

*[English]***Aravalli Range**

*418. SHRI AVTAR SINGH
BHADANA:
SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA
RAJE:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any study of the total degraded forest in Aravalli range;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the schemes being launched by the Government to improve the environment and develop the forest in Aravalli range;

(d) the amount of Central as well as foreign assistance provided during each of the last three years for the purpose;

(e) the achievements made so far; and

(f) the scheme proposed to be launched in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (f). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Multi-State Co-operatives

*419. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to amend the Multi-State Co-operative Societies Act, 1984 to give company status to multi-State Co-operatives;

(b) if so, the details of the structural and other amendments proposed to be made;

(c) the objectives to be achieved thereby;

(d) whether the Government have ascertained the views of the premier cooperatives, experts on cooperatives, Department of Company Affairs and other concerned in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) to (e). Government have received some suggestions for making provisions for conversion of Multi-State Cooperative Societies into Multi-State Cooperative Companies. The suggestions have been made to enable the Multi-State Cooperative Societies to compete at par with other economic enterprises in the liberalised economic environment. All aspects and details of the proposals are being examined in consultation with the concerned Ministries and Departments of Government of India and the related organisations.

Indian Council of Agricultural Research

*420. SHRI SANDIPAN BHAGWAN THORAT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have plans to revamp ICAR on the basis of