

(e) to (g). Urea continues to be under Statutory price control and there is no change in the administration of subsidy of urea. The phosphatic and potassic fertilisers were decontrolled in August, 1992. A scheme of concession on decontrolled fertilisers was started from Rabi 1992-93 to offset the price increase. It was implemented during 1993-94 and is continued during 1994-95. Under this scheme during the first two years concession was routed through State Governments for being paid to fertiliser manufacturers after supply/distribution of fertilisers in different State by manufacturers. Some of the States did not make payment to the manufacturers even after the fertilisers were supplied/distributed in their States. To ensure that fertiliser supply is not discontinued owing to non-payment of concession on the quantities supplied/distributed, Govt. of India has decided to make payments to the manufacturers during 1994-95 for the fertilisers supplied/distributed. State Governments are required to decide the price, quantities and ensure the quality of fertilisers to be supplied to their farmers by different manufacturers/ importers in case of MOP.

Prices of Fertilizers

2276. DR. P.R. GANGWAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether prices of various kinds of fertilizers have been increased during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the names of these fertilizers and the extent of increase made in their prices;

(c) the effect of such increase in the prices of fertilizers on the farmers, agriculture and production of crops; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to check this unremunerative effect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) and (b). Government increased prices of Urea (46% N), Anhydrous Ammonia and Zincated Urea with effect from 10.6.94. The increase was 20%.

(c) and (d). Effect of this increase has not come to the notice as yet. Rather it is expected that there will be no adverse effect on the consumption of these fertilisers. With good rains and better support prices for food grains, consumption of fertilizers is expected to be better during current year than last year.

[English]

Buddhist Archaeological Remnants

2277. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Buddhist Archaeological remnants were found at Jajjuru Village, Verulapadu Mandal, Krishna District, Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some of these copings have been stolen; and

(d) if so, the steps 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) Yes, Sir.

(b) Originally five limestone coping slabs were found, out of which four were broken into two pieces each. Subsequently, two more coping slabs have been found, out of which one is broken into pieces. Besides, two casing slabs of a stupa have also been found.

(c) Out of nine pieces which were originally found at the site, four have been stolen (one intact coping, two pieces of another coping and one-half of the third coping slab).

(d) The village Administrative Officer Jajjuru lodged a formal complaint of the theft with Mandal Revenue Officer, Veerula Padu Mandal. Though the site is not Centrally protected, the Conservation Assistant, Archaeological Survey of India, Sub-Circle, Vijayawada and Superintending Archaeologist, Archaeological Survey of India, Hyderabad Circle subsequently lodged complaints of the theft with the police authorities and the district authorities of Krishna District, Machilipatnam, Andhra Pradesh. Besides, the Custom Department at the International Exit-points in the country as well as Central Bureau of Investigation have been alerted.

Cotton Cultivation

2278. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to grow cotton in the non-traditional areas; and

(b) if so, the salient features of the plan to be drawn up in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) and (b). There is no specific proposal as yet to grow cotton in

non-traditional areas. However, demonstrations are being organised through Intensive Cotton Development Programme in Rice-Fallow areas.

Widening of National Highway No. 5

2279. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI:
SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Government of Orissa proposed to fell down scores of trees for widening the National Highway No. 5;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any clearance has been taken from the Union Government in this regard;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government have received representations from the environmentalists in this regard;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). The matter was taken up with the State Government who have informed that extensive or indiscriminate felling of trees was not done; rather utmost care was taken to minimise the same.