutchison, Whampoa.
2.	M/s. Bharti Cellular Ltd., 15th Floor, Devika Tower, 6, Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019.	Bombay	(i) M/s. General Mobile, U.K. (ii) S.F.R. France.
3.	M/s. BPL Systems & Projects Ltd., 1/1, Palace Road, Bangalore-560001.	Delhi	M/s. France Telecom.
4.	M/s. Sterling Cellular Ltd., 19, Cathedral Garden Road, Nungambakkam, Madras-600034.	Delhi	M/s. Cellular Communication International Inc. U.S.A.
5.	M/s. Usha Martin Telecom Ltd., 503, Hemkunt Chambers, 89, Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019.	Calcutta	M/s. Telecom., Malaysia.
6.	M/s. Indian Telecom. Pvt. Ltd., 13th Floor, Hemkunt Tower, 98, Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019.	Calcutta	M/s. OTC International, Australia.

Sl. No.	Name of the Regd. Indian Company	City	Name of the foreign Collaborator
7.	M/s. Skycell Communication Pvt. Ltd., Sardar Mohan Singh Building, Connaught Lane, New Delhi-110001.	Madras	M/s. Bell South, U.S.A.
8.	M/s. Mobile Telecom Service Ltd., N-83, Partap Building, 1st Floor, Connaught Circus, New Delhi-110001.	Madras	M/s. Vodofine, U.K.

Electronic Mail Service

Sl. No.	Name of the Regd. Indian Company.	Name of the City.	Name of the Foreign Collaborator
1.	M/s. RPG Telecom Ltd, TM Pratap Bhawan, First Floor, N-83, Connaught Circus, New Delhi-110001.	Any where in the country.	(i) Sprint International Inc. U.S.A. (ii) RPG International Communications Corporation, U.S.A.

64 KBPS Data Service Via Satellite

Sl. No.	Name of the Regd. Indian Company	Foreign Collaborator
1.	M/s. Hughes Escort, Communications, 2nd Floor, International Trade Tower, Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019.	Hughes Network System, U.S.A.
2.	M/s. RPG Telecom Ltd., First Floor, Pratap Building, N-83, Connaught Circus, New Delhi-110001.	Comstream Corporation, U.S.A.
3.	M/s. MAX India Ltd., Devika Tower, Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019.	Comsat Corporation, U.S.A.
4.	M/s. HCL-Hewlett Packard Ltd., 503-504, Sidharath, 96-Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019.	GTE Spacenet Corporation, U.S.A.
5.	M/s. Amadeus Investments & Finance Lentin Chambers, Dalal Street, Bombay-400023.	Telstra Holdings Proprietary Ltd., Australia.

(b) if so, the broad observations and suggestions made therein, particularly those relating to Indian wildlife; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to implement these suggestions?

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

(b) The recommendations of the meeting pertain to the establishment of the Global Tiger Forum for the conservation of the Tiger and its habitat all over its range of which India is an integral part. The broad objectives of the Global Tiger Forum are as under:—

- To promote a worldwide campaign to save the tiger, its prey and its habitat.
- To urge the international community to abandon use of tiger products and eliminate illegal trade in parts, products and derivatives of tiger.
- To increase the protected area network of habitats of tigers and the interlinking corridors in the range countries.
- To promote a comprehensive legal framework and provide necessary financial and infrastructural capabilities for effective conservation of tiger.
- To implement programmes of eco-development with full participation of local communities living in and around protected areas.

— To promote appropriate programmes for training, scientific research, and awareness building and set up suitable mechanisms for the implementation of field programmes necessary to achieve effective conservation of the tiger.

— To elicit support and help of the Governments, inter-government and non-governmental organisations and individuals for the protection of tiger, its prey and habitat, directed at a healthy build up of tiger populations throughout the range countries.

— To promote bilateral cooperation among range states for the conservation of tiger and its habitat.

(c) The Government of India has initiated steps to set up the interim Secretariat of the Global Tiger Forum.

Cess on Sugar Mills

4899. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether cess is collected on sugar produced in the Sugar Mills in the country;

(b) if so, whether this cess is added in cost price of sugar;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the amount so collected is given as a loan and grant for modernisation of Sugar Mills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH

RAI): (a) Yes, Sir. Under the Sugar Cess Act, 1982, a cess of Rs. 14/- per quintal is being collected on all sugar produced by any sugar factory in India.

(b) and (c). Among other items, an element of Rs. 14/- per quintal i.e. Rs. 0.14 per kg has been taken into account while fixing the retail issue price of levy sugar. The retail issue price of levy sugar is Rs. 9.05 per kg with effect from 1.2.1994.

(d) An amount equivalent to the proceeds of the cess levied and collected under the Sugar Cess Act, 1982, reduced by the cost of collection as determined by the Central Government, together with any moneys received by the Central Government for the purpose of this Act is, after due appropriation made by Parliament by law, credited to the Sugar Development Fund. Amongst other purposes, the Fund is also applied for making loans for facilitating the rehabilitation and modernisation of any sugar factory.

Railway Colonies

4900. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the funds provided for drinking water of Khurda Road and Sambalpur Division railway colonies during the last three years;

(b) whether the problem of drinking water is still persisting in the railway colonies in Orissa; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to tackle the problem?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) For improvements to the drinking water arrangements in the Khurda Road Division colony Rs. 48.50 lakh were provided for during the last three years.

As Sambalpur, the water supply arrangements form a part of "Setting up of a new Division" and are funded through the budgetary provisions for the same. Therefor, no separate record of expenditure for the water supply works is maintained.

(b) and (c). The position of drinking water supply has improved considerably. However, as a measure of further improvement, works pertaining to the provision of additional tubewell, overhead tanks, etc. have been sanctioned.

Extension of Prayag Raj upto Chunar

4901. SHRI RAM NIHOR RAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to extend the Prayag Raj Express running between New Delhi and Allahabad upto Chunar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Neither operationally feasible nor commercially justified.

as well as to the Ministry of Textiles. Since Anandnagar sugar factory is under the Administrative control of the Ministry of Textiles that Ministry was requested to sort their problems and provide necessary financial assistance to the factory to enable them to pay the cane price arrears.

(f) and (g). Do not arise.

[English]

Fertilizers to States

4951. SHRI SOBHANADREES-
WARA RAO VADDE:
SHRI MOHAN SINGH
(FEROZEPUR):

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of fertilizers allocated to States during 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 for Kharif and Rabi seasons separately, State-wise;

(b) whether the quantity supplied to State was sufficient to meet the requirements of States;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to increase the supply of fertilizer to the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) to (d). *Statements I, II and III* indicating the State-wise, season-wise ECA allocation and consumption of fertilizers during the years 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 are attached herewith. The availability of fertilisers in the country during the years 1991-92, 1992-93 and Kharif 93 were satisfactory. During Rabi 1993-94, there were some constraints in the availability of urea in the States of Bihar and West Bengal and Di-ammonium Phosphate (DAP) in some pockets of Punjab in the first fortnight of November, 1993. The availability in the other parts of the country except for occasional and localised shortages, was by and large satisfactory. The strain in the availability of urea in Bihar and West Bengal was due to the temporary closure of some of the urea plants which service these areas.

In order to make good the shortfall, arrangements were made to augment supplies from alternative indigenous sources and imports. In order to ensure adequate and timely supplies of fertilisers to States, the availability of fertilisers particularly controlled fertilisers, is closely monitored by Central Government through periodical review meetings with the State Governments and the manufacturers. Allocations of Controlled Fertiliser for 1993-94 have taken into account the increased demand of the State Governments.

STATEMENT-I

*ECA Allocation and Consumption of Fertiliser Nutrients during 1991**('000 Tonnes N+P+K)*

Sl. No.	State	ECA Allocation **			Consumption		
		Kharif	Rabi	Total	Kharif	Rabi	Total
1.	Andhara Pradesh	973.62	903.76	1877.38	802.26	780.05	1582.31
2.	Karnataka	624.76	360.03	984.79	544.78	360.92	905.70
3.	Kerala	169.58	95.10	264.68	133.03	91.44	224.47
4.	Tamil Nadu	411.58	554.20	965.78	347.27	491.93	839.20
5.	Gujarat	363.06	410.95	774.01	361.92	371.34	733.26
6.	Madhya Pradesh	513.59	475.93	989.52	461.23	348.46	809.69
7.	Maharashtra	917.86	574.27	1492.13	781.00	483.00	1264.00
8.	Rajasthan	217.89	283.22	501.11	181.79	259.14	440.93
9.	Goa	5.12	3.53	8.65	4.47	3.11	7.58
10.	Haryana	232.87	402.24	635.11	237.00	400.16	637.16
11.	Punjab	537.63	857.11	1394.74	446.42	798.26	1244.68
12.	Uttar Pradesh	933.19	1659.63	2562.82	827.56	1421.02	2248.58
13.	Himachal Pradesh	17.45	18.00	35.45	14.60	19.12	33.72
14.	Jammu & Kashmir	41.35	24.55	65.90	29.27	18.77	48.04
15.	Bihar	317.75	395.73	713.48	247.37	356.32	603.69
16.	Orissa	148.75	86.49	235.24	112.83	83.18	196.09
17.	West Bengal	298.09	581.40	879.49	288.12	467.37	755.49
18.	Assam	27.49	22.32	49.81	20.72	14.80	35.52
19.	Tripura	9.09	9.96	16.05	4.89	5.60	10.49
20.	Manipur	8.75	2.33	11.08	8.27	0.56	8.83
21.	Meghalaya	1.82	2.97	4.79	1.38	1.96	3.34
22.	Nagaland	1.33	0.54	1.87	0.27	0.44	0.71
23.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.40	0.13	0.53	0.27	0.20	0.47
24.	Mizoram	0.88	0.48	1.36	0.47	0.34	0.81
25.	Sikkim	1.30	1.06	2.36	0.83	0.75	1.58
All India		6824.65	7764.01	14588.25	5894.25	6833.79	12728.04

** Excluding stocks with State Institutional Agencies.

STATEMENT-II

*ECA Allocation and Consumption of Fertiliser Nutrients during 1992-93**('000 Tonnes)*

Sl. No.	State	ECA Allocation **			Consumption (N+P+K) (Estimated)		
		Kharif (N+P+K)	Rabi* (N)	Total	Kharif	Rabi	Total
1.	Andhra Pradesh	962.52	516.42	1478.94	790.25	723.85	1514.10
2.	Karnataka	11.19	147.45	758.64	516.55	263.60	780.15
3.	Kerala	151.61	24.02	175.63	116.54	86.43	202.97
4.	Tamil Nadu	386.22	248.79	635.01	335.06	464.43	799.49
5.	Gujarat	366.69	215.71	582.40	353.85	362.76	716.61
6.	Madhya Pradesh	529.97	215.80	745.77	461.28	331.74	793.02
7.	Maharashtra	902.36	218.21	1120.57	762.00	370.00	1132.00
8.	Rajasthan	247.10	190.54	437.64	205.89	284.63	490.52
9.	Goa	6.38	1.01	7.39	4.56	2.55	7.11
10.	Haryana	263.72	259.44	523.16	216.43	392.57	609.00
11.	Punjab	535.96	521.83	1057.79	481.47	717.88	1199.35
12.	Uttar Pradesh	967.93	1020.69	1988.52	807.52	1372.20	2179.72
13.	Himachal Pradesh	21.02	10.82	31.84	15.60	15.01	30.61
14.	Jammu & Kashmir	38.68	12.23	50.91	28.63	13.89	42.52
15.	Bihar	329.25	253.46	582.71	275.21	320.54	595.75
16.	Orissa	137.94	48.93	186.87	137.03	65.92	202.95
17.	West Bengal	323.18	256.14	579.32	274.28	457.00	731.28
18.	Assam	32.23	9.27	41.50	16.78	9.13	25.91
19.	Tripura	6.12	3.11	9.23	3.83	5.09	8.92
20.	Manipur	12.79	2.28	15.07	8.39	0.77	9.16
21.	Meghalaya	2.05	1.85	3.90	1.54	1.45	2.99
22.	Nagaland	0.61	0.11	0.72	0.32	0.42	0.74

Sl. No.	State	ECA Allocation **			Consumption (N+P+K) (Estimated)		
		Kharif (N+P+K)	Rabi* (N)	Total	Kharif	Rabi	Total
23.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.34	0.10	0.44	0.29	0.21	0.50
24.	Mizoram	0.64	0.10	0.74	0.50	0.70	1.20
25.	Sikkim	1.58	0.40	1.98	0.77	0.34	1.11
All India		6889.26	4209.19	11098.45	5847.76	6304.64	12152.40

* Allocation was made for Nitrogenous fertilisers only which were under Statutory Price Control.

** Excluding stock with State Institutional agencies.

STATEMENT-III

ECA Allocation and Consumption of Fertiliser Nutrients during 1993-94

(*'000 Tonnes*)

Sl. No.	State	ECA Allocation **			Consumption (N+P+K) (Estimated)		
		Kharif (N+P+K)	Rabi* (N)	Total	Kharif	Rabi	Total
1.	Andhra Pradesh	419.21	545.61	964.82	761.41	840.54	1601.95
2.	Karnataka	183.96	143.83	327.79	472.21	328.57	800.78
3.	Kerala	34.58	24.92	59.50	93.93	98.74	192.47
4.	Tamil Nadu	119.02	235.27	254.29	290.40	583.10	873.50
5.	Gujarat	185.21	236.97	422.18	338.33	358.50	691.83
6.	Madhya Pradesh	242.15	222.70	464.85	394.86	362.77	757.63
7.	Maharashtra	439.35	245.72	685.07	699.00	543.00	1242.00
8.	Rajasthan	149.01	245.38	384.39	226.59	299.46	526.05
9.	Goa	1.40	0.96	2.36	3.65	2.11	5.76
10.	Haryana	209.84	280.76	490.60	253.72	461.67	715.39
11.	Punjab	429.10	539.19	968.29	482.90	768.32	1251.22
12.	Uttar Pradesh	755.09	1215.40	1970.49	849.51	1526.85	2376.36
13.	Himachal Pradesh	13.34	9.72	23.06	13.91	14.35	28.26
14.	Jammu & Kashmir	24.99	14.10	39.09	28.35	31.88	60.23

Sl. No.	State	ECA Allocation **			Consumption (N+P+K)		
		Kharif (N+P+K)	Rabi* (N)	Total	(Estimated)		
					Kharif	Rabi	Total
15.	Bihar	262.52	291.50	554.02	252.47	341.93	594.40
16.	Orissa	101.34	55.01	156.35	125.36	98.59	223.95
17.	West Bengal	142.73	259.59	402.32	258.44	484.58	743.02
18.	Assam	11.23	11.07	22.30	15.23	14.28	29.51
19.	Tripura	4.05	3.60	7.65	3.07	6.89	9.96
20.	Manipur	7.57	0.87	8.44	8.20	1.41	9.61
21.	Meghalaya	0.76	1.01	1.77	1.56	1.79	3.35
22.	Nagaland	0.25	0.18	0.43	0.45	0.64	1.09
23.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.10	0.12	0.22	0.27	0.30	0.57
24.	Mizoram	0.15	0.13	0.28	0.49	0.67	1.16
25.	Sikkim	0.51	0.31	0.81	0.41	0.70	1.11
All India		3758.96	4620.06	8379.02	5607.32	7225.34	12832.66

* Allocation was made for Nitrogenous fertiliser only which were under Statutory Price Control.

** Excluding stock with the State Institutional Agencies.

Import of Wheat

4952. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is presently self-sufficient in wheat, if so, the extent thereof;

(b) whether India had to import wheat to meet its requirements in recent years and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether an expert of the International Wheat Council has expressed his views regarding import of wheat by India; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b). Given the normal weather condition the country is self-sufficient in foodgrains including wheat. However, Government keeps on reviewing the foodgrains situation in the country and resort to import of wheat taking into account several factors like total foodgrains production the existing food stocks with Government availability of foreign exchange, International market prices etc. To replenish the buffer stocks with Central agencies, the Government imported a quantity of 30.65 lakh tonnes of wheat during 1992-93 and 1993-94 against the contracts made during 1992-93.

[Mr. Speaker]

be final. If all the hon. Members do not agree to this, then the final decision will be taken according to the prescribed procedure. The hon. Members can unanimously take whatever decision they want.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow): Mr. Speaker, Sir, actually a stalemate has been created and a solution to it could have been found in the Chamber.

MR. SPEAKER: That is why three meetings were convened.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: It is true that three meetings were convened, but had it been decided therein that this motion would be taken under Rule 184, the problem could have been solved. In those meetings it was decided that the motion would not be taken under the Rule 184. Mr. Speaker, Sir, the motion that the statement issued by the hon. Minister of Commerce after the returned from Marrakesh should be taken into consideration—could have been made into it to the effect that after reviewing the statement the House may suggest the Government to review their stand. The august House can suggest this. We have requested the Government time and again that they should move ahead in this direction. Well, the Government may refuse, but if discussion is disallowed on the procedural basis and the hon. Members are prevented from expressing their opinion, there would be difficulty.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, if we go by rules and regulations it is also not necessary for the Government to seek the approval of the Parliament after signing such a document, but at the same time do the

rules and regulations in this regard permit disallowing an amendment moved in this regard? Therefore, Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to ask you a question.

MR. SPEAKER: Instead of asking me, you should ask the question to the Government.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: No please, Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a procedural matter. Suppose you do not allow it under Rule 184, but if in the ballot for Private Member's Motion I get a chance, and move the motion "that the House should reject the GATT". Could you rule it out? No, you cannot. That would have been discussed in the house, we could even demand for voting in this regard though it could be rejected by the Government on the basis of their majority. In spite of all this, I could not have been disallowed to move the motion, and if I can do this work as a private member, why can't I create the similar situation by moving a motion on a different pattern under Rule 184.

I am unable to understand why the Government has been adopting such an attitude in this regard? It hardly matters if the Government make a false propaganda that they have defeated the opposition, and that the majority of the members are with them.

[English]

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the point I wanted to make has been placed by Rev. Shri Indrajit Gupta. My submission is such a situation has never occurred earlier because the issues have never figured where the powers of the Government of India and the constitutional

jurisdiction pertaining to the States have come into conflict. Apart from agriculture, even health care, is also in the States' Authority and here is a situation where the Government of India have signed the agreement and apart from the States where the Opposition Parties are, in power, even in the State of Andhra Pradesh where the ruling party is in power, the Andhra Pradesh legislative Assembly has unanimously passed a Resolution urging the Government not to sign the Dunkel-Draft in the present from because the agreement is contrary to the interests of the people of this country. The situation is such that the present attitude of the Government of India will weaken the Centre-State relations and also it does not help in strengthening the unity and integrity of this country. Whatever the Government says, we, the Members of the Opposition, are strongly convinced that this Government has not taken the interests of the people of this country to the developed countries, particularly the USA and other countries. *(Interruptions)* You express your view points. Let the Hon. Speaker give you an opportunity. *(Interruptions)* We hold this view strongly. *(Interruptions)*

We humbly urge upon you to give us an opportunity to register our protest and to register our disagreement with the signing of the final agreement. That is why we demand that the discussion should take place under Rule 184. Please consider it.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR:
Mr. Speaker, Sir, so far as defining the rules and law is concerned, nobody can challenge your competence... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: No, Shri Somnathji can who is sitting there.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Just now, the leader of the opposition party pointed out one thing. It appears to me that if a Private Member's motion has been moved, you would have been competent to disallow it on the constitutional grounds. You can do so on the basis of the constitutional provision of ratifying the treaty. This is my personal opinion. The Constitution empowers the executive to sign any international treaty—there is no doubt about it. But it does not restrict the Government from ratifying the treaty, if required. The Government may bring a motion for ratification if they desire so, there is no restriction in this regard.

Since the people are agitated on this issue and the situation it has created is far from normal, the matter should be discussed and views be recorded at all events in the House. We request the Government to discuss it under Rule 184 because a stalemate continued in the meetings convened by the Government and we kept on hearing that no solution to it was found. Had the matter been resolved under Rule 184, one or the other hon. Member would have moved a substantive motion immediately thereafter. The stalemate was stated to be unresolved as yet. But today, suddenly we saw it in the list of Business... *(Interruptions)*...

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The day was fixed.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: But this stalemate continued uptill yesterday we kept on enquiring the members of BAC

(d) if so, the amount of loan/grants sanctioned and released?

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) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). HUDCO has received 30 schemes for a project cost of Rs. 11.27 crores and Rs. 9.43 crores (total Rs. 20.70 crores) with a loan amount of Rs. 10.40 crores and a subsidy amount of Rs. 8.92 crores. Similarly the amount of subsidy sanctioned is Rs. 4.07 crores and an amount of Rs.3.79 crores has been released.

Capital Raising by Agriculture Sector

5005. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV:
SHRI SOBHANADREES-
WARA RAO VADDE:

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the percentage of capital-raising by agricultural sector has been declining in the total capital-raising;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the efforts made by the Government so as to increase the capital-raising in agricultural sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) The share of agriculture, irrigation and allied sectors

in the total investment was 15.24 per cent in the Sixth Plan and 11.23 per cent in the Seventh Plan.

(b) The Eighth Five Year Plan stipulates increase in the share of Agriculture, irrigation and allied sectors to 18.65 per cent of the total investment.

Investment by Israel

5006. SHRI SHIBU SOREN:
SHRI ASTBHUJA PRASAD
SHUKLA:
SHRIMATI MAHENDRA
KUMARI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Israel has shown interest to invest in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the investment made by Israel in various sectors during the last two years, sector-wise; and

(d) the amount involved in the various joint ventures of Israel in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (d). Yes, Sir. Details of the Joint Venture proposals approved with Israeli firms in the country during the years 1992 and 1993 viz, name of the Indian company, name of the foreign collaborator, item of manufacture and the amount of foreign direct investment approved is given in the enclosed *Statement*.

(a) whether in a first ever major attack by militants on an army picket in Kashmir, the Pak-trained militants stormed an army picket in Pulwama district in the State, on January 9, 1994;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the casualties suffered; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) On 9th January, 1994 militants overpowered a Defence Security Corps post of the outer marker (Instrument Landing System) of Air Force Station, Srinagar located at village Zadoora (Pulwama District) 6.7 Kms south-east of Srinagar airfield. In the investigation, it has been revealed that 3 civilians entered the fenced area and engaged an MES employee posted at the post in conversation for about 10-15 minutes. Thereafter, they moved towards the hut and attacked the inmates with their weapons. In this attack by the militants, 9 DSC personnel were killed and 1 (one) MES employee injured.

(c) A Court of Inquiry has been ordered. Additional armed guards have been provided to isolated posts in J&K area.

Fertilizer Production

5077. SHRI SOBHANA-DREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the production target of various fertilizers during the Eighth Five Year Plan and its percentage achieved so far; and

(b) the amount spent so far to achieve the said target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The details of target for production of fertilizers per year by the end of the Eighth Plan period and actual production achieved so far are as below:—

(In lakh tonnes)

Nutrient	Target for Eighth Plan 1996-97	Actual Production		
		1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
Nitrogenous	98.0	73.01 (74.5)	74.30 (75.8)	72.74 (74.2)
Phosphatic	30.0	25.6 (85.4)	23.06 (76.9)	18.10 (60.3)

(The figures in brackets indicate percentages with reference to the targets for the Eighth Plan).

(b) The capital amount invested in the public, cooperative and private sectors is or the order of Rs. 15000 crores.

Another Rs. 3000 crores is likely to be invested in the remaining part of the Eighth Five Year Plan.

**Allowances for Field Areas of
Personnel in Armed Forces**

5203. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recommendations of the Fourth Pay Commission to re-define field areas of personnel in the Armed Forces has since been accepted by the Government;

(b) if so, the amount likely to be incurred towards payment of compensatory allowance for the personnel posted in the modified field areas; and

(c) the effective date of payment of this allowance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (c). In pursuance of the recommendations of the Fourth Central Pay Commission, field areas have been re-defined and the field service allowances payable to the personnel posted in such areas have also been rationalised and revised. The orders in this regard are effective from 1st April, 1993. The total financial implication of the revised allowances would be around Rs. 61.25 crores per annum.

[*Translation*]

**Project to Manufacture Linear
Alkyl Benzene at Cochi**

5204. SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kerala State Industrial Development Corporation has developed a project to manufacture Linear Alkyl Benzene at Cochi based on feed stock from Cochin Refineries Ltd. (CRL);

(b) whether the proposal to start the project is pending with his Ministry; and

(c) if so, the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Kerala State Industrial Development Corporation (KSIDC) had informed that they were developing a project to manufacture linear Alkyl Benzene (capacity-80,000 TPA) at Kochi in Kerala in the joint sector association with the Bhartia Group (VAM Organic Chemicals Limited). For technology tie up for the project, KSIDC was granted a foreign collaboration approval with UOP Inter-Americana Inc.USA in April, 1992.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Uniform Health Service

5205. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce Indian Medical and Health Service to carry out uniform health service throughout the country on the line of Civil Service and have invited views of States in this regard; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b). Proposals to constitute the Indian Medical and Health Service were sent to the State Governments for their comments. In view of the lack of consensus on the part of the State Governments it is not possible to constitute the Indian Medical and Health Service. The States which had adopted/not accepted the constitution of the Indian Medical and Health Service and also the States which had some reservations are given below:—

ACCEPTED

1. Gujarat
2. Karnataka
3. Mizoram
4. Rajasthan
5. Tripura

CONDITIONALLY ACCEPTED

1. Madhya Pradesh
2. Maharashtra
3. Punjab
4. Meghalaya

NOT ACCEPTED

1. Andhra Pradesh
2. Assam

3. Himachal Pradesh
4. Jammu & Kashmir
5. Kerala

STATES WHICH DID NOT OFFER ANY COMMENTS

1. Bihar
2. Haryana
3. Manipur
4. Nagaland
5. Orissa
6. Sikkim
7. Tamil Nadu
8. Uttar Pradesh
9. West Bengal

This matter was also discussed in the sub-committee meeting of the Inter-State Council held on 15.09.1992, which decided not to accept the proposal to constitute this All India Service.

Supply of Water

5206. SHRI M. KRISHNASWAMY:
Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to states:

(a) whether the Government of Tamil Nadu has submitted any proposal to the Union Government for increasing the per capita supply of water;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOP-

Trainees at Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademi

5414. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons trained at the Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademi since its inception;

(b) the total cost of training per person;

(c) the amount of cost which is recovered from a trainee and how much is subsidized by the Akademi;

(d) the number of such trained persons who have joined the public sector airlines and the private sector airlines, separately and also the number of those who have left the country for jobs in foreign airlines; and

(e) the percentage of trainees who drop out and do not complete the full course of training?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) A total of 242 pilots have been trained by the Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademi since its inception.

(b) and (c). The details are as under:-

Course No.	Total cost of training per person (Rs. in lacs)	Fee paid by the trainees	Amount subsidized by the Akademi (Rs. in lacs)
1. CPL	2.80	Rs. 70,000	2.10
2. CPL	2.80	Rs. 70,000	2.10
3. CPL	2.80	Rs. 70,000	2.10
4. CPL	3.00	Rs. 75,000	2.25
5. CPL	3.00	Rs. 75,000	2.25
6. CPL	3.00	Rs. 75,000	2.25
7. CPL	4.00	Rs. 1,50,000	2.50
8. CPL	4.00	Rs. 2,00,000	2.00
9. CPL	6.00	Rs. 4,00,000	2.00

(d) 129 pilots, trained at IGRUA, have joined Air India, Indian Airlines, Pawan Hans Ltd. and ARC. No record is kept of those who have left the country for job in foreign airlines.

(e) The percentage of drop out is 2.5%.

Import of Cars from Japan

5415. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Mercendz D-240 cars imported from Japan during year 1993-94;

(b) the price of the cars as per the invoice and customs duty paid in each case;

(c) the manner in which the customs duty is valued on optional accessories in the absence of invoice;

(d) whether in several cases the world catalogue price was taken into consideration for assessing the customs duty; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) Nil.

(b) Not applicable in view of reply to part (a) above.

(c) In the absence of invoice, valuation is done on the basis of market enquiries, contemporaneous imports and price catalogues wherever available.

(d) and (e). Nil in view of reply to part (a) above.

Aircraft of AI and IA

5416. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state the age of each of the aircraft in fleets of the Air India and the Indian Airlines?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): Details of the age of aircraft in the fleet of Air India and Indian Airlines are given in the *Statement-I* and *Statement-II* attached.

STATEMENT-I

Details of the age of the aircraft in the fleet of Air India is given below:

Sl. No.	Regn. No.	Age (as on 1.4.94)
Boeing 747-237-B		
1.	VT-EBE	22 yrs 10 Months
2.	VT-EDN	22 yrs —
3.	VT-EFJ	15 yrs 2 Months
4.	VT-EFU	14 yrs 7 Months
5.	VT-EGA	14 yrs 3 Months
6.	VT-EGB	14 yrs 2 Months
7.	VT-EGC	14 yrs —

(a) whether the Export Credit Guarantee Corporation (E.C.G.C.) is functioning without a Chairman or Head of the Organisation; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). Consequent upon superannuation of Shri G. Asvathanarayan as CMD, ECGC on 31st October, 1993, Shri Ashok Jha, Joint Secretary in this Ministry and a part-time official Director on the ECGC Board representing this Ministry, had been appointed to hold additional charge of the post of CMD, ECGC with effect from 1st November, 1993 initially for 3 months which was subsequently extended upon 30th April, 1994 or till a regular successor joins the post, whichever is earlier. Action has already been initiated to fill up the said post on a regular basis.

Committee on Industrial Sickness and Corporate Restructuring

5525. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have examined the recommendations of the Committee on Industrial sickness and Corporate Restructuring;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the views expressed by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction, trade unions and others on the above recommendations.;

(d) whether the above views were also taken into consideration by the Government before finalisation of the recommendations of the Committee;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (f). The recommendations of the Committee on Industrial Sickness and Corporate Restructuring are under consideration of the Government. The views of various organisations received by Government would be taken into account while finalising the decisions on these recommendations.

Assistance to Exporters form U.S. EXIM Bank

5526. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian exporters have been allowed to opt financial assistance from U.S. Exim Bank;

(b) if so, whether conditions for accepting such assistance have been worked out; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) The Export Import Bank of India (Exim Bank) has reported that it is in the process of setting up a Line of US\$ 15 million from Citibank, New York under the guarantee facility of US Exim Bank. In terms of this, funding will be extended directly by Citibank to Exim Banks for lending to Indian Companies. The credit will be guaranteed by US Exim Bank.

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b). An article entitled "Bogus Parts Detecting the Hidden Threat" has been published in the flight safety digest (special double issue) January/February 1994. It has referred to an accident to an aircraft of a Norwegian ship building company; Norwegian safety investigators have traced the inflight breakup & crash to sub standard parts.

In the article, it is mentioned that even the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) fleet of 62 aircraft has an unapproved parts problem. The audit found that 39 percent of the \$ 32 millions worth of aircraft parts stocked at an FAA facility in Okalhama were not approved parts.

(c) No case of usage of counterfeit plane spares has been found by Director General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) in the recent past.

(d) Does not arise.

Reserve Bank of India Circular

5532. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India issued a circular on June 13, 1988 addressed to Urban Cooperative Banks advising them that the deposits of funds by the Urban Co-operative Banks with Corporation/Companies would be tantamount to granting un-secured advance and would also attract the provisions of the directive;

(b) if so, the provisions of the Reserve Bank of India directive on interest rates and maximum limit of advances;

(c) whether the directives of the circular have been made applicable recently to deposits made in Shrinidhi Deposit Scheme of Sardar Sarovar Nigam Limited; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (d). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that their circular dated June 13, 1988 applies to all types of deposits kept with any institution/company/Corporation which was not in the co-operative fold. The funds generated in the co-operative sector should be deployed in the co-operative sector only and mainly for the benefit of the members as per the guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India from time to time. The instructions aim at calling upon urban co-operative banks to use their resources for the purposes for which they are established i.e. by financing needy persons in the respective areas of operation and thus generate and develop the economy thereat. These are in the overall interest of Urban Co-operatives banking system and the Co-operative movement. In the context of this, the urban co-operative banks are not to divert their resources as deposit with any institutions/Corporations etc. Including Sardar Sarovar Narmada Nigam Limited.

The relevant information regarding rate of interest applicable on deposits as well as on advances in June, 1988 and as at present is given in the attached *Statement I and II*.

STATEMENT-I*Interest Rates on Deposits*

	In June, 1988	As on 16.12.93
I. Current Accounts Deposits		
Current Account deposits and deposits upto 14 days and deposits subject to withdrawal or repayment by or notice for a period of 14 days or less.	Not exceeding 0.5% p.a.	Not exceeding 0.5% p.a.
II. Savings Deposits		
	5.0% p.a.	5.0% p.a.
III Term Deposits		
(a) 15 days to 45 days	3.0%	Nil
(b) 46 days to 90 days	4.0% p.a.	From 46 days to three years and above not exceeding 10% p.a.
(c) 91 days and above but less than one year	8.0% p.a.	
(d) One year and above but less than 2 years	9.0% p.a.	
(e) Two years and above	10.0% p.a.	

STATEMENT-II

1. The interest rates for the major categories was as under in June, 1988

	Rate of interest % p.a.
I. Small Scale Industries	
1. Composite loans upto Rs. 25,000/-	Not exceeding 11.00
(a) Backward areas	11.00
(b) Other areas	12.00 (fixed)
2. Short-term advances	
(a) Limits upto and inclusive of Rs. 2.00 lakhs	Not exceeding 14.00
(b) Limits over Rs. 2.00 lakhs and upto Rs. 25.00 lakhs	Not exceeding 15.50
(c) Limits over Rs. 25.00 lakhs	16.50 (Fixed)

II. Other Categories

1. Retail Trade advances

- | | |
|--|---------------------|
| (a) Limits upto and inclusive of Rs. 5,000/- | Not exceeding 14.00 |
| (b) Limits over Rs 5,000/- and upto Rs. 25,000/- | Not exceeding 15.00 |
| (c) Limits above Rs. 25,000/- | Not exceeding 16.50 |

2. Educational advances

- | | |
|--|-------------------------|
| (a) Indigent students for purpose of higher education in India | Not less than Bank rate |
| (b) Other educational advances | 14.00 – 15.50 |
| (c) All other advances | Not exceeding 16.50 |

III. Term Loans

1. Small Scale Industries units as in the then new definition of SSI

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| (a) Backward areas | Not exceeding 13.50 |
| (b) Other areas | 13.50 (Fixed) |
| (c) All other term loans | Not exceeding 15.00 |

2. As at present

(Percent per annum)

Size of Credit Limit	Existing rate	New rate (effective March, 1 1994)	
Over Rs. 25,000/- and upto Rs. 2 lakh	15.0	Term loans of three years and above	All other advances
		14.0	15.0
Over Rs. 2 lakh	15.0	14.0	15.0
	(minimum)	(minimum)	(minimum)

Promotion of Adventure Tourism in Orissa

assistance for promotion of adventure tourism in the state;

5533. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken to expedite the clearance thereof?

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Orissa seeking financial

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM

taken following important steps to speed up operations:

- (i) MOU has been signed with Ministry of Railways for guaranteed transit time/scheduled container train services on specific streams;
- (ii) Coordination is being maintained with Port Trusts to avoid detention of trains;
- (iii) A specific line has been earmarked for export containers and a direct train from ICD Ludhiana to Ports is now being run.
- (iv) Additional handling equipment has been deployed at Tughlakabad.

Financial Crisis in States

5570. SHRI SOBHANADREES-
WARA RAO VADDE:
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether several States are facing financial crisis as reported in the October, 1993 issue of RBI Bulletin;

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

(c) whether the Central Government have taken some initiatives to help the States facing financial crisis;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V.

CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and (b). The October, 1993 issue of RBI Bulletin on State finances has highlighted the fiscal imbalances in the finances of State Governments, particularly in the revenue account which would remain in deficit for the seventh year in succession. The magnitude of revenue deficit is placed at Rs. 4,525.2 crore in 1993-94 as compared with Rs. 4,116.8 crore in 1992-93. The gross fiscal deficit (GFD) which has been rising fast since the later part of the eighties is estimated to increase by 18.6 per cent in 1993-94 to reach a level of Rs. 23,706.6 crore. The overall conventional deficit for 1993-94 been placed at Rs. 2,639.7 crore which is about twice the revised estimates level of Rs. 1,256.5 crore in 1992-93. the growing deficit of State Governments in 1993-94 is the combined outcome of factors like, slow down in the growth of revenue receipts, from 13.5 per cent in 1992-93 to 10.0 percent in 1993-94 and higher growth in their non-developmental expenditure which is budgeted to rise by 19.4 percent in 1993-94 as against 17.7 percent in 1992-93.

(c) and (d). It is primarily for the State Governments to improve their financial position through economy in non-developmental expenditure and improvements in their own resource position. However, the Centre has advised the States from time to time a various fora including at the time of plan discussion to control their expenditure and improve their own revenues to improve their financial position. During 1993-94, taking cognizance of their opening deficit, Special Category States were given Advance Plan Assistance (APA) of Rs. 840 crores. In addition, during 1993-94, Punjab was sanctioned a Special Plan Loan of Rs. 939 crores in view of the State's special problems. Similarly, in view of the special financial difficulties of Jammu and

Kashmir, the State was allowed Rs. 100 crores towards meeting the security related expenditure as deferment of loan and interest to the Centre to the extent of Rs. 9.10 crores during 1993-94.

(e) Does not arise.

Registered Aircraft

5571. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of aircraft included in the National Register of registered aircraft;

(b) the number of aircraft, out of them, which are from Madhya Pradesh alongwith the details of the different kinds of aircraft registered from the State;

(c) whether any airworthiness office has been set up at Bhopal;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the time by which such office is likely to be set up there: and

(f) the number of holders of licences and certificates issued by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation who are from Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) 892 aircrafts are registered in the Civil Aircraft Register.

(b) 22 aircrafts are registered with Madhya Pradesh addresses. Details are given in the attached *Statement*.

(c) and (d). A sub-regional office of DGCA has been set up at Bhopal, which is headed by a Controller of Airworthiness.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) 274 persons from Madhya Pradesh are holding licences issued by Director General of Civil Aviation.

STATEMENT

Aircraft	Based in Madhya Pradesh
Type	Total
B-200	1
Dauphin Helicopter	1
Chetak Helicopter	2
Pushpak aircraft	3
Cessna 150M	1
Cessna 152	5
Cessna 172	3
Piper Commanchee PA-30	1
FA-27	2
Piper Navajo PA-31	1
Jet Commander	1
Boeing 720	1
Total	22

(a) whether the Government have prepared any new scheme so as to further boost the rice export;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have set up an Export Promotion Council for Rice; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). Steps taken to enhance the export competitiveness of Indian rice include (i) removal of inter-state restrictions on movement of rice and suspension of the levy on superfine non-basmati rice meant for export purposes by some State Governments, (ii) Rationalisation of Minimum Export Prices, (iii) giving permission to exporters to import milling equipment at concessional duty under the Export Promotion Capital goods scheme, (iv) rice exporters are also eligible for the benefits of the 100% Export Oriented Unit Scheme.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The All India Rice Exporters Association had requested the Government for forming such an export Promotion Council for Rice. Subsequently, they withdrew their request and instead, requested the Government to allow them to form an association on the lines of the Soyabean Processors Association of India with powers to register export contracts. Presently, non-basmati rice is a scheduled product of Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority.

Export of Cotton

5590. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian cotton has been rated as one of the most contaminated cotton in the World by International agencies;

(b) whether according to experts, contamination in the Indian cotton includes coloured thread, human hair and many extraneous material thrown in the cotton after packing during transportation; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken to improve the quality of the cotton?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. There is a need for improving the quality and reduce the levels of contamination present in Indian cotton to-day. Deficiencies at various stages of post harvest management and obsolete ginning the pressing machinery lead to contamination which includes presence of non-cotton fibres such as jute/hessian, woven plastics, organic matters like leaves, feathers, leather as well as substances like grease/oil, tar, etc.

(c) Government has drawn up an Action Plan for improvement in ginning and pressing industry which includes inter-alia programme of education, training of workers, preparation of maintenance manuals for machinery.

Waiving of Loans

5591. SHRI SOBHANADREE-SWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the managers of associate Banks of State Bank of India in Calcutta and Bombay based branches are alleged to have waived loans to the tune of crores of rupees;

(b) if so, the names of these associate banks' and the amount of loans waived by them; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and to the extent available/ permissible will be laid on the Table of the House.

Trade with Romania

5592. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Romania have agreed for improvement in the trade and economic cooperation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Romania is interested in importing diversified manufactured goods from India; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A trade agreement was signed with Romania on Feb. 23, 1993 and ways to effect improvement in trade and economic cooperation are discussed periodically between the two sides.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. At the third meeting of the Indo-Romanian Joint Business Council held in New Delhi on 10 January, 1994, some of the potential items for export from India were identified by the two sides as drugs and pharmaceutical products, electronic components, consumer electronics goods, computer software, cosmetics, detergents, electric bulbs and tubes, kitchenware, garments and leather goods.

Losses Suffered by Indian Airlines

5593. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines has been running in losses;

(b) if so, the manner in which the outgo of funds as a result thereof is being met;

(c) the agency which has been providing funds to the Indian Airlines to make up for these losses; and

(d) the manner in which the Indian Airlines propose to finance the purchase of aircraft during 1994-95 and thereafter particularly in view of huge loss of funds as a result of losses suffered by it?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Indian Airlines have been meeting its outgo of funds out of internal resource generation, opening cash and bank balances, reduction in working capital, short term borrowing, and other capital receipts.