

LOK SABHA DEBATES (English Version)

**Third Session
(Ninth Lok Sabha)**



(Vol. VIII contains Nos. 1 to 10)

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

[English]

Tuesday, August 21, 1990/ Sravana 30,
1912 (Saka)

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES
AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE
(SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) and (b). A
Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Generation capacity and availability of Power

*163. SHRI BHOGEN DRA JHA: Will
the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the power generation capacity and
the per capita annual availability of power in
the country, State-wise, and

(b) the steps being taken for optimum
utilization of various energy sources to meet
the increasing demand of power?

(a) State-wise power generation capaci-
ties as on 31.3.90 and per capita consump-
tion of power during 1988-89 are indicated in
Annexures I & II respectively.

(b) All possible efforts are being made
for optimum utilisation of the various energy
sources in the country to meet the increasing
demand of power. These efforts include (i)
utilisation of available off-peak surplus power
from thermal stations in the neighboring
systems/regions to the maximum possible
extent (ii) coordinated operation of thermal
and hydro power stations within the various
States/Systems (iii) coordinated operation
of the predominantly thermal and the con-
tiguous predominantly hydel systems, ena-
bling mutual exchange of power by regulat-
ing the drawal of water over different time
periods, viz, day, month etc. and (iv) effec-
tive load management, restricting power
supply during peak periods and encouraging
the use of power during off-peak periods.

ANNEXURE—I

Installed Generating Capacity As on 31.3.1990 (Utilities)

Region/State/UT	Total (MW)
Haryana	1780.32
Himachal Pradesh	273.57

<i>Region/State/UT</i>	<i>Total (MW)</i>
<hr/>	
Jammu & Kashmir	262.04
Punjab	3048.94
Rajasthan	1721.93
Uttar Pradesh	5527.24
Chadigarh	2.00
Delhi	551.60
Central Sector	5933.00
Total (Northern Region)	19100.64
Gujarat	4202.43
Madhya Pradesh	3087.60
Maharashtra	8185.72
Goa	0.00
D & N Haveli	0.00
Central Sector	3600.00
Total (Western Region)	19075.75
Andhra Pradesh	4064.44
Karnataka	2645.20
Kerala	1476.50
Tamil Nadu	3874.38
Pondicherry	0.00
Central Sector	3800.00
TOTAL (Southern Region)	15860.52
Bihar	1549.43
Orissa	1574.42
West Bengal	2584.38

<i>Region/State/UT</i>	<i>Total (MW)</i>
DVC	1821.50
Sikkim	21.29
Central Sector	630.00
TOTAL (Eastern Region)	8181.02
Assam	537.19
Manipur	24.49
Meghalaya	133.76
Nagaland	6.12
Tripura	46.65
Arunachal Pradesh	22.48
Mizoram	25.82
Central Sector	255.01
TOTAL (North-Eastern Region)	1051.52
A & N Islands	15.19
Lakshadweep	4.87
ALL INDIA	63289.50

ANNEXURE-II

Statewise per Capita Consumption of Electricity During the year 1988-89

(Utilities and Non-Utilities)

	<i>(Kwh)</i>
<i>Name of the Region/State</i>	<i>1988-89*</i>
1	2

NORTHERN REGION

Haryana

328.20

<i>(Kwh)</i>	
<i>Name of the Region/State</i>	<i>1988-89*</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>
Himachal Pradesh	166.60
Jammu & Kashmir	172.02
Punjab	659.66
Rajasthan	181.98
Uttar Pradesh	143.41
Chandigarh	532.35
Delhi	575.80
Sub Total	216.60
WESTERN REGION	
Gujarat	396.96
Madhya Pradesh	188.27
Maharashtra	372.04
D & N Haveli	876.08
Goa, Daman & Diu	381.64
Sub-Total	313.63
SOUTHERN REGION	
Andhra Pradesh	218.06
Karnataka	232.71
Kerala	148.25
Tamil Nadu	276.81
Lakshadweep	155.00
Pondicherry	527.26
Sub-Total	228.80

(Kwh)	
<i>Name of the Region/State</i>	<i>1988-89*</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>
EASTERN REGION	
Bihar	109.89
Orissa	200.63
West Bengal	136.72
A & N Islands	121.06
Sikkim	68.24
Sub-Total	134.96
NORTH EASTERN REGION	
Assam	63.29
Manipur	56.72
Meghalaya	98.36
Nagaland	67.08
Tripura	40.52
Arunachal Pradesh	54.59
Mizoram	49.26
Sub-Total	63.07
TOTAL (ALL INDIA)	216.48

*Provisional

[*Translation*]

SHRIBHOGENDRAJHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, from the reply given by hon. Minister, it appears that there is acute shortage of power in the country. From the statement laid in respect of installed generating capacity of various states, Haryana has a capacity of

1780 MW, Uttar Pradesh 5527 MW. Rajasthan 1721 MW, Punjab 3048 MW, Orissa 1574 MW and West Bengal 2584 MW. As compared to other states, generating capacity of Bihar is lesser than that of even smaller states. I would like to know the steps to be taken to remove the shortage thereof. It has been said in the reply that in order to remove

the shortage of energy, optimum utilization of various energy sources should be made. Sir, I would like to submit that the people use kerosene and other oils for lighting purposes in the absence of electricity but it has been reported last night that the Oil Refinery of Barauni has been closed. My colleague Shri Surya Narayanji also came to know of it last night. Generating capacity of thermal power is also decreasing due to supply of inferior quality of coal to thermal units. When the matter was brought to the notice of the Government of India, the Additional Secretary to the Government of India wrote a letter to me. I quote therefrom.

[English]

"We do not have consumers for such a huge block of power".

[Translation]

A dam was proposed to be constructed on Kosi river. This dam has not so far been constructed. 3500 MW of power was to be generated therefrom. Therefore, I would like to know the steps being taken to increase the power generation in view of its increased consumption.

[English]

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: The admitted position is that there is a shortage of power. In fact, if we look back from 1985-86 till today, the shortage has varied between 10.9% and 7.9%; and even the projection for the next year appears that we will be running a situation of shortage. Therefore, we must try to increase the availability of power.

In the Eighth Five Year Plan, we do intend to increase power production by 38369 MW provided our colleague Prof. Madhu Dandavate helps the power sector with big-gear finance. There are shortcomings in various fields which the House had discussed a number of times. We have taken certain long-term and shortagies. So far as the short-term strategies are concerned, today in a

number of thermal power stations the position requires close monitoring, etc. We have now decided that, some of these thermal power stations which are old, their performance is improved. A centrally-sponsored scheme for renovation and modernisation has been introduced. Now, there are in all 34 power stations and 164 generating units which are being covered under this programme. The other programme that we have included is to increase the number of gas-based projects, permitting the use of gas and oil fuels at the selected power plants, undertaking renovation and modernisation programmes at various terminals of the hydro-power plants, acceleration of project implementation, improving the quality and ensuring consistency of coal supplies to power plants. We are also trying to reduce the transmission losses and ensure effective inter-connected operations of power systems. I have got a list of long-term measures. But still I must concede that we do have today the shortage of 7.5 per cent and the overall shortage will be to the extent of around 7.9% by the end of the year. But if we can make efficient investment to the desired level, as we are expecting, then we can bring down the power shortage to a very minimum level at the end of the five year plan.

[Translation]

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: The hon. Minister did not reply to my points. It has been reported last night that the Oil Refinery of Barauni has been closed. As I said that we are not able to use power being supplied from Nepal. It is a thing of the past, why Bihar is lagging behind comparison to other states?

[English]

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: I do not have the information regarding Barauni. I will check it up. So far as Bihar is concerned, it must be admitted that position in Bihar is definitely not very happy. If one looks back to April-July 1990, one will find that there had been a shortage to the extent of 24.3 per cent in Bihar, which is on the high side.

[*Translation*]

SHRIBHOGENDRA JHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to submit that despite generating capacity of 1549 MW, the actual power generation in Bihar has never gone beyond 1000 MW. If I am wrong, hon. Minister may correct by telling the position of actual power generation in Bihar. I do not say about installed capacity. A scheme for construction of a big dam was submitted to the Nepal Government by the Government of India in 1981. Had the project been completed, 3300 MW of electricity would have been generated therefrom. If all the dams on Kosi are completed, they will have a potential of generating 60,000 MW of Hydel Power which does not require coal at all. I visited Nepal in 1984 on the invitation of the Nepal Government and I stayed there as a state guest from 1st May to 4th May. I am pained to point out that the Government of India did not pursue the matter further. Still there is an opportune time to construct dams on Kosi river. This will bring a rapid development in Nepal and India both. It will prove beneficial for both the countries in many ways like flood control, irrigation etc. but I am just now talking about power generation only. This proposal was submitted to the Nepal Government 9 years ago. Will the Energy Minister take interest in it even now? Pancheshwar Karnali Agreement was signed between India and Nepal in 1974. 14 years have passed since then, but no progress has been made in this regard. It is in Uttar Pradesh. Hon. Minister is not present in the House at the moment. She is busy in planting a thousand trees for every tree felled. She was also telling us about Tehri Garhwal and Narmada projects but issue of Bihar is still pending. I would like to know from the Energy Minister whether he is taking steps in this regard or not? So far as question of planting trees is concerned, fifty times more trees can be planted. Hon. Minister should reply these points.

[*English*]

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: The first question is about the installed generating capacity. In Bihar we have shown the in-

stalled generating capacity as 1549. And the hon. Member's next question was whether it has ever been achieved. The fact remains that in this whole country the plant load factor is around 56 per cent. Unfortunately, in Bihar the problem is more acute, because in Bihar the plant load factor has been hardly 34 per cent and in recent times it is 26 per cent. Therefore, what we have given in Annexure-I is the installed capacity. But it has to be admitted that the generation of the installed capacity is not possible. In many of the power plants there is always a shortage. Our endeavour has been to maximise this to the greatest possible extent but so far as Bihar is concerned, it does not depend on us. It depends on so many other factors including as to how the State Electricity Boards are run, over which the State Government has greater control. Today, unfortunately the situation in Bihar so far as utilisation of the plant load factor is concerned, is definitely not a happy one. (*Interruptions*) It has been around 34 per cent. It has gone down to 26 per cent and I request the hon. Member to help us. We are in touch with the Bihar Government and we are in touch with the Electricity Board also. So far as the projects are concerned, about Karnali and Pancheswar hydro projects discussions with Nepal are going on and my information is that so far as the Kosi project is concerned, the Nepal Government is not very keen on this project. But these discussions have not taken any final shape.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: I said that I had received a letter from the Additional Secretary.

MR. SPEAKER: He is not saying anything.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: I was invited by the Government of Nepal.

MR. SPEAKER: You have got his reply that Nepal Government is not interested in it.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: What is the present position?

[*English*]

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: I am not blaming Nepal. What I am saying is, as you know, in the recent past our relationship with Nepal has not been very good. At the present moment discussions are going on so far as two projects are concerned, that is, about Karnali and Pancheswar. So far as Kosi project is concerned, the Nepal Government does not seem to be keen. This information I am only giving to the hon. Member.

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKATA: The responsibility of the Union Territories is with the Central Government and the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands has been facing acute power shortage and it is going on for a long time without any remedial measures being taken. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he is aware that the hydro-electric dam, on Kolpong river, has been pending for a long time with the Ministry, and what action is the Government contemplating to take about it?

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: This is a specific question. I require notice for this. But I will convey the information to the hon. Member. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKATA: What is the position?

MR. SPEAKER: He says that he will convey the information.

SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARDHAN: Is it not a fact that due to the acute shortage of coal so many thermal power stations like Tuticorin in my constituency—which was giving good performance earlier—has not been performing well? Will the Government apply their mind like the previous Government which was importing Australian coal through which the performance of so many thermal stations has improved and the ash content was reduced? Will the Government come to the rescue of the ther-

mal stations which are facing acute shortage of coal? So many Ministers of Tamil Nadu are now halting in Calcutta to get the coal for thermal stations.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: We will try to do whatever is possible for the supply of coal to Tamil Nadu. As I said earlier the problem is a cyclical one. If there is shortage of power, there is also correspondingly a shortage of coal. If we are to import coal for Tamil Nadu, my own feeling is the Finance Minister, even if I approach him, will not agree to it.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Do not blame the Finance Ministry for every thing. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARDHAN: We shall have to do it in view of the present position.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Correct, but we must have foreign exchange. At the present moment, we shall have to see that the present availability of coal is properly distributed and we will keep into account Tamil Nadu's interest.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: I will ask a supplementary question which is very dear to the Minister and also to Mr. Sontosh Mohan Dev.

There is a Brahmaputra Board Project. The plan is to tame Brahmaputra river so that it does not cause every year or every half year flood situation but also generate electricity. I will give you the dimension. 20,000 MW can be generated according to their estimate on the basis of the cost expenditure of about Rs. 25,000 crores only. With the supply of 20,000 MW, the problem of Bihar, the problem of Orissa, the problem of West Bengal and the problem of the entire North East can be solved. Only at the time of the Fourth Five Year Plan, we have crossed this figure. So, I would like to know the Government's attitude in regard to taming Brahmaputra river and implementing Brahmaputra Board Project even at the cost of other

projects elsewhere because this will be liked by the entire Eastern region including the North East.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: I am extremely grateful to the hon. Member for raising this question because it is one point which I had raised here as a Member a number of times. It is a fact that there are two project reports drawn up by the Brahmaputra Board, which can provide power to a substantial part of this country at a very cheap rate. Of course, the cost involvement is there. But the other problem that arises is that... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: The unit cost is less.

SHRIDINESH GOSWAMI: The unit cost is the cheapest, I do agree. But the problem is that if these projects are to materialise, certain areas of Arunachal Pradesh gets submerged. The Arunachal Pradesh Government has not agreed to this, I was told. They are not prepared for this submergence. They have got a negative attitude to these projects. When we met last time in Guwahati to discuss about the development of the North Eastern Region, it was decided that the Arunachal Government, the Assam Government and the Central Government will meet to discuss about this issue. We will be discussing this issue and try to convince the Arunachal Government about the necessity of these projects. But unless we take the Arunachal Government along with us, it is difficult just to carry these projects over the head of the Arunachal.

[*Translation*]

SHRI JANARDAN YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the acute shortage of power in Bihar for last two months due to which farmers and small scale industries have been badly affected. Many small scale units have been closed. Power supply from the DVC and other eastern power stations to Bihar has been stopped. I would like to know whether the pace of construction

work of Thermal Power Station at Kahalgaon in Bhagalpur district of Bihar will be stepped up so that Kahalgaon power shortage could be removed?

[*English*]

SHRIDINESH GOSWAMI: As I informed the House, the position in Bihar is not very happy. With the projection that I have with me, I cannot assure the House that there will be substantial improvement to this position. The DVC has faced certain problems. We are trying to tackle the problems as far as possible. But unless the power generating capacity in Bihar is increased substantially from the present 27 or 30 per cent to at least 45 to 50 per cent, the position will be difficult. We are also, in the eastern region considering the fact that there is a great deal of shortage of power. We have a number of projects in hand. The other problem is that there is a strike of engineers going on in Bihar. Now we are giving special attention to Bihar and some other regions but the problem still persists.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as a matter of fact, there is shortage of power everywhere in the country but Gujarat has received scanty rainfall and many farmers have dug wells and installed electric water pumps also after taking loans from banks. Interest on their loans is mounting but they are not getting power connections. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to whom will he give preference to the industries or to the farmers, in the matter of supplying power in such circumstances?

[*English*]

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: The power situation in Gujarat as compared to many other States is better in the sense that there the shortage is 3.1 per cent as compared to the average shortage of 24 per cent in Bihar or even the shortage of 23 per cent in Orissa. So comparatively Gujarat's position is much

better. But as I admitted in the beginning, there is a situation of shortage from which we cannot get away—a situation of shortage of 7 to 8 per cent. Therefore, within that shortage situation, we shall have to work and adjustment shall have to be made to give as much as possible to agriculture and industrial sector. We have tried to see that the agricultural sector does not suffer for shortage of power.

SHRI LALIT VIJOY SINGH: There are two specific questions regarding generation and availability of power in Bihar. Bihar Government has submitted a proposal for North Karanpura project at a total cost of Rs. 2000 crores. It has also been cleared by the Project Central Electricity Authority. I just wanted to ask the Minister through you whether this project will be considered for inclusion in Eighth Plan in an expeditious manner to ensure sufficient power generation and availability to the people of Bihar.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: This project will definitely be considered. As I told the hon. Members, in the next five year plan our projection is for a capacity of 38,369 MW. But that will require huge investment. Subject to availability of funds obviously the projects will be sanctioned.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: The hon. Minister has replied to Mr. Nirmal Chatterjee's question. But my question is that in North eastern region—in Assam, Tripura and other States—a huge quantum of gas is being wasted. The Ministry is following the dog in the manger policy. Then, either you utilise it or allow the State Governments to utilise it and the prices become the contention for the last five years. Yes, during our time it was not decided. Will the hon. Minister kindly let us know what is the latest position and whether the Energy Ministry have settled with the Petroleum Ministry about the price on which that can be supplied to the different State Electricity Boards so that they can utilise this gas which is being wasted because you have said that there is a lack of fund to start various projects? But, this is one area where lack of funds will not be there

because there are various organisations which are willing to start the industry. They are willing to utilise this gas. But, this is not being done.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Before I answer Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev, I must correct one thing that the Project of Karampura, which has been asked by my hon. friend is slated for the Ninth Plan. Now, about the gas price, we will have to look into this and we are looking into this matter. At the present moment, I am not in a position to give any commitment.

SHRI AJIT PANJA: The entire State of West Bengal is reeling under acute shortage of power. In fact, in Calcutta in 24 hours we get two to three hours supply and that is also without getting any notice of specific time period. The Minister has answered that West Bengal's generating capacity is 2584.38 M.W. There are five sectors from where power is generated in Bengal. These are Kolaghat, Santaldih, Bandel, Calcutta Electric Supply and supply from Chhukha in Bhutan. I want to know (a) what is the plant/load factor in respect of each of these generating units and (b) whether transmission line for taking Chhukha power is well maintained for giving power to the North Bengal area? The previous Government had entered into an agreement with Bhutan Government for supply of power from Chhukha which would give enough power supply to entire North Bengal upto Farakka Barrage. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether transmission lines are properly maintained by the state of West Bengal to take this power from Chhukha?

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Sir, the hon. Member should bear in mind that I am holding somebody else's portfolio for the day and, therefore, when specific questions are asked, obviously I shall have to ask for a notice. As regards the two specific questions he has asked, I shall convey them to the Minister of Energy as early as possible.

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Mr.

Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether there is any proposal to install a gas based power plant in Madhya Pradesh as the Central Electricity Authority has stated in its 3th Report that the present 18.5 per cent shortage of power in Madhya Pradesh is likely to increase to 26 per cent. There is no power house in North Western area of Madhya Pradesh.

[English]

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: As I said whether these projects will see the light of the day is dependent on the allocation of funds and the approach of the Planning Commission. But, definitely the gas based project should be given due priority. That is one way by which we can improve the power position.

[Translation]

Power Projects of Rajasthan

*164. SHRIGULAB CHAND KATARIA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether proposals for setting up of four power projects of Rajasthan namely Suratgarh Thermal Power Project, Dholpur Thermal Power project, Anta gas based

Power project and Jodhpur Solar Energy project are pending with Union Government;

(b) if so, since when and the time by which they are likely to be approved; and

(c) whether Government propose to assist economically backward Rajasthan by including these projects in the Eighth Plan?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) to (c). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) to (c). The details in respect of the four power projects including those received from the State authorities of Rajasthan and the status of their clearances are contained in the Annexure.

The Eighth Plan has not been finalised so far and the details of the power projects envisaged during the Eighth Plan period would be known only after its finalisation.

Central assistance is provided to the States in the form of block loans and block grants and is not related to any specific project/programme.

ANNEXURE

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Project and Capacity</i>	<i>Present Status</i>
1	2	3
1.	Suratgarh 2 X 210 MW	This project is under consideration in CEA with other appraising agencies and could be considered for techno-economic clearance after the coal-linkage is tied up.
2.	Dholpur 3 X 210 MW	The Department of Environment rejected the proposed site as it was likely to have adverse effect on environment and on Taj Mahal. The RSEB was accordingly informed to locate an alternative site and submit a revised project

S. No.	Name of the Project and Capacity	Present Status
1	2	3
		report which is still awaited. The selection of the alternative site is in progress.
3.	Solar Thermal Power Station at Mathania near Jodhpur 30 MW.	The project can be taken up for installation once all necessary statutory clearances are obtained and necessary inputs like confirmation of solar radiation data, fuel for back up, technology, etc. are tied up.
4.	Anta Gas based Combined Cycle Power Station Stage-II 430 MW.	The project has been techno-economically appraised by the CEA. Formal clearance can be considered after receipt of the fuel linkage.

[Translation]

SHRI GULAB CHAND KATARIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the power supply position in Rajasthan is worst as compared to the rest of the country. The Government of Rajasthan had sent the proposal of Suratgarh Thermal Power Project on 23.5.84, Chittoragarh Thermal Power Project on 1.6.84, Dholpur Thermal Power Project 8.8.84 and of Mandalgarh Thermal Power Project on 20.3.85 to the Central Government for approval. Besides, the proposals of Jodhpur Solar Energy and Anta Gas-based Power Project were also sent in 1985 and 1986 respectively. Is it a fact that all the projects which could improve the power supply position in Rajasthan, have been pending with the Union Government for the last six years, if so, the reasons for not taking an action in this regard so far and reasons for this in-ordinate delay?

[English]

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Sir, so far as the first observation of the hon. Member is concerned, it is not right to say that the power position in Rajasthan is worst as compared to the rest of the country. Power

position in Rajasthan is still much better because it is only around 2 per cent during the last two months. Now, so far as these four projects which the hon. Member has referred to are concerned, they are at various stages. For example in respect of Suratgarh Project there has been a revised project estimate. The coal linkage which is tied up with the techno economic clearance will be taken into consideration. I can give the present position of the projects. For example, as I said, though it has been agreed by the Standing Linkage Committee of Coal to provide coal linkage to the Suratgarh Project, but order for the coal linkage in respect of that project is yet to be received. So far as Dholpur Thermal Power Project is concerned, there were objections from the Environment Department that it will affect Taj Mahal. Therefore, a high level committee consisting of very top officials of the Central Government went to find out an alternative suitable site. Two suitable sites were located and evaluated and one site is considered now to be favourable. So far as the Anta gas-based project is concerned, the first phase is already complete. It is under operation. So far as the expansion project is concerned, techno-economic study applied by CEA is

there and certain conditions are to be fulfilled, for example, compliance of section 29 of the Electricity Supply Act and confirmation of fuel linkage. Therefore, this is also in an advanced stage. So, it is not that these four projects have been thrown on the side line; these projects are under active consideration of the Government.

[Translation]

SHRI GULAB CHAND KATARIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has given the reply just now. My intention in asking this question was to highlight the fact that quite a long period has passed since 1984 to 1990 but the project is at the same stage where it was at the time of its submission in 1984. When objections were raised time and again in the name of Environment in respect of Dholpur Thermal Power Project, the State Government appointed an adviser in 1989 to conduct a study in this regard. In 1990 this study...

MR. SPEAKER: Katariaji, you should ask a specific question. It will take a long time to read it out.

SHRI GULAB CHAND KATARIA: It is based on the report submitted to the Central Government...

MR. SPEAKER: If you go on quoting from it, it would be sheer wastage of item, so please ask your question.

SHRI GULAB CHAND KATARIA: I am only referring to it. Since the official appointed to conduct a survey had gone there on June 17, and he has already submitted his report to the Government, I would like to know whether the hon. Minister is in a position to indicate by what time he would clear the Dholpur Thermal Power Project.

[English]

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Sir, I cannot give an exact date, but we have now received a note on the selection of the proposed power project at Dholpur from the

Government of Rajasthan. It is under examination of the CEA and the Ministry of Environment and Forests. The moment the examination will be over, we will go forward with our next step.

[Translation]

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the Hon'ble Minister whether he will assure us that the present site of the Solar Thermal Power Station proposed to be set up at Mathania in Jodhpur district will not be changed since all the formalities in this regard have been completed. I have come to know that under the influence of the Hon. Prime Minister and that of Shri Arif Mohammad Khan, the Minister concerned who is not here at the moment, the said project is going to be shifted to Uttar Pradesh. I would like to hon. Minister to make it clear that the proposed site of plant is not going to be changed from Mathania in Jodhpur district.

[English]

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Sir, as regards the solar power plants, a number of factors are yet to be considered because this technology utilises direct conversion of solar energy into electricity. Various factors are under consideration of the Government. I do not think that there is any proposal of shifting this project at the present moment.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Pyarelal Khandelwal.

AN HON. MEMBER: Mr. Speaker, Sir, is he from Rajasthan?

MR. SPEAKER: That is irrelevant. All Member have equal rights. I would, therefore, like Shri Khandelwal to take interest in Rajasthan.

SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, our country is facing an acute shortage of power. With the gradual devel-

opment of the country, consumption of power is also increasing. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is ready to go in for small power projects to remove the existing shortage of power and expedite the construction work of these projects since the big power projects take a long time and require heavy investment. Is the Government prepared to take up small and medium projects in Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh also to expedite the work of power generation in these States.

[English]

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Sir, when we have got resource constraint and resources are to be utilised in the best manner possible, obviously various factors are taken into consideration including the factor which has been mentioned by the hon. Member.

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Sir, the hon. Minister has very beautifully put his answer together concerning the Dholpur power plant. There is not very much for me to ask. But I would like to know when the Ministry proposes to pass this power plant for Dholpur. I would like to know the date.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: As I have just now responded to a question, there is some environmental problem at the original site and therefore a new site has to be found out. The Rajasthan Government's report has come. Two Ministries are involved—the Energy Ministry and the Environment Ministry. We will try to expedite this matter at our end as early as possible.

[Translation]

SHRI SHOPAT SINGH MAKKASAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Rajasthan is a border state. As such it has been lagging behind in all developmental works. However it is the power generation which can take that part of the country of the road to progress. So I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether he proposes to take an initiative in this regard so that all the proposed thermal power projects of Rajasthan, be it Suratgarh Thermal Power

Project or Dholpur Thermal Power Project or any other project, are taken up as a special case and implemented on priority basis.

[English]

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Sir, the request for giving greater importance and priority has come from all the States. But I can assure the hon. Member that Rajasthan has been given due priorities in the sense that there are 13 projects which are there in Rajasthan under implementation. Therefore, Rajasthan's case has been properly dealt with. In fact, sometimes compared to these figures, I feel that my State has not been properly dealt with. But I can't do it, as a Minister. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister is saying that your state is being given more than its due.

[English]

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: But considering that it is a border State, considering that Rajasthan is a very important State in the economic development, there are 13 projects under implementation. Four projects are also under consideration about which I have already mentioned and therefore, within the financial constraints whatever possible has been provided.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in view of the specific geographical situation of Rajasthan with its vast stretches of desert and Aravali hills etc., the hon. Minister is of the opinion that the position of Rajasthan is good. However, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether in view of the specific geographical situation, Rajasthan would be given a special and sympathetic treatment in respect of the implementation of all these power projects.

[English]

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Sir, I have already answered this question. So far as my Ministry is concerned, we will consider to clear this after examinations, as far as possible.

[Translation]

SHRI DAULAT RAM SARAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, though the hon. Minister has assured a sympathetic treatment to Rajasthan, however, approval to the projects proposed to be implemented in Rajasthan has been inordinately delayed. The Palana project in the vicinity of Bikaner, is located in the desert area which is at a very short distance from the border. This project has been pending for a number of years and no action has been taken on it so far. Similarly in Nagaur, Barmer and Bikaner areas, where lignite and coal is extracted in huge quantities, projects based on these minerals can be implemented. But inspite of repeated requests of the State Government, the Central Government keeps on delaying the approval and that leads to escalation of cost of the projects and thus Rajasthan has been deprived of power supply. Per capita power consumption in Rajasthan is quite low as compared to rest of the country. In view of the above fact, does the hon. Minister not feel that projects of Rajasthan should be approved on priority basis in order to bring that State at par with other states?

[English]

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Sir, as I have said just now, there are 13 projects and the implementation schedule of some of the units of these projects varies from November 1990 to 1991, 1992, 1993 and 1994. Therefore, some of these units will be commissioned. The latest position of commissioning is—so far as mangalore is concerned, so far as Bangalore is concerned—November 1990, then December 1990 and then January 1991. So far as 13 projects are concerned, these are going on according to the Schedule and we will try and Rajasthan's

position will improve definitely when these projects will come into operation.

National Commission for Bhopal Gas Victims

*165. **SHRI D.M. PUTTE GOWDA:**
SHRI BANWARILAL PUROHIT:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several organisations working among the Bhopal Gas Victims have demanded the setting up of a National Commission on Bhopal for proper implementation of the action plan for mitigating the sufferings of the victims;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to set up such a National Commission; and

(c) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) to (c). Government are aware that certain organisations of Bhopal Gas Victims have demanded the setting up of a National Commission on Bhopal. Government are of the view that the various functions proposed to be undertaken by the proposed National Commission are already being undertaken by the competent agencies and that, there is, therefore, no need for a separate body to undertake these functions.

SHRI D.M. PUTTE GOWDA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has given a very vague answer for this important question and he has not given any time bound proposals to mitigate the sufferings of the Bhopal Gas victims.

Sir, the Bhopal Gas tragedy is one of the worst industrial disasters of the world. The compensation given to various victims is being questioned in the court. The hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Finance Minister have assured some time in January 1990 that they will be distributing the interim relief

in one month.

Sir, recently several organisations have come to Delhi and have represented to the Prime Minister stating that it will take at least one or two years to give this interim relief because of the apathy and corruption and red-tapism and self-centred policies of the Government of Madhya Pradesh. In view of these charges by the local welfare associations an what time bound steps by the Government of India proposed to take for the speedy dispersal of the interim relief?

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: Sir, I must tell the hon. Member that we have taken a number of steps to give relief to the victims. We have given sufficient amount and deposited that amount in the State Bank of India and the work of identifying the victims already began. I have got figures. For the information of the House, I will give these figures.

So far, the number of notices issued are 2,58,852; the number of notices served is 1,50,760; beneficiaries identified so far are 1,36,102 and the accounts opened by banks are 1,35,458. The latest information is that it has touched nearly one-and-a-half lakhs.

The plan of action is to see that all the victims are identified in time, and I hope the benefits or the relief will be given to all the victims which come to nearly five lakhs. Five lakhs is not a small number, and it involves nearly 36 principal wards. (*Interruptions*). Expect that the relief will be distributed by the end of this year.

SHRID.M. PUTTE GOWDA: Sir, I know that the Government had already sanctioned Rs. 360 crores as relief. But the tragedy had occurred 5 1/2 years ago. If they are to count the number of victims still after completion of 5 1/2 years, I would like to know as to when exactly they are going to finalise the list. Further, no extra facilities have been provided to the ailing victims of this tragedy. I would also like to know from the hon. Minister whether any special plans are there to take care of these people in the long run.

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: Sir, there is a plan of action drawn up already for relief and rehabilitation of these victims and their families. There is a proposal for spending about Rs. 163.10 crores for this purpose. We have to decide as to how much the Central Government has to share and how much the State Government has to share in this. This matter is under consideration and that will be decided very soon. But, I assure the hon. Member that the relief and rehabilitation of these victims and their families in the long run are very much under our consideration.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BANWARILAL PUROHIT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is more than 5 years when the world's biggest tragedy took place. It had taken an instant toll of 3000 lives and had affected the life of 6 lakh people. 2 lakh people were seriously injured. Now even after a period of 5 years, the hon. Minister is only saying that the beneficiaries are yet to be identified. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI KALKA DAS: Which was that Government? This Government has come to power only eight months ago. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: He has the right to say. Mr. Purohit, you please address the chair.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BANWARILAL PUROHIT: Mr. Speaker, so many people are dying. During these last 5 years, 1200 persons have already died but to this date their families haven't been given any compensation. It is a matter of shame that the issue is being raised today on party lines. It is not the issue of any particular party, but it is concerned with the entire humanity. In such a situation the hon. Minister is only saying that the process of identification of victims has already begun. There are 6 lakh people in 36 wards who have been affected, but so far

only 1.25 lakh people have been identified.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): Do not worry. We are doing it at the earliest.

SHRI BANWARILAL PUROHIT: If that is the speed of their work, by what time the Government is going to complete this work. How much funds will be distributed to the people there upto December and how the people will be identified? What steps are being taken by the Government to speed up this work? Will the Government be able to start the relief work after the identification of victims by the end of December. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister if this is not so, then by what time the government will be able to start this work.

[English]

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: Sir, I think, on this issue, all the Members of this House are equally concerned. I share the Member's concern. This is a national tragedy and a large number of people have been involved. Many people have suffered and many people have died. Therefore, there is no question of taking a partisan view. I would like to remind the hon. Member that I had already given certain figures. In those figures, I have said that nearly one and a half lakh people have already been identified and accounts have been opened. It means that the money had been paid. They have got the Bank accounts and Rs. 200 per month for each victim is being paid for three years. We have already deposited Rs. 360 crores in the State Bank of India. I do not want to blame the previous Government for anything, because this is a national tragedy in which all our interests are there. The number of victims under our consideration so far is five lakhs and not six lakhs. I assure this House that it would be our endeavour to see that the entire operation is finished by the end of this year and relief is given to all the people. The State Government is cooperating very much in doing this. They have set up an organisation to see that these relief operations are carried out very soon. Money

has reached every individual. We have not made any distinction between major and minor. Even a child is going to get Rs. 200/- per month and each family is going to get on average of Rs. 1,000 every month for 3 years and I think, the House should be happy about it.

DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL: I want to raise only one question regarding Bhopal gas victims. More than 5 years have passed. What is the actual amount that has gone to the victims of gas tragedy and each one has got how much? Secondly, the compensation which has been awarded by the Supreme Court in terms of the settlement, and the money has been deposited. Is there any plan for the Government to distribute the money among the victims of gas tragedy? If so, within what time, the Government propose to do that?

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: The Supreme Court gave a settlement. Under that, \$ 470 million had to be deposited for the benefit of the victims of gas tragedy. The Supreme Court also said in its judgement that no criminal action should be taken against the Union Carbide. It is a package settlement.

When our Government came to power, we considered the whole issue and the Social Action Group met me and my colleague, the Financial Minister. We had a joint meeting with them and we also considered it in the Government. We came to this decision that the settlement that has been given by the Supreme Court should be annulled and the amount awarded by the Supreme has not adequate. We took a decision that Indians are not Guinea pigs; they should not be treated as such and Indians who have suffered due to such a big disaster in the world, should get adequate relief and adequate compensation. So, to annul this settlement, we have been supporting the Action Group in the Supreme Court. The arguments are going on. Perhaps, the arguments would be over by the end of this month and we are awaiting the judgement of the Supreme Court. We are for the annulment of

the settlement. We want more relief, more adequate compensation from the Union Carbide.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: It was not a question only of the compensation or relief that these victims have to get. He has, of course, dealt with that question. The settlement to which he has referred to, had also extinguished completely the criminal liability of the company. One is the question of compensation to the victims; the other is liability for this kind of poisoning of thousands of people, by release of this poisonous gas. That settlement has absolved the company of any further question of criminal liability which we people in this country do not accept.

I want to know from the hon. Minister what is the view of the Government on the question of liability of the company?

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: I will read out the decisions that we have taken. After the new Government came to power, a decision was taken in January, 1990 to support the Review Petitions filed by Action Groups. The decisions taken were:

To repudiate the settlement; non-acceptance of wiping out of criminal liability—that covers your question. And the payment of interim relief on the basis of residence in the 36 affected Municipal Wards of Bhopal and determining the quantum thereof in consultation with the Social Action Group.

These are the decisions taken in the month of January.

In pursuance of these decisions, we have been supporting the petitions filed by the Action Group in the Supreme Court. As I said, the arguments are going on. The Attorney General is arguing our case and perhaps before the end of this month or beginning of next month, there will be a judgement.

SHRI BHABANI SHANKAR HOTA: Already we discussed about the disaster of the Bhopal Gas tragedy. (a) The point is whether the Government is going to prosecute in the near future the Union Carbide which is solely responsible for the tragedy;

(b) The various scientists, social action groups and other voluntary agencies are of the opinion that toxic materials have been found in and around Union Carbide. I would like to know whether it has been brought to the notice of the Government and, if it is brought to the notice of the Government, what action the Government proposes to take to rectify the situation.

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: I am not aware that toxic material is found near about the factory. But, I will check up and find out.

SHRI BHABANI SHANKAR HOTA: There is lot of toxic material.

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: I have no information just now. I will find out and we will take action.

Regarding the prosecutions of the Union Carbide, I have already said that we are not for criminal immunity. We want to take criminal action against Union Carbide. We consider it one of the worst disasters of the world. That is why, one of the reasons for annulling the settlement is that we would like to prosecute the Union Carbide for their criminal negligence and the consequences followed.

Kawas Power Project

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*167. **DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:**
SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated cost of the Kawas Power Project and when it is likely to be completed; and

(b) whether there is presently any time and cost over run as compared to the original estimates and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) and (b). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b). The project (600 MW) was sanctioned in October, 1986 at an estimated cost of Rs. 410.84 crores based on 4th Quarter, 1985 price levels. As per investment approval accorded by the Government for the project, the first gas turbine unit is scheduled for commissioning 24 months after the date of placement of order for the main plant equipment with the other gas turbine units following at intervals of two months each. The commissioning of the first steam turbine unit is scheduled 36 months after the date of main plant order with the second unit following four months thereafter.

The cost estimates for the project are under revision based on actual award prices for the main plant package and other escalations which have taken place since then. There is no time over-run in the project as compared to the approved schedule. The project is likely to be completed by July, 1993.

[*Translation*]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the project was approved in 1985, but no headway has been made. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the tenders for this purpose have been invited and how much time will be needed in this regard and whether the project will be completed by 1994. Being it so, will the hon. Minister give an assurance that the scheduled date will not be extended further and the project will be completed within its time frame.

[*English*]

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Earlier, there was some disagreement with the Alstom and the awards could not be completed. But now awards have been placed with Alstom on 5.3.1990 and I am sure we are going ahead with the target schedule of the completion of the project by 1993.

[*Translation*]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: The hon. Minister has mentioned in his statement that "the cost estimates for the project are under revision based on actual award prices for the main plant package and other escalations which have taken place since then." It means that they are still under revision. By what time, they will be revised. This is a very important project and a lot of

developmental work depends on the completion of this project. I would, therefore, like to request the hon. Minister to give the details of the latest position in this regard.

[*English*]

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: The award has been placed with Alstom on 5.3.1990 and definite steps were taken and our target schedule date of completion, as I have answered it in the answer to the main question, is July, 1993. Therefore, there has been definite progress in this because awards have now been completed.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would also like to ask a question in regard to the question of Dr. Pandeya. The hon. Minister may kindly state as to by what time the work on this project will be started and when the tenders for the same will be invited.

[*English*]

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: The delay has been placed because those awards were issued earlier and there was no agreement on certain very key issues and, therefore, we have to go for rebidding. Now rebidding has taken place. The bids have been evaluated. After the evaluation of the bids, awards have been placed with M/s. Alstom in the year 1990... (*Interruptions*) Awards have been placed now. Therefore, the tender approval work is going on now. My learned hon. colleague should have no apprehension regarding delay because the awards have already been issued and tender approval work is going on. We do hope we will be able to complete it by the targetted period of 1993.

MR. SPEAKER: Next question.
(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Please tell us as to when the tenders will be invited. Please tell us the time.

[*English*]

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: I have already stated that the tender approval work is going on. Therefore, I have adequately replied to the question.
(*Interruptions*)

[English]

Reserved Posts for SC/ST in I.D.P.L.

*166. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the backlog of reserved posts of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, Category-wise, in the Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd. as on 30th June, 1989 and 30th June, 1990, separately;

(b) the number of posts filled during the

special drive launched in August, 1989 and again during the present drive to clear the backlog of reserved posts; and

(c) the number of reserved posts dere-served in I.D.P.L. since June, 1989 and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI BHAJAMAN BEHERA): (a) to (c). A statement furnishing the requisite information is placed on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) The backlog of vacancies in the category of Scheduled Casts and scheduled Tribes in IDPL is as under:—

<i>Category</i>	<i>Backlog as on 30.6.90</i>		<i>Backlog as on 30.6.90</i>	
	<i>SC</i>	<i>ST</i>	<i>SC</i>	<i>ST</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>
'A'	09	05	09	05
'B'	15	07	15	07
'C'	72	91	72	91
'D'	15	47	15	47

(b) No post has been filled during the special drive launched in August, 1989 and again during the present drive to clear the backlog of reserved posts.

(c) No reserved post has been dere-served in IDPL since June, 1989.

[Translation]

Recruitment of Workers in South Eastern Coalfields Korba East

*169. SHRI LARANG SAI:

SHRI RESHAM LAL JANGDE:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) Whether an enquiry was conducted in regard to the recruitment of nearly 250 workers from outside Madhya Pradesh in the South Eastern Coalfields, Katras East during 1987-88;

(b) if so, whether the enquiry has since been completed; and

(c) if so, the outcome of the enquiry and the follow up action taken or contemplated in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) to (c). The Industrial Tribunal gave an award on 11.1.1988 that 234 persons who had claimed to have worked as casual workers, were entitled to re-employment from 8.12.1984. The management of the South Eastern coalfields Limited filed a writ-petition in Madhya Pradesh at Jabalpur against the award, who gave an interim order that if any person whose case was referred to the Court, appears before the Management and satisfies the management by proper evidence that he was an ex-casual labour, his case may be considered and in case he is otherwise found fit, he may be appointed. This matter remained the subject matter of prolonged litigation and pending final disposal of the writ-petition, the SECL have issued letters of appointment to 30 persons. Three persons were already in employment and one person had expired. Since there were complaints about the genuineness of the persons, who had claimed employment, SECL have referred this case to CBI in June, 1990 for investigation. The investigation report has not yet been received.

[English]

Emergency Landing of Indian Airlines/ Air India Flights

*170. SHRI RAM AGAR (SAIDPUR): Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian Airlines and Air India flights that made emergency landings during the last one year and how did this compare with the emergency landings in the preceding last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether there is any increase in the number of emergency landing and if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken to check such landings; and

(d) the details of losses sustained on account of emergency landings in respect of both men and material?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) and (b). The number of emergency landings relating to Indian Airlines and Air-India is as follows:—

<i>Period</i>	<i>Indian Airlines</i>	<i>Air-India</i>
1	2	3
August 1989 - July 1990	2	2
August 1988 - July 1989	7	1
August 1987 - July 1988	1	0
August 1986 - July 1987	1	1

(c) All aircraft have back up systems which take over whenever there is failure of

a system. The pilots are also trained to handle failures. All emergency landings are investi-

gated by the DGCA to determine the cause. DGCA also monitors the maintenance and training systems and schedules to prevent recurrence of such incidents.

(d) There has been no death or injury on account of an emergency landing. There is also no material loss attributable, directly, to an emergency landing.

Foreign Collaborations

*171. SHRI SURESH KODIKKUNNIL:
Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) how many technical or other foreign collaborations in the industrial fields was entered into since 1st December, 1989;

(b) the broad terms and conditions of these collaborations; and

(c) the estimated outflow of foreign exchange per year as a result of these collaborations?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) During the period 1st December, 1989 to 31st July, 1990, a total of 465 foreign collaboration approvals were granted, including 145 approvals involving foreign investment.

(b) The terms and conditions of approvals inter-alia include the extent of foreign equity participation, amount of fees payable for transfer of technology in the form of technical know-how, engineering, drawing and design and consultancy, extent of royalty payments, export commitment to be undertaken, the extent of indigenisation to be achieved, the period of collaboration agreement etc. as applicable to individual proposals

(c) Foreign collaboration approvals are issued with a validity of two years, and within

this period the entrepreneurs are required to finalise the foreign collaboration agreement. The lumpsum payable for technical know-how, drawings, designs, documentation, erection and commissioning, etc. is normally allowed to be remitted to the foreign collaborator in three standard instalments, the first 1/3rd after the agreement is filed with the Reserve Bank of India and capital goods clearance, if any, is obtained, the second 1/3rd on delivery of technical documentation, and the third and final 1/3rd on the commencement of commercial production or four years after the agreement is filed with the Reserve Bank of India, whichever is earlier. The payment of royalty is linked to establishment of commercial production. Remittance of profits and dividends, wherever applicable, is made if and when profits are earned and dividends declared. In view of the staggered nature of the various payments involved, it will not be possible to indicate at this stage any definite estimate of the year-wise outflow of foreign exchange in respect of the approvals granted during the period in question.

Sick SSI Units

*172. SHRI T. BASHEER:
SHRI PRAKASH KOKO
BRAHMBATT:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sick small scale industrial units at present, State-wise;

(b) the amount of loans given to such units by the nationalised banks during 1989 and 1990 so far and the amount outstanding against such units;

(c) whether Government have made efforts to increase the production in the units; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b). Data on sickness are compiled by the Reserve Bank of India. Latest data regarding sick small scale industrial units are available upto June, 1988. State-wise amount of loans from Scheduled Commercial Banks (including Public Sector Banks) outstanding against Sick Small Scale Units as at the end of June, 1987 and June,

1988 are given in the Annexure.

Amount of loans given to such units during 1989 and 1990 is not available.

(c) and (d). Amongst the sick units, units found to be viable are taken up for rehabilitation so that they are nursed back to health and contribute to industrial production. By June, 1988, banks have put 8347 units under the nursing programme.

ANNEXURE

Statewise Classification of Sick Small Scale Industrial Units-as at the end June 1987 and June 1988

		(Amount in crores of Rupees)			
Sl. No.	State/Union Territories	No. of units		Amount Outstanding	
		June '87	June '88	June '87	June '88
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	14064	18277	108.19	149.53
2.	Assam	3542	11438	12.66	24.27
3.	Bihar	7870	14567	61.12	78.54
4.	Gujarat	5211	5421	114.99	144.41
5.	Goa	1261	779	13.57	10.46
6.	Haryana	1819	2212	38.44	46.26
7.	Himachal Pradesh	665	731	8.08	7.12
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	2290	2671	9.66	12.05
9.	Karnataka	5105	8494	95.64	120.15

Sl. No.	State/Union Territories	No. of units			Amount Outstanding		
		June '87	June '88	June '87	June '88	June '87	June '88
1	2	3	4	5	6		
10.	Kerala	11805	18554	92.76	126.66		
11.	Madhya Pradesh	11053	12407	45.49	61.77		
12.	Maharashtra	11457	15959	277.55	371.89		
13.	Manipur	932	1249	0.86	1.72		
14.	Meghalaya	122	657	1.56	1.02		
15.	Nagaland	14	511	0.13	0.83		
16.	Orissa	7229	9125	32.50	33.41		
17.	Punjab	1834	2699	35.51	53.20		
18.	Rajasthan	8657	10362	39.61	49.78		
19.	Tamil Nadu	25146	31245	167.48	201.92		
20.	Tripura	556	792	0.53	1.55		
21.	Uttar Pradesh	16287	22499	125.74	171.94		

Sl. No.	State/Union Territories	No. of units			Amount Outstanding		
		June '87	June '88	June '88	June '87	June '88	June '88
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
22.	West Bengal	18129	22738	167.37	186.73		
23.	Andaman & Nicobar	—	—	—	—		
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	22	13	0.02	0.03		
25.	Dadra Nagar Haveli	5	4	0.14	0.11		
26.	Delhi	2577	3288	83.49	115.02		
27.	Mizoram	—	151	—	0.32		
28.	Pondicherry	366	281	3.31	2.07		
29.	Sikkim	1	71	0.01	0.36		
30.	Chandigarh	204	238	5.72	6.60		
31.	Diu and Daman	3	3	0.12	0.13		
Total		158226	217436	1542.25	1979.85		

Bairabi Hydel Project in Mizoram

*173. DR. C. SILVERA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Government propose to set up Bairabi Hydel Project in Mizoram;

(b) if so, the amount likely to be incurred on this project;

(c) the quantum of power likely to be generated therefrom;

(d) whether any tentative programme to launch the project has since been drawn up;

(e) if so, the details thereof together with progress made so far; and

(f) when it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) and (b). The detailed project report for Bairabi (Dhaleshwari) multipurpose hydro-electric project in Mizoram, envisaging an installed power generation capacity of 120 MW was prepared by the National Hydro-electric Power Corporation. The scheme was techno-economically cleared by the Central Electricity Authority in October 1988 subject to the following conditions;—

(i) Only 60% of the Project cost (i.e. Rs. 171.24 crores out of a total estimated cost of Rs. 273.95 crores) would be allocated to power generation;

(ii) the project is to be cleared by the Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Water Resources and Concurrence of the concerned Departments to be obtained for sharing of costs.

(iii) the project is to be cleared from environment and forest angles.

The Central Electricity Authority cleared the power component of the project for an estimated amount of Rs. 171.24 crores, including the transmission cost of Rs. 171.18 crores (at April, 1988 price level).

(c) With an installed capacity of 120 MW, the quantum of power likely to be generated from the project is 345 million units in a 90% dependable year.

(d) to (f). The project has been envisaged as a multipurpose project. The Central Electricity Authority has, however, techno-economically cleared only its generation component. The project has not so far been cleared by the Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Water Resources. It has been rejected by the Ministry of Environment and Forests in January 1989. The project report envisages a period of construction of 7 years. Execution of the project can commence after the requisite clearances are obtained.

Jobs for Men in Coal India Limited

*174. SHRI D. AMAT: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries have identified a number of jobs as all men all jobs;

(b) if so, the nature of jobs so identified; and

(c) the effect of this policy on manpower and cost structure of coal in the Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) and (b). With a view to meeting the requirements of modern technology and improving produc-

tion and productivity, a Sub-group of Joint Bipartite Committee for Coal Industry-III had recommended introduction of "all men-all job" system or introduction of multi-job concept, the nature of various jobs so identified where this system can be advantageously adopted for mechanised underground workings, are as under:—

- (i) Operation of face conveyor and stage loader etc.
- (ii) Operation of cutting /loading machines, etc.
- (iii) Drilling operations.
- (iv) Carrying of explosives and stemming material etc.
- (v) Dressing of faces etc.
- (vi) Erection/shifting of face supports and gate roads in the vicinity of faces.
- (vii) Conveyor shifting.
- (viii) Water spraying.
- (ix) Helping electrical and mechanical fitters in case of breakdowns.
- (x) Cleaning and loading of spilled coal.
- (xi) Any other job incidental or connected with the face work.

(c) The system has been tried in a few mines of Eastern Coalfields Limited, Bharat Coking Coal Limited and Western Coalfields Limited on an experimental basis. The system is not aimed at bringing about reduction in manpower but to have more production from the same number of persons through improved productivity. Since improvement in productivity and reduction in cost of coal

production is likely to be different in different cases, a general quantification is not possible.

[Translation]

Halt near Bijuli on Darbhanga-Sakri Line

*175. SHRI HUKMDEO NARAYAN YADAV: Will the Minister RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a demand to provide a halt near Bijuli on Darbhanga-Sakri line in Bihar; and

(b) if so, when it is likely to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The halt is not justified.

[English]

Bonds for Funding Rail Projects

*176. SHRI Y.S. RAJA SEKHAR REDDY:
PROF. YADUNATH PANDEY:

Will the Minister RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to raise funds through issue of public bonds for financing the Kinkar Railway Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether similar bonds are proposed to be issued in respect of railway projects in other parts of the country;

(d) if so, the details of such projects and names of the States where it is proposed to have those projects; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps being taken to mobilise funds from other sources for speedy completion of all railway projects?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The financing of Konkan Railway Project will be as under:—

(i) 25% of the cost will be met through equity participation by the Union Government and the States of Maharashtra, Karnataka, Goa and Kerala;

(ii) the balance 75% by issue of public bonds.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The Source of Financing are subject to the overall constraints and prioritisation of projects sector-wise; subject to Planning Commission's assessment of Plan requirements.

Local Trains Between Dadar and Thane

*177. SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVINCHANDRA MEHTA: Will the Minister RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to increase the number of local trains between Dadar and Thane in view of heavy overcrowding in the existing local trains; and

(b) if so, the details of the plan in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir, but not immediately.

Modernisation of Major Airports

*178. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any difference of opinion between the National Airports Authority and Department of Electronics in regard to import of electronic items such as radar, ILS and VOR for modernisation of major Airports although they are manufactured indigenously;

(b) if so, the details thereof and steps proposed to be taken to resolve the issue; and

(c) when the modernisation work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The project for modernisation of Bombay and Delhi airports is expected to be completed within 30 months from the date of award of contract.

[Translation]

Rural Electrification in Uttar Pradesh

*179. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of villages in district Etah, poles are laying unelectrified;

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

(c) since when these are lying unelec-

trified and the action proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) to (c). The type of information asked for in the Question viz. the progress of village-wise electrification in each District is maintained only at the state level. As reported by the Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board (UPSEB), one village namely, Manora in the Etah district was not electrified due to shortage of conductors and non availability of funds, though electric poles have been erected before March, 1990. Similarly, electric poles have been erected for electrification of Khajura, hamlet of the already electrified village Sarwal, as well as for carrying out loan intensification in the already electrified villages of Gajora and Baheta in the Etah district. The UPSEB is likely to complete these works during 1990-91, subject to availability of funds and other inputs.

[English]

Revival of Subsidy to Hotel Industry

*180. SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to revive the subsidies which were being given earlier to some industries including hotel industry for the construction of buildings; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b). The Central Investment Subsidy under which industrial units set up in centrally declared backward areas were eligible for capital subsidy on their fixed capital investments has been discontinued w.e.f. 1.10.88. However the

Finance Minister during his budget speech has announced that Government propose to reintroduce a Central Investment Subsidy for Small Scale Units in rural areas and backward regions.

[Translation]

Expansion of Barauni Refinery

*181. SHRISURYA NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to expand the Barauni refinery and increase its installed capacity; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be expanded?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) and (b). A project for augmentation of utilities/off site facilities at a total cost of Rs. 19.5 crores to enable operation of Barauni refinery at 3.8 MTPA, is still under consideration of the Government.

[English]

Complaint against Vayudoot by R.B.I.

*182. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has recently lodged a complaint against Vayudoot for unfairly charging charter flights fares for flights which operated as passenger flights; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

[Translation]

Coal Mining in Tawa and Chhatarpur Mines

1880. SHRI S.C. VERMA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Pathakheda Coalfield has been meeting the requirement of Coal of Sarani Power Station;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any survey has been conducted at Tawa and Chhatarpur mines and if so, the total quantity of coal reserves found therein; and

(d) the time by which the mining work will start there?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) and (b). Bulk of the requirement of Sarni power station is met from Pathakheda mines. On account of demand for coal from this power station being more than the production from Pathakheda mine the balance requirement is met from other mines of Western Coalfields Ltd.

(c) and (d). Yes Sir. Extractable reserves in Tawa Block and Chhatarpur I Block have been reported to be approximately 25 m.t. and 4 m.t. respectively. However commercial exploitation of these reserves was found to be economically non-viable.

Joint Stock Companies

1881. SHRI SUDAM DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of total assets of joint stock private limited companies, public limited companies and Government companies, separately; and

(b) the number of joint stock companies out of these which have shown profits in their annual accounts during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) As on 31-3-1990, there were 2,01,365 companies at work registered under Companies Act, 1956. These included 1160 government companies, 20,254 non-government public limited companies and 1,77,139 non-government private limited companies. To collect financial data including total assets of these companies on a yearly basis is neither practicable nor feasible. However, a detailed study of the financial parameters was made in respect of 969 government companies 2,174 public limited companies and 142 non-government private limited companies each having paid-up capital of Rs. 50 lakhs or above for the year 1987-88. Research articles on these were prepared and were printed in the July (1989) issue and the June (1990) issue of the Company Affairs Department's journal, "Company News and Notes". As per this study the position in respect of the total assets of these companies that emerges is indicated below:

STATEMENT

Type of companies		No. of balance-sheets studied		Total assets (Rs. in crores)			
1	2	3					
Government companies		969		1,20,757			
Non-Government public limited companies with paid-up capital of Rs. 50 lakhs or above		2174		73,818			
Non-Government private limited companies with paid-up capital of Rs. 50 lakhs or above		142		1,768			
(b) The requisite information based on the study of the balance-sheets in different years is given as under:							
Type of Companies		1987-88		1986-87		1985-86	
	Balance sheet studied	No. of profit making Cos.	Balance sheets studied	No. of profit making Cos.	Balance sheets studied	No. of profit making Cos.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Government companies	*969	448	*836	398	*907	478	
Large-sized non-government public limited companies with paid-up capital of Rs. 50 lakhs or above	2174	1445	2244	1395	1856	1317	

<i>Type of Companies</i>	1987-88		1986-87		1985-86	
	<i>Balance sheet studied</i>	<i>No. of profit making Cos.</i>	<i>Balance sheets studied</i>	<i>No. of profit making Cos.</i>	<i>Balance sheets studied</i>	<i>No. of profit making Cos.</i>
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Large-sized non-government private limited companies with paid-up capital of Rs. 50 lakhs or above	142	85	176	N.A.	171	N.A.

* Includes latest available balance sheets of some companies.

Airlifting of Export Goods

1882. SHRI J.P. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to a recent problem of airlifting of export goods from Delhi and other airports in the country; and

(b) if so, the details of long term measures proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) (i) The Open Sky Policy has been placed on a permanent basis to facilitate foreign carriers to plan their operations on a long term basis.

(ii) The freight rates to be determined by the demand and supply situation.

(iii) Abolishing of mandatory rates to attract larger freighter capacity.

(iv) In the fleet acquisition programme of Air India, preference is being given to combi-aircraft.

(v) Air India has been instructed to convert its old B 747 passenger aircraft into freighters when new aircraft become available.

(vi) Favourable consideration to foreign carriers for passenger terminators/frequencies for combi aircraft.

(vii) Explore possibilities of a shuttle service to Gulf to optimise avail-

able freighter capacity with Air India.

A.I. Flight from Hyderabad to Foreign Countries

1883. SHRI B.N. REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of flights undertaken by the Air India from Hyderabad to foreign countries at present;

(b) whether the flights are sufficient to meet the growing traffic;

(c) if not, whether Government propose to increase the flights; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) Two weekly international flights are being operated by Air India at present from Hyderabad to Jeddah.

(b) Yes, Sir.

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

Exports of Maruti Cars to Hungary

1884. SHRIMATI SUBHASHINI ALI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether more Maruti cars are being exported to Hungary as has been reported in Sunday Mail of 10 June, 1990;

(b) whether exports are being done despite financial losses involved and heavy component of parts imported against the hard currency; and

(c) what has been the total foreign exchange outgo on Maruti project, including all imports of technology, spare parts etc. since inception and the total foreign exchange earned on export of an item which has not been developed in the country?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) Maruti Udyog Ltd. has exported 2505 vehicles to Hungary till now. 670 cars are being shipped in the month of September, 1990. Another 330 cars are expected to be shipped by November, 1990.

(b) There is not financial loss being incurred on account of exports. The sale of cars to Hungary is in US dollars, and there is a sizeable net earning in hard currency as a result.

(c) The total foreign exchange expenditure till the end of 1989-90 since inception has been US\$ 852.69 million. The total foreign exchange earned during the same period was US\$ 62.42 million, through exports, deemed exports and domestic sale against foreign exchange.

Lighting on Coimbatore Airport

1885. **SHRI C.K. KUPPUSWAMY:** Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount spent for lighting on airports;

(b) whether there is proper lighting arrangements in Coimbatore airport;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) Rs. 50.00

lakhs approximately on ground lighting facilities for each airport.

(b) Yes, Sir.

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

Outstanding dues of Bihar and West Bengal to Damodar Valley Corporation

1886. **SHRI K.S. RAO:** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Governments of Bihar and West Bengal owe a high amount to the Damodar Valley Corporation for the power supplied to the Electricity Boards of these States;

(b) if so, the break-up of the amount due from each of the two States and since when;

(c) whether the D.V.C. has urged his Ministry to take up the matter with the two State Governments;

(d) if so, whether his Ministry has taken up the matter with the State Governments; and

(e) if so, the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) and (b). On account of power supplied, the outstanding dues receivable by DVC upto end of July, 1990 are Rs. 202.19 crores from Bihar State Electricity Board, while a major portion of the dues has fallen into arrears from December, 1989 onwards three bills relate to April, 1986, June 1986 and November, 1986. In the case of West Bengal State Electricity Board, the dues have fallen into arrears from October, 1988 onwards, while two bills relate to April, 1987 and May, 1987.

(c) to (e). Yes, Sir. The matter has been

taken up with the State Governments concerned and is receiving their attention.

[*Translation*]

Check on Hike in Prices

1887. SHRI RAM LAL RAHI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the wholesale and retail market prices of cement, bricks, iron (steel) rods fertilizer, angle iron, edible oil, vegetable oil in November 1989;

(b) the preset retail and wholesale market prices of the said commodities at the end of July, 1990;

(c) the reason for the spurt in the prices; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take towards price control?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b). Statement-I indicating the wholesale price indices of the specified items during November 1989 and during week ending 28.7.1990 and Statement-II containing the real/consumer prices are given below

(c) and (d). Cement: The main reasons for rise in the prices of cement are firming up of demand, rise in the cost of inputs and distribution costs and localised infrastructural/production constraints. The Government is closely and continually monitoring the availability of coal, wagons and other infrastructural support to the cement industry with a view of increasing production and making cement available in adequate quantities. The

State Governments have been requested to ensure that there is no profiteering at the retail level as also to intervene in the market by purchasing through their designated agencies in bulk and distributing it among the needy people.

Brick: The wholesale price index of fire-bricks show no increase during the period November, 1989 to end July, 1990. The retail prices of bricks during the period December, 1989 to March, 1990 (latest available data) show that there was no increase in Delhi, Madras and Bangalore. However, there was a marginal increase in the retail prices at Trivandrum.

Iron (steel rods and angle iron): Prices of some items produced by the integrated steel plants are administered by the integrated steel plants under the aegis of the Joint Plan Committee. Secondary producers fix their own prices depending on market conditions. The primary reasons for increase in the prices fixed by the Joint Plan Committee with regard to iron and steel items is the increase in the rates of excise duty made effective from 20.3.1990 as per the Central Budget for 1990-91.

Fertilizers: The wholesale price index of fertilizers remained unchanged during the period November 1989-July 1990. The same is true of the consumer prices for the farmers as well.

Edible Oil and Vegetable oil: Prices of edible oils have registered a sharp rise in recent months (particularly since December, 1989) due to a lower oil seeds crop in the 1989-90 season. In order to check the increase in their prices, several steps are being taken. These include, among other things, giving exemption/rebate on excise duties, reduction in stock limits on retailers and wholesalers, blending of conventional oils with non-conventional oils and stepping up of supplies of imported edible oils through