

the Central Government. Central Government had advised the State Governments/UT Administrations to take effective action against persons indulging in malpractices. They have also been advised to set up Fair Price Shops level vigilance committees consisting of local persons, consumers and women to ensure people's participation in supervision of Public Distribution System.

Hunting of Mongoose and Iguana

213. PROF. PREM DHUMAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the incidents of hunting of mongoose and iguana species are on increase;

(b) whether the Government propose to declare these wild animals/species as protected;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken to protect these species?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) There are no reports of any increase in the incidents of hunting of mongoose. Iguana is an exotic species which occurs in South America and is not found in the wild in India.

(b) to (e) All species of mongoose are already protected and their hunting is prohibited as they are included in Schedule IV of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. Iguana is not included in the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 as it is an exotic species. However, Monitor lizards which are similar to the Iguana and are found in India are included in Part II of Schedule 1 (Yellow Monitor lizard) and in Part-II of Schedule-II (other species of monitor lizard) of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. Hunting of any species included in these schedules of the Wildlife (Protection) Act is prohibited.

Direct Train between Delhi and Aurangabad

214. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA DEVISINGH PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce any new train between Delhi and Aurangabad;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Operational and resource constraints.

[English]

Vice Chancellors

215. SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the Central Universities in the country are functioning without Vice-Chancellors;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (c). Out of the thirteen Central Universities only two Universities viz. Aligarh Muslim University and Visva-Bharati are functioning under Acting Vice-Chancellors, because their Vice-Chancellors have resigned. The resignations of Vice-Chancellors of AMU and Visva-Bharati were accepted on December 8, 1994 and January 31, 1995 respectively. Government has initiated steps for filling up these vacancies as per the provisions of the Acts and Statutes of the respective Universities.

Food items supplied under ICDS

216. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is no regular manufacturer of high protein (soya fortified) with required quantity of protein and calorie contents of a given price value biscuits in the country;

(b) whether the biscuits are made on special orders by local bakeries which are purchased for the children under the integrated child development scheme in Delhi;

(c) if so, to what extent serving of such a product is free from irregularities and so on and the steps proposed to be taken to replace such biscuits from the reputed manufacturers; and

(d) the details of the biscuits supplied under ICDS in other States, State-wise, the source of procurement etc. as also the rates at which procured?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI): (a) As the responsibility to provide Supplementary Nutrition to the beneficiaries under ICDS lies with the concerned States/UTs. No regular manufacturer of high protein (soya fortified) with required quantity of protein and calorie contents of a given price value biscuits in the country has been identified by the Government.