

soon during the year. The cost of imports is dependent on both the quantity to be imported and also the prices in the international market during the period of purchase. It would not be in the public interest to give actual figures of estimates of the quantity or the total value.

(c) The import of fertilisers, including DAP, is canalised through the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India Limited (MMTC). Decisions regarding prices are left to be taken by MMTC in its best commercial judgement.

#### **Tamil Refugees from Sri Lanka**

4707. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL:  
PROF. K.V. THOMAS:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Tamil refugees who had gone back to Sri Lanka after Indo-Sri Lanka Accord;

(b) whether Tamil refugees are again coming in thousands;

(c) if so, the number thereof during the last three months and the States in which they have been accommodated; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to deal with the present trend of refugees coming to India?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) After the signing of Indo-Sri Lanka accord of July, 1987, 25585 refugees were returned to Sri Lanka under the arrangement of the Government of India, in 50 batches between 24th December, 1987 and 31st March, 1989.

(b) and (c). Tamil Refugees again started

coming back to India with effect from 26th August, 1989. During the last 3 months, 3731 Sri Lankan refugees have arrived in India. Of these 2123 have been accommodated in Tamil Nadu and 1608 have been accommodated in Orissa.

(d) The inflow of Tamil refugees from Sri Lanka is related to conditions of peace and normalcy and the safety and security of Tamils in the North Eastern Province of Sri Lanka. The Government have been in contact with Sri Lanka Government concerning these issues and have urged Sri Lanka Government to ensure the safety and security of all Tamils. The Government are also continuing efforts to bring to an end the internecine fighting among rival Tamil Militant Groups.

#### **Relaxation of Restrictions on Foreign Tourists in Sikkim**

4708. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL:  
SHRI PRAKASH KOKO  
BRAHMBHATT:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have opened some areas of Sikkim for foreign tourists;

(b) if so, the total number of foreign tourists who have visited Sikkim so far after the relaxation of the restrictions;

(c) the places which have been opened for tourists in Sikkim; and

(d) the areas which are still restricted?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) Some areas in Sikkim are open for foreign tourists which can be visited by them after obtaining permits from certain designated

authorities like the Government of Sikkim, Foreigners Regional Registration Officers, the Indian Missions abroad and the Ministry of Home Affairs.

(b) The information is not available as no statistics is maintained.

(c) and (d). Gangtok, Rumtek, Phodang, Pemayangtse and Zongri in Sikkim are open to foreign tourists. Foreign tourists can visit these areas after obtaining necessary permits from the designated authorities. Other places in Sikkim are not open to foreign tourists.

### Reorienting Farm Strategies

4709. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating, reorienting farm strategies:

(b) if so, the salient features thereof and the time by which it is likely to be implemented;

(c) the budget provisions proposed to be made therefor:

(d) whether these strategies would be accepted by the Indian farmers in view of the limited resources and infrastructure available with them; and

(e) to what extent such systems will be beneficial for boosting the agricultural production?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVILAL): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The salient features of the strategy are as under:

- i) Optimisation of areas suited for intensive agriculture;

- ii) improvement in rainfall forecasting;

- iii) emphasis on research in emerging areas like biotechnology, genetic engineering, photosynthesis, tissue culture, bio-insecticides and pheromones and its application for aiding the growth of agricultural productivity;

- iv) Accelerate research on dryland farming and the transfer of new technology from lab to farm, to channelise more credit, and the development of marketing facilities in dryland areas;

- v) the introduction of modern management techniques in relation to irrigation and agriculture extension services reform and re-vitalisation of the cooperative movement;

- vi) increased use of fertilisers and new high yielding varieties of seed and expansion of irrigation facilities.

(c) Rs. 905 crores have been provided in the Plan Budget for the year 1990-91 for Central and Centrally Sponsored Schemes.

(d) and (e). The reorientation of the strategies would help the farmers to improve productivity and production. Focus is aimed on generating appropriate technologies for farmers even with limited resource base.

[Translation]

### Opening of Post Offices in Bareilly in Uttar Pradesh

4710. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the number and locations of new post offices proposed to be opened in Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh during 1990-91?