

STATEMENT

The terrorist outfits have increasingly resorted to abductions, particularly of soft targets in the recent past. These abductions have generally been carried out by them to intimidate specific groups like intelligence personnel, para-military forces including police personnel, political activists and leaders; suspected informers, section of the population attempting to defy the dictates of the militants and also for extortion/ransom money. It is also done to create panic amongst public at large or at the behest of their mentors across the border.

64 persons were abducted by the terrorist outfits since 1st January, 1992; 17 in January, 16 in February, and 31 in March (Up to 28 -03-92). 7 suspected terrorists were released on bail/parole since 1st January, 1992 in exchange of hostages. As on 30th March, 1992, 11 persons are still in the captivity of terrorist outfits. Efforts continue to seek their release.

**Supply of Fuel wood for the
Cremation Grounds in Delhi**

5732. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Municipal Corporation of Delhi, Delhi Administration, is getting the supply of fuel wood for the cremation grounds through private contractors;

(b) if so, how much fuel wood was purchased during the last three years and the amount paid, year-wise;

(c) the amount received by the M.C.D. by selling the same fuel wood for the cremation grounds during the above period, year-wise;

(d) whether the M.C.D. received less amount than actually paid for the same fuel wood to the private contractors; and

(e) if so, the extent of loss suffered by the M.C.D. during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Information regarding purchase and sale of fuel wood during the last three financial years is as under :-

<i>Quantity of fuel wood purchased.</i>		<i>Amount paid</i>	<i>Amount received from sale</i>
<i>Year</i>	<i>QTY. (Qtl.)</i>	<i>(In lacs)</i>	<i>(In lacs)</i>
1988-89	1,08,435.03	Rs. 72.43	Rs. 55.68
1989-90	1,04,461.30	Rs. 66.39	Rs. 50.62
1990-91	80,312.45	Rs. 71.14	Rs. 57.40

(d) and (e). The MCD has reported that it has not suffered any loss on account of sale of fuel wood. The information given in reply to parts (b) and (c) above is in respect of the wood actually sold.

Availability of Compost

5733. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether organic manure improve the soils' water holding and nutrient absorbing capacity;

(b) if so, the estimated amount of rural and urban compost available in our country and its equivalents plant nutrients;

(c) the quantity of this rural and urban compost being utilised at present; and

(d) the steps taken to encourage the use of organic manure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) to (d). The estimated availability and use of rural and urban compost in the country is of the order of approximately 270 million tonnes and 6.5 million tonnes respectively. About 4.2 million tonnes of plant nutrients are available through rural and urban compost being used in agriculture. The farmers are conscious of the benefits of compost organic manures. States are periodically advised to encourage the use of waste as manure.

[*Translation*]

Diesel Quota of Madhya Pradesh

5734. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the diesel quota of Madhya Pradesh has been curtailed since October, 1990; and

(b) if so, the extent thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b). There is no statewise quota of supply of diesel and therefore the question of curtailment on any state quota does not arise.

[*English*]

Schemes for upliftment of SCs/STs.

5735.. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe families which have crossed the poverty line during Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(b) the number of households of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes likely to be covered through the Centrally Sponsored Schemes during 1992-93, if any social programme has been launched by Government?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) and (b). The information is being collected.

[*Translation*]

SCs/STs in TRIFED

5736. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of appointments and promotions made in the Tribal Co-operative marketing Federation Ltd. (TRIFED) during 1989-90 and 1990-91;

(b) the number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes among them;

(c) whether the Federation has the requisite percentage of employees belonging to SCs/STs;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken to make up the requisite percentage in appointments and promotions therein?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) The total number of appointments and promotions in the TRIFED are as under: