

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) These are included in the Budget proposals for 1995-96.

[Translation]

#### Protection of Shahtoosh

220. KUMARI UMA BHARTI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Shahtoosh is included in the list of protected wild animals;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government are aware that Shahtoosh shawls are being sold in the open market; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government for the protection of this species?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Shahtoosh is the trade name for the underwool obtained from the Tibetan antelope or Chiru (*Pantholops hodgsoni*) which is an endangered wild animal. This species occurs in India only in North Western Ladakh. It is mainly a seasonal visitor to this area in winter and the basic population occurs in the Tibetan Autonomous Region of China.

(b) The Tibetan antelope or Chiru is included in Schedule of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 which affords complete legal protection against hunting and commercial trade in the animal or its parts. The species is also included in Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Fauna and Flora (CITES) which prohibits international trade in the species and its parts and products. It is also covered by the negative list of exports under the import-export policy of the Government.

(c) and (d) On receiving information about the sale of Shahtoosh products in Delhi a large number of commercial establishments were raided and shahtoosh shawls, mufflers and wool found in premises of some of these firms were seized. Some consignments of shahtoosh wool and products were also detained at the Indira Gandhi International Airport at Delhi and Calcutta Airport.

#### Delhi Milk Scheme

221. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have brought some changes in the management of Delhi Milk Scheme during the last few years;

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

(c) whether DMS is constantly suffering losses;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the amount of losses suffered by DMS and the amount reimbursed by the Government during the last three years?

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) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) Delhi Milk Scheme (DMS) has been set up with the primary objective of ensuring adequate supply of milk to the citizens of Delhi at a reasonable price. This objective has had bearing on the operations of DMS. The selling price of milk have often, been kept at a level lower than the cost of production, necessitating budgetary support for the operations. Details of budgetary support as well as losses suffered by DMS during the past three years are as under:—

Sl.No.	Year	Budgetary support	Losses (Rs. in crores) (Provisional)
1.	1991-92	45.40	35.11
2.	1992-93	28.78	33.18
3.	1993-94	10.52	15.11
4.	1994-95 (Provisional)	7.00	10.06

[English]

#### Export of Sandalwood

222. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a ban on export of sandalwood;

(b) whether the Government have decided to remove the ban on export of sandalwood during 1994-95; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Superior quality of seeds

223. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:  
SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR:  
SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAOVADDE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the light of the changes in marketing situation, due to implementation of GATT agreement, efforts have been made to generate superior quality seeds in the research institutions, with a view to face competition from imported seeds in the domestic market and to harness export markets for Indian seeds; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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) and (b) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research plays a major role in research and development of new varieties with the objective of augmenting agricultural productivity and production. Over 2,000 improved varieties and hybrids have been developed as a result of research efforts of ICAR till date. Some of the significant varieties developed by ICAR are KBSH-1 (Sunflower), HB-224 (Cotton), HHB-67 (Pearl Millet), Pusa Deepali (Cauliflower), Pusa Sheetal and F-1 Hybrid-1 and 2 (Tomato), Pusa Hybrid-5 and 6 (Brinjal), and Paprika.

Among some other notable achievements are raising Potato Crop through True Potato Seed, development of off-season nurseries, enhancement of inbuilt resistance to biotic stresses and qualitative improvement in breeder seed.

#### Rice Scheme under FDS

224. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested the Union Government to release Rs. 320 crores contemplated for the education linked 10 kg. free rice scheme for their scheme of supplying rice at the rate of Rs. 2 per kg. launched from January 1, 1995.

(b) whether it is also a fact that the cost of subsidy contemplated under Rs. 2/- per kg. rice scheme is more than the education linked 10 kg. rice supply scheme;

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the benefit sought by Government of Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) to (d): The Andhra Pradesh Government has estimated an expenditure of Rs. 1265 crores in 1995-96 on their scheme for supplying rice at the rate of Rs. 2/- per kg. Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested for Central grant to cover this expenditure. It has been reported that under this scheme Andhra Pradesh Government is providing upto 23 kg. of rice per month to every household identified as poor by the State Government. The Government of Andhra Pradesh requested for enhanced allocation of rice for implementing the scheme. The Central Government has already increased the monthly allocation of rice from 1, 90,000 MT per month to 2,10,000 MTs per month with effect from February, 95 as requested by the State Government. Central Government makes available foodgrains for the Public Distribution System to all States/UTs including Andhra Pradesh at uniform Central Issue Price on which the Central Government incurs subsidy. There is no

proposal to give additional grants or subsidy to any State/UT.

#### Switching over by Farmers

225. SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that farmers are switching over to more lucrative crops like oil seed and sugarcane resulting in lower productivity of foodgrains;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to weave back the farmer to foodgrain cultivation?

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) During the period of 1980-81 to 1993-94, the rates of growth of area under oilseed and sugarcane crops have been higher than the over all rate of growth of area under all crops whereas rate of growth the area under foodgrains was observed as negative. This showed some shifts in area in favour of oilseeds and sugarcane crops. The productivity & production of foodgrains have, however, been showing a rising trend.

(b) The farmers make their choice and allocation of and resources to various crops taking into consideration the various agro economic factors including relative productivity and profitability of crops.

(c) In order to increase the production and productivity of foodgrains, crop oriented production programme namely, Integrated Cereal Development-Rice, Wheat and Coarse Cereals and National Pulses Development Programme are being implemented.

#### National Sports Policy

226. SHRI CHETAN P. S. CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the main recommendations of the National Sports Policy and the date when it was announced;

(b) whether the policy has not so far been implemented; and

(c) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK): (a) The national Sports Policy, as laid in both Houses of Parliament on 21st August, 1984 mainly stresses on:—

(i) Promotion of sports infrastructure and preservation of play fields and open spaces.

(ii) Promotion of Sports and physical Education in