

(a) whether the Government propose to upgrade the Central Plantation Crops Research Institute at Vittal in Dakshina Karnataka District of Karnataka into an independent National Research Centre for Cocoa;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Research work on Cocoa is already in progress at Central Plantation Crops Research Institute, Regional Station, Vittal and also under All India Co-ordinated Research Project on Palms.

Atrocities on Scheduled Castes

535. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of incidents of atrocities on Scheduled Castes occurred in the vari-

ous parts of the country during the last six months; and

(b) the remedial measures taken to prevent recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) Information to the extent available is given in the statement.

(b) There are detailed guidelines issued to the States and Union Territories suggesting various precautionary, preventive, punitive, rehabilitative and personnel policy measures to prevent crimes against Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes. The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 has been enacted. The Act provides for stringent punishments to those committing crimes against SCs/STs.

The Prime Minister has written to all the Chief Ministers requesting them to take effective steps to prevent atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The Prime Minister also convened a Conference of Chief Ministers in the first week of October, 1991 in this regard and the decisions taken in the Conference have been communicated to the State/Union Territories for due follow up action.

STATEMENT

Statement showing the number of incidents of atrocities on Scheduled Castes by non-Scheduled Castes from August, 1991 to January, 1992 as reported by the State Governments and U.T. Administrations.

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>State/U.T. atrocities</i>	<i>No. of incidents</i>	<i>Received upto</i>
1.	Andhra Pradesh	60	Sept, 91
2.	Assam	4	Oct, 91
3.	Bihar	NR	
4.	Goa	5	Dec, 91

Sl. No.	State/U.T. atrocities	No. of incidents	Received upto
5.	Gujarat	751	Dec, 91
6.	Haryana	26	Dec, 91
7.	Himachal Pradesh	13	Nov, 91
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	24	Dec. 91
9.	Karnataka	184	Sept, 91
10.	Kerala	255	Nov, 91
11.	Madhya Pradesh	2258	Dec, 91
12.	Maharashtra	268	Dec, 91
13.	Orissa	172	Dec, 91
14.	Punjab	6	Dec, 91
15.	Rajasthan	748	Oct, 91
16.	Sikkim	11	Dec, 91
17.	Tamil Nadu	197	Nov, 91
18.	Uttar Pradesh	2224	Dec, 91
19.	West Bengal	1	Aug, 91
20.	Delhi	1	
21.	Pondicherry	Nil	Dec, 91
Total:		7208	

Note:- Information in respect of other States/UTs is NIL

NR: Not reported.

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**Marketing of Spurious DMS Polypacks
in Delhi**

(a) whether the Government are aware that several firms are marketing milk in polypacks similar to that of Delhi Milk Scheme in Delhi;

**536. SHRI TARA CHAND KHANDEL-
WAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be
pleased to state:**

(b) if so, the details thereof;