

ISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS) (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM):  
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An experimental wave power plant has been installed at Vizhinjam, near Trivandrum in Kerala. The technology for generation of electricity was successfully demonstrated in October 1991.

(c) The expenditure incurred on the project is Rs. 2.4 crores.

### High Court Judges from States

8374. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2376 on August 9, 1991 regarding posting of High Court Judges from other states and state:

(a) the details of the efforts made for implementation of the decision so far;

(b) the States where one-third of High Court Judges are from other States at present;

(c) the steps taken to implement this decision in other States also; and

(d) the reasons for delay in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS: (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (d): The Government have accepted as a policy, recommendations of the Law Commission, in its 80th Report, that by convention, 1/3rd of Judges in each High Court should be from any other state. The Government also decided that this be implemented either by making initial appointments from outside or by effecting transfers. A beginning in this direction was made in January, 1983 by adopting the policy of having Chief Justices from outside. Pursuant to this policy, appointment/transfer of Chief Justices of

High Courts are being made. So far since 1983, appointment of 41 Chief Justices in terms of Article 217 of the constitution of India to outside High Court have been made. In terms of Article 222 of the Constitution, 22 Chief Justices have been transferred from one High Court to another and, in addition, 20 puisne Judges have also been transferred from one High Court to another.

So far initial appointments of 6 Judges to outside High Courts have been made. The process of appointment/transfer of Judges and Chief Justices of High Courts in order to achieve the ratio of 1/3rd of Judges from outside High Courts has to be gradual.

Sikkim is the only High Court where, out of the sanctioned strength of 3, 2 Judges are in position and both of them are from outside the State.

### Stock of Phosphatic Fertilisers

8375 SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the mounting stock of phosphatic fertilisers in the country threatening the viability of the fertiliser production units in 1993;

(b) the estimated unsold stock of these fertilisers with the phosphatic fertiliser units and the various cooperative bodies in the States;

(c) the percentage of fall in the sale of DAP in 1992 rabi season as compared to the previous Year; and

(d) the steps taken to dispose of the unsold stock and help these units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILISERS (EDUARDO FALEIRO) (a) and (b) Following decontrol of phosphatic fertilisers, imported Dia-Ammonium phosphate is available at a considerably lower price than the cost of production of indigenous Dia-Ammonium phosphate.

Indigenous manufacturers of phosphatic fertilisers have accordingly been finding it difficult to dispose of their stocks. As on 1.4.93, 6.88 lakh tonnes of Dia-Ammonium Phosphate produced by indigenous units were reported as lying unsold with the manufacturers. Taking into account both indigenously produced and imported Dia-Ammonium phosphate, the amount of stocks lying with manufactures and handling agencies as on 1.4.93 was reported as 9.35 lakh tonnes. In addition, stocks of Dia-Ammonium phosphate with institutional agencies as on 1.4.93 amounted to 3.08 lakh tonnes.

(c) During Rabi 1992-93, Dia-Ammonium phosphate sales declined by about 23% as compared to the sales during Rabi 1991-92.

(d) Certain measures have been taken by the Government to reduce the cost of production of indigenous phosphatic units and thereby improve their competitiveness. These include abolition of customs duty on import of phosphoric acid, refund of customs duty paid on capital goods by units commissioned on or after 1.1.91 and also concession of 3% in interest rate on term loans taken by such units, provided that the net interest rate after this concession remains at a minimum of 12%. To the extent the competitiveness of the indigenous fertiliser units improves, it would be easier to sell their produce and avoid large accumulation of stocks. Government have in addition to price concessions to farmers in the purchase of decontrolled fertilisers, also hiked the procurement prices of major cereals to compensate farmers for the increase in prices of fertilisers. All these steps have been taken with a view to stimulating the demand for fertilisers and help in disposal of the stocks.

#### **UNDP Assistance for Leather Industry**

8376. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have worked

out any plan or programme to improve the leather industry with united nations Development Programme assistance;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the total funds received so far;

(c) whether the funds received from the UNDP have been restricted for the development of leather industry in private sector;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government have been asked by the stipulations in the UNDP funds not to deploy the given resources to the cause of development of leather industry in public Sector Undertakings;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the action proposed to be taken to assist the public sector leather industry in securing foreign buyers for their products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government launched a national leather Development Programme with UNDP Assistance in April, 1992.

(b) The UNDP assisted national Leather Development Programme aims at strengthening the leather industry in India in some critical areas such as human resources development, research and development, product development, pollution treatment and control, export promotion, development of support industries and development of systems of coordination. The UNDP assistance to the programme is estimated at US Dollars 15.05 million to be spent over a four year time frame. The amount released for expenditures upto 31st March, 1993 by the UNDP for the programme are of the order of US Dollar 3.0 million.