

(b) if so, the reasons for imposing such ban and the date from which the ban has been imposed;

(c) whether some foreign countries have now pressurised the Government to lift the ban on the export of monkeys;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Government in this regard?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The ban on export of monkeys was imposed from April, 1978 with a view to stop their commercial exploitation.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (c). Does not arise.

People's Natural Resource Management Bill

5954. DR. SUDHIR RAY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Bill called the People's Natural Resource Management Bill was presented to the Government by Non-Government Organisations in October, 1994;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Bill has been scrutinised and accepted by the Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) to (d). The information is being collected and the same will be placed on the Table of the House.

Coarse Cereals/Paddy Cultivation

5955. SHRI V. SOBHANADRESSWARA RAO VADDE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total area under coarse cereals and paddy cultivation in the country at present, State-wise;

(b) the per hectare yield of coarse cereals and paddy during the last three years as compare to that in China and Pakistan;

(c) the reasons for low yield; and

(d) the steps being taken to increase the productivity and overall production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) State-wise area under coarse cereals and paddy cultivation in the country during 1993-94 is given in the Statement enclosed.

(b) Per hectare yields of coarse grain and paddy during 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 in India, China and Pakistan are given below :

		(Yield in kgs. per hect.)		
Country		1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
India	Paddy	2626	2616	2818
	Coarse Grain	778	1063	935
China*	Paddy	5636	5798	5962
	Coarse Grain	3993	3924	4291
Pakistan*	Paddy	2320	2369	2686
	Coarse Grain	1005	922	972

*Relates to 1991, 1992 & 1993.

(c) Yield per hectare of coarse cereals and paddy in India are comparable with that of Pakistan but are lower than that of China. The reasons for low yield in India as compared to that of China may be attributed to variation in agro-climatic conditions as also socio-economic and technological levels.

(d) For increasing the productivity and production of foodgrains, crop oriented production programmes viz. Integrated Cereals Development Programme - Rice, Wheat and Coarse Cereals; and National Pulses Development Programme (NPDP) are being implemented. Besides, programmes for increasing the use of fertiliser in low consumption areas and extension of irrigation facilities are being implemented to improve the production of crops.

STATEMENT

State-wise area under Paddy & Coarse Cereals during 1993-94

State	(In '000' hectares)	
	Paddy	Coarse Cereals
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	3485.3	1726.7
Assam	2525.7	26.8
Bihar	4722.5	934.6
Gujarat	597.8	2018.4
Haryana	753.0	667.0
Himachal Pradesh	82.3	357.2
Jammu & Kashmir	273.1	330.9
Karnataka	1373.4	3625.0
Kerala	511.6	8.7
Madhya Pradesh	5002.8	3623.0
Maharashtra	1545.4	6451.5
Orissa	4555.3	241.8
Punjab	2174.0	247.1
Rajasthan	140.7	6130.1

1	2	3
Tamil Nadu	2323.4	1196.3
Uttar Pradesh	5325.3	2992.7
West Bengal	5691.2	80.0
Others	951.0	197.7
All India	42033.8	33057.5

Railway Network

5956. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 140 dated February 14, 1995 and state :

- the names of States where these modernisation plans are likely to be implemented;
- whether the Union Government have urged the State Governments to contribute in this regard; and
- if so, the details thereof and the response of the State Governments thereto?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) The modernisation plans are being implemented based on the needs of the traffic on the entire Indian Railway network. The Railway works are not planned State-wise.

- No, Sir.
- Does not arise.

Vocational Education by Private Sector

5957. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

- whether Government have requested some Private/Public Sector Industries for involvement in the vocational education programme; and
- if so, the details thereto indicating the progress made so far in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) and (b). The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Vocationalisation of Secondary Education launched in February 1988 envisages involvement of public and private sector industries in inter-alia selection of courses, development of curricula, provision of facilities for on-the-job training and apprenticeship training.

A large number of Industries both in the public and private sectors have also been addressed from time to time with a view to involving them in the Vocational Education Programme in a more meaningful manner.

Taj Mahal

5958. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA :
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

- whether the historic Taj Mahal is getting eroded;
- if so, the reasons thereof; and
- the steps being taken to preserve this monument?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) The Taj Mahal is in a good state of preservation. However, slight signs of erosion are noticed at a few isolated places.

- The exposure to the natural weathering agencies and presence of inherent mineral impurities in the marble slabs are the main reasons for this.
- The measures taken to preserve the monument are as per Statement attached.

STATEMENT

The following steps have been taken to preserve the monument :

- Two thermal power plants in Agra were closed down in 1981.
- Agra railway marshalling yard has been dieselised.
- The forest Department of Government of Uttar Pradesh has created a green belt around Taj Mahal by plantation of trees on available government land.
- The State Government is monitoring the pollution levels in Agra.
- The Archaeological Survey of India is constantly monitoring the ambient air around the Taj Mahal to assess the level of sulphur-dioxide, suspended particulate matter and other pollutants as well as meteorological data in order to take such remedial measures as may be required. Besides periodical chemical treatment and preservation is being carried out in phases.
- Department of Environment, Government of India vide its notification dated 3rd May, 1983 has demarcated an area measuring 10,480 sq. kms. around Taj Mahal where no industry with pollution potential is allowed.
- There is a ban on the use of furnace oil and diesel generators in industries in Agra. The foundries are not permitted to operate during winter nights.