

Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether there is any proposal to set up a Sahitya Academy's Translation Bureau at Bangalore; and
(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The proposal is under the examination of the Government.

Coconut

189. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Coconut farmers are facing problems with regard to the prices of Coconut;
(b) if so, the details thereof;
(c) the details of steps succeeded in bringing up the price of coconut;
(d) whether the Government propose to make this cultivation profitable; and
(e) if so, the manner in which this is likely to be made profitable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AYUB KHAN) : (a) The Coconut farmers faced problems in the beginning of the 1995 marketing season when copra prices were subdued. However, the price situation of copra has improved subsequently.

- (b) The details of the month-end wholesale prices of copra during 1995 season not-withstanding the quality specification in major markets are given below :

Centre	Price per Quintal (Rs.)			
	Months			
	Jan. 95	April 95	July 95	Oct. 95
Cochin	2275	2050	2105	2635
Kozhikode	2325	2150	2300	2600
Mangalore	2279	2168	2206	2471

(c) The Government of India have enhanced the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of both ball copra (FAQ) and milling copra (FAQ) by Rs. 150/- per quintal in 1995 over their corresponding MSP of 1994 season. National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED) as a nodal agency, has been engaged in price support operations for procurement of copra at Minimum Support Prices. On account of price support operations, the prices of copra started moving upward from Rs. 2105 per quintal in July, 1995 to Rs. 2635 per quintal in

Oct.1995 in Cochin and similar trend was observed in other markets.

- (d) Yes, Sir.

(e) In order to make coconut cultivation profitable, the Government of India have taken various steps, such as, providing financial assistance to set up coconut processing units, adopting new technologies, conducting techno-economic studies, surveys and consumers acceptance studies for coconut products, implementing a project to promote processing and marketing activities in the Cooperative sector, providing financial assistance to farmers for introduction of improved/modern copra drying facilities, extending financial assistance for the establishment of tender coconut parlours, etc.

Vrindavan

190. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state that :

- (a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Pollution, Deforestation threaten, Vrindavan" appearing in the Asian Age, dated September 20, 1995; and
(b) if so, the steps taken to preserve and conserve the forest area of Vrindavan against pollution and deforestation?

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

(b) Steps have been taken for the past several years for preservation and conservation of forest areas of Vrindavan. Afforestation efforts have been carried out in the forest areas, Gram Samaj land and roadsides in this region to check pollution.

[Translation]

Bird Sanctuary

191. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT OF FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have received any proposal from the Government of Madhya Pradesh to set up bird sanctuary in Indore;
(b) if so, the details thereof; and
(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c) No Sir. However, a proposal has been received from the Govt. of Madhya Pradesh seeking Central financial assistance for the development of the Ralamandal Sanctuary in Indore. The proposal has been processed for release of funds.

[English]

World Hindi Conference

192. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL : Will the Minister

of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government would provide any assistance to Fifth World Hindi Conference to be held in Trinidad next year;
- (b) if so, the details of the assistance to be provided;
- (c) the name of the organizing country;
- (d) the number of delegates from India and their details; and
- (e) the names of the countries participating in the said conference?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION) (DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI) : (a) Yes, Sir. Action relating to the participation of India in the Fifth World Hindi Conference is being done by the Ministry of External Affairs.

(b) The details of the assistance are being worked out in consultation with the organisers of the said conference at Trinidad & Tobago.

(c) The said conference is being organised in Trinidad by the Hindi Nidhi of Trinidad & Tobago a voluntary, non-commercial organisation in collaboration with the Faculty of Arts & General Studies - University of West Indies.

(d) Official delegation from India for the said conference has not yet been finalised.

(e) Information pertaining to the names of the countries participating in the said conference is not available with the Ministry. However, the Hindi Nidhi of Trinidad & Tobago has invited Hindi scholars from all over the world to participate in the said conference.

[Translation]

Schools in Rural Areas

193. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether various voluntary organisation have submitted applications for recognising the schools being run in rural areas as Kendriya Vidyalayas;
- (b) if so, the number of applications received from various States so far and details of discussion held thereon; and
- (c) the terms and conditions fixed in this regard and the time by which these will be disposed of?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE (DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION) (DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Production of Sugarcane

194. SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

- (a) the production target for Sugarcane fixed for 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95;
- (b) the actual achievements against these targets;
- (c) the reasons for fall registered, if any, in the Sugarcane production;
- (d) the names of States where the production and area under cultivation of Sugarcane has been decreased during the above period alongwith the reasons; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AYUB KHAN) : (a) and (b) Targets and achievements of sugarcane production during 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 are as follows :

Production (Million tonnes)

Year	Targets	Achievements
1992-93	243.0	228.0
1993-94	250.0	229.7
1994-95	250.0	258.4

(c) During 1994-95, the production has exceeded the targets. However, the targets could not be achieved during 1992-93 and 1993-94 due to cyclic trend and unfavourable weather conditions in some major cane growing States.

(d) There has been no perceptible decline in area as well as production in the major sugarcane growing States during the above period.

(e) In order to increase the production and productivity of sugarcane, the Govt. of India is implementing a centrally sponsored scheme namely, Sustainable Development of Sugarcane Based Cropping System in different States and Union Territories.

[English]

National Museum of Natural History, Delhi

195. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of collection of wild animals skins in the National Museum of Natural History, Delhi;
- (b) the names of animals whose skins are kept in the above Museum together with the number of skins and since when these are kept there;
- (c) the names of the animals whose skins have decayed or destroyed together with the number of such skins; and