

12. Committee on Food Aid Policies of World Food Programme
13. World Food Council
14. International Law Commission
15. Governing Council of UNEP
16. Conference on Disarmament

*Specialised Agencies*

1. Council of the Food and Agriculture Organisation
2. Council of the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO)
3. Council of International Maritime Organisation (IMO)
4. Administrative Council of International Telecommunication Union (ITU)
5. Executive Board of UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO)
6. Industrial Development Board of UN Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO)
7. Programme and Budget Committee of UNIDO
8. Executive Council of Universal Postal Union (UPU)
9. Executive Board of World Health Organisation (WHO)
10. ILO Governing Body
11. Board of Governors of IAEA

**Allocation of Funds for Construction of Check Dams**

4111. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government propose to allocate funds for construction of check dams, percolation tanks and repairs to Breacher Tanks in the drought prone areas in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) the particulars of agencies which dealt with the construction of check dams and tanks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) and (b). According to information furnished by the State Government of Andhra Pradesh, funds have been allocated under drought prone area programme for construction of check dams, percolation tanks and other soil conservation measures in the drought prone districts on the State. While Agriculture Department of the State Government deals with the construction of check dams, the Minor Irrigation Department deals with the construction/repair of tanks.

**Losses in Ramgiri Gold Mines in Andhra Pradesh**

4112. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether "Ramgiri" Gold Mines in Anantapur district of Andhra Pradesh are incurring huge losses;

(b) the amount so far spent and the total quantity of Gold-ore extracted from the mines; and

(c) the steps taken to reduce the losses in these Gold Mines?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) Yepamana Mine of Ramgiri Gold fields had incurred aggregate losses to the tune of Rs. 435.55 lakhs till the end of 1987-88. However, it has since turned the corner and is expected to earn a profit during 1988-89.

(b) The total capital cost incurred till the end of 1987-88 is Rs. 753.84 lakhs. Till the end of Feb., 1989, 1,53,084 tonnes of ore have been mined yielding 393.5 kgs. of gold, valued at Rs. 1363.50 lakhs.

(c) A series of steps such as introduction of modern technology for recovery of gold and for improving mining of ore have been taken up to improve the production of gold. Coupled with the adoption of Indian market price for gold from July, 1988 onwards this may enable this unit to improve the financial performance. Efforts are also on to explore additional reserves available around Ramgiri, such as reopening of Ramgiri Shaft etc. Diesel generating sets have also been installed to overcome the fluctuations in power supply.

#### **Special package for Jute Cultivation**

4113. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have monitored progress of PM's special package for the development of the Jute cultivation announced in September, 1986;

(b) if so, the progress made so far in West Bengal;

(c) the role played by Jute Corporation of India to boost Jute production; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to give fillip to jute cultivation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Special Jute Development Programme in West Bengal covered 40 blocks in 8 Districts. During the first two years of the implementation of this programme (1987-88 and 1988-89), an area of 3.32 lakh hectares was covered with an expenditure of Rs. 61.67 lakhs.

(c) The Jute Corporation of India has been entrusted to undertake support price operation for purchase of raw jute and it is also a nodal agency for construction of godowns for storage of raw jute by State Cooperatives, Central Warehousing Corporation and State Warehousing Corporations etc.

(d) The Government of India launched the Centrally Sponsored Special Jute Development Programme with 100 per cent Central assistance from 1987-88 to 1989-90 to give fillip for jute cultivation.

#### **Increase in Prices of fruits and vegetables**

4114. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of fruits and vegetables have increased alarmingly during the last three years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by Government to reduce the prices?