

[*Translation*] *Petrochemical industry*

Petrochemical Industry at Auraiya

498. **SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK:**
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government had received any proposal from the Government of Uttar Pradesh in 1989 for setting up of a petro-chemical industry at Auraiya, Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether any decision has been taken in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which the decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM &
NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND):
(a) to (c). GAIL's proposal to set up a petro-chemical complex at Auraiya in Uttar Pradesh was given first stage approval in 1989. The detailed Feasibility Report submitted by GAIL is being processed for Government approval.

[*English*]

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Talks between Prime Ministers of India and Pakistan in Switzerland

499. **SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:**
SHRI B. L. SHARMA PREM:
SHRI INDURAJIT GUPTA:
SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:
SHRI SIMIN MARANDI:
SHRI K. PRADHANI:
SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA:
SHRI RABI RAY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL

AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister of India and Pakistan met in Switzerland recently;

(b) if so, the bilateral issues that figured in their talks and the outcome thereof;

(c) whether the Government are aware of the observations made by the Pakistani High Commissioner in India in Kashmir on the eve of their meeting in Switzerland;

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government and the action taken in the matter;

(e) whether the Government have taken note of the call given by the Prime Minister of Pakistan on February 5, 1992 to express solidarity with the people of Kashmir;

(f) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(g) the steps taken by the Government at the international level in regard to Kashmir issue?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI) (a) Yes, Sir. The Prime Minister of India and Pakistan met at Davos (Switzerland), on 2 February, 1992.

(b) The two Prime Ministers had a broad exchange of views on various bilateral issues and on measures necessary for creating a climate conducive for the resolution of these issues.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The statements made by the Pakistan High Commissioner in New Delhi are totally unacceptable. Serious objection to and concern of the Government over the remarks have been conveyed to the Government of Pakistan stressing that the contents of the

interview were an unwarranted provocation which could affect Indo-Pak relations.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) Government has noted with deep concern that for the third consecutive year the Government of Pakistan had chosen to associate itself with statements and actions designed to inflame public opinion, incite people to violence and militancy, and which constitute a blatant interference in our internal affairs.

(g) The international community has been apprised of Pakistan's support to terrorism in Punjab and Jammu & Kashmir and of Pakistan's distorted and malicious presentation of developments in Jammu & Kashmir. There is widespread recognition to Pakistan's involvement with terrorism directed against India and general endorsement for the Simla Agreement which requires that all Indo-Pak issues be resolved peacefully through bilateral negotiations.

[Translation]

**Shortfall in Kharif Foodgrain
Production**

500. **SHRI NITISH KUMAR:**
PROF. K. V. THOMAS:
SHRI HARIN PATHAK:
SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR
RAWAT:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total kharif foodgrain production during 1991-92 in each State, Grain-wise;

(b) the exact shortfall in kharif foodgrain production during 1991-92;

(c) the reasons for the shortfall; and

(d) the steps taken to meet the growing demand of foodgrains in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE ((SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN) (a) The final estimates of production of kharif foodgrains for 1991-92 are yet to be received from some of the States. However, as per information available from the States, the likely kharif foodgrains production during 1991-92 State-wise, grain-wise is given in the Statement Annexed.

(b) As per current assessment, the likely production of kharif foodgrain is anticipated to be about 94.1 million tonnes in 1991-92 as compared to 99.9 million tonnes during 1990-91.

(c) The reasons for decline in kharif foodgrains production during 1991-92 include long dry spells and aberrant weather conditions that prevailed particularly in the north-western parts of the country during the south-west Monsoon season (June to September, 1991).

(d) In addition to market and price support operations, the Government of India is implementing the development programmes like, Special Foodgrains Production Programme (SFPP); and National Pulse Development Project (NPDP) for increasing the production of foodgrains so as to meet the growing demand.