

(d) As per the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act 1980, prior approval of the Central Government is required before any forest land can be diverted for non forestry purposes including for mining for which formal proposal is required to be sent by the State/UT Government in the prescribed proforma. Final decision on the proposal is taken after careful examination of all the relevant information including likely adverse effect of the project on the environment including on Flora and Fauna

[English]

Subsidy to Farm as for Fish/Prawn Culture

6002 SHRISOBHANADREESWARARAO VADDE Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) the details of the guidelines providing a subsidy to the farmers who have taken up brackish water fish/prawn culture

(b) whether the subsidy is applicable only to the farmers who have obtained loans from the commercial banks

(c) whether the Government propose to issue new instructions to the State Governments to ensure payment of subsidy to the farmers who have taken brackish water fish/prawn culture and provisions for loans to the farmers in this regard

(d) if so the details thereof and

(e) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) (a) Under the centrally sponsored Scheme called Integrated Brackish Water Fish Farm Development the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation gives

subsidy for brackish water fish/prawn farming as per the yardstick furnished below -

(i) A maximum subsidy of Rs. 30,000 per Ha per beneficiary for development of brackish water farms and first crop inputs through Brackish-water Fish Farmers Development Agencies, who are registered as farmers under such agencies

(ii) A maximum subsidy of Rs. 30,000 per ha per beneficiary for construction of new semi-intensive shrimp farms of maximum land holding of 10 ha to all categories of farmers

(iii) Subsidy limited a maximum of Rs. 1 lakh for setting up of small/back yard shrimp hatcheries

The Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) under the Ministry of Commerce also provides subsidy to the farmers who have taken up brackish water fish/prawn culture under the following pattern -

- 1 25 percent capital investment subject to a maximum of Rs. 30,000 per ha and Rs. 1,50,000 per beneficiary. The maximum area of subsidy per beneficiary is 10 ha. The scheme is applicable only to such prawn farmers registered with the authority and who were not availing such benefits under other programmes
- 2 After selection of farmers and survey of the land a bankable project report is prepared and recommended to the scheduled bank for the loan component. When the loan is sanctioned by the bank the beneficiary has to complete construction work under the supervision of the staff of the Authority and the subsidy is released by the Authority to the bank against the loan availed by the beneficiaries on satisfactory completion of the work.

(b) to (d) Even though subsidy is normally linked with bank loan, a provision exists under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for payment of subsidy to the farmers for construction of brackish-water fish farms, even if the remaining portion of capital cost is met from their own sources without bank loan. However, State Governments have been instructed to monitor sanction of loans for fishermen taking up brackishwater fish/prawn culture and facilitate sanction thereof.

(e) Question does not arise

Reorganisation of Crops Directorate

6804 SHRITEJ SINGH RAO BHONSLE Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) the composition, terms and conditions of the Committee for studying reorganisation of the Crops Directorate,

(b) the expenditure incurred thereon so far, and

(c) the recommendations made by the Committee and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) (a) to (c) No standing Committee has been studying reorganisation of the Crops Development Directorates. Therefore, the question of the Committee's recommendations or incurring any expenditure thereon does not arise. However, a small Departmental working Group under the Chairmanship of the then Special Secretary was constituted to work out proposals on reorganisation of the Commodity Development Directorates and no final decision has been arrived, yet, on reorganisation proposals.

Overbridge Near Dindigul Junction

6805 SHRI C SREENIVASAN Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) the progress made so far in the construction of overbridge near the Dindigul railway junction,

(b) whether the work is behind schedule,

(c) if so, the reasons therefor,

(d) whether any target date has been fixed for the completion of this overbridge, and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K C LENKA) (a) to (e) Work included in Railways Works Programme 1990-91, was dropped in 1992-93, due to lack of response from State Governments.

Tur Dal

6806 SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) whether Tur dal produced in Gulbarga (Karnataka) was infested with disease resulting in loss of huge crops recently,

(b) if so, whether there is any testing and research laboratory for Tur dal at Gulbarga,

(c) if not, where such laboratory is located,

(d) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research has recommended for setting up of a Regional Testing and Research laboratory for Tur dal at Gulbarga,

(e) if so, the details thereof, and

(f) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to set up a Regional Testing Laboratory in the region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S