

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Tenth Session
(Thirteenth Lok Sabha)



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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Monday, August 12, 2002/Sravana 21, 1924 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at
Eleven of the Clock.*

(MR. SPEAKER in the Chair)

[English]

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (RAIGANJ): Where has the Leader of the House disappeared? ...(Interruptions) It is for the first time in the history of Parliament. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have to make an observation.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Where is the Leader of the House? ...(Interruptions) The Government is shameless. ...(Interruptions) It is protecting the corrupt. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. I have to make some observations. Please co-operate. From the Chair, I have to make. ...

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have to make some observations. Hon. Members....

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: The Prime Minister should come to the House and reply to the issues that we have raised. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please listen to me. I am making a small observation. Please listen to me.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. When the Chair is addressing the House, you have to listen.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Where is the Leader of the House? ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will ask the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs.

...(Interruptions)

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Rural Employment Generation Programmes

*401. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have been implementing rural employment generation programmes in the country;

(b) if so, the names of the States where the above programmes were launched during the Ninth Plan; and

(c) the achievements made thereunder and the amounts spent thereon during the said period, State-wise alongwith the projections for Tenth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) was launched on 01.04.1995 by the Government through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) in all the States for the development of Khadi and Village Industries Sector. The programme continued for the entire 9th Plan period.

The State-wise achievements made under the REGP scheme in respect of employment and projects financed (till 31.03.2002) are given at the statement enclosed.

Funds are not released to individual States. The Government releases funds to the KVIC who in turn gives the money to the participating banks. The funds released by the Government to KVIC for implementing the REGP scheme in the country during the 9th Plan period are as under:-

Year	Rs. in lakhs
1997-98	10500
1998-99	4665
1999-00	1103
2000-01	11000
2001-02	15000

It has been decided to continue the programme during the 10th Plan period as well i.e. upto 31.03.2007 with an investment of Rs. 1250 crores generating 2 million additional employment opportunities in the country.

Statement

State-wise project financed and employment as on 31.03.2002 (Provisional) under REGP

S.No.	States/Union Territories	Projects financed	Employment
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	9955	105293
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	317	2904
3.	Assam	425	4743
4.	Bihar	529	4288
5.	Goa	1931	18699
6.	Gujarat	682	6180
7.	Haryana	3509	44261
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1068	19021
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	5754	53550
10.	Karnataka	10326	102444
11.	Kerala	5592	66240
12.	Madhya Pradesh	16779	165741
13.	Maharashtra	16805	162099
14.	Manipur	623	5658
15.	Meghalaya	2784	25426

1	2	3	4
16.	Mizoram	732	6808
17.	Nagaland	4665	44143
18.	Orissa	1467	12744
19.	Punjab	7363	84153
20.	Rajasthan	20365	206848
21.	Sikkim	18	219
22.	Tamil Nadu	3484	48385
23.	Tripura	48	922
24.	Uttar Pradesh	11704	132683
25.	West Bengal	11416	93319
26.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	162	1365
27.	Chandigarh	139	1684
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	8	82
29.	Delhi	203	1837
30.	Lakshadweep	01	46
31.	Pondicherry	899	8212
32.	Chhattisgarh	197	5104
33.	Jharkhand	218	1364
34.	Uttaranchal	313	5663
Total		140481	1442128

Sale of Live Animals

*402. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government permit private organisations/individuals to sell live wild animals like Elephant, Tiger, Lion, Deer, Hippo and Rhino to renowned Zoos or National Parks abroad;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the sale of these animals requires any fulfilment of terms and conditions by both parties viz. seller and purchaser;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the complete list of animals that were sold/ donated during the last five years and thereafter from India to various parts of the world?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) According to the provisions of Wild Life (Protection) Act, no zoo can acquire or transfer Elephant, Tiger, Lion, Rhino and Deer of species included in Schedule I of the Wild Life (Protection) Act without permission of the Central Zoo Authority.

However, Hippo is not included in any of the Schedule

of Wild Life (Protection) Act and hence the restrictions provided under the Act are not applicable to it.

(c) to (e) Central Zoo Authority allows sale/ exchange of animals between recognized zoos. Export of animals from zoos in India to zoos abroad is permitted after getting necessary approvals of the Government. However, before approving such proposals, the credentials of the zoo and status of animal facilities that exist there are also ascertained. The list of animals that have been sent to zoos abroad is given in the statement enclosed. Before allowing the transfer of animals from one zoo to another, it is ensured that the receiving zoo has appropriate housing and health care facilities for the animals being received by them.

Statement

Animals sent to zoos abroad during the last five years

Year	Name of the Indian Zoos	Animals sent	Number	Recipient Foreign Zoo
1997-98	Nandankanan Biological Park	Tiger Bengal	4	Wonderland Zoo, Malaysia
1997-98	Shri Chamarajendra Zoo, Mysore	Bonnet Macaque	5	Carl Hagenbeck Zoo, Germany
1997-98	VJB Udyan Zoo, Mumbai	Asiatic Lion	3	Yokohama Zoo, Japan
1997-98	VJB Udyan Zoo, Mumbai	Elephant	4	Yokohama Zoo, Japan
1997-98	Alipore Zoo, Kolkata	Elephant	1	Twycross Zoo, U.K.
1998-99	Nandankanan Biological Park	Elephant	1	Izmir Zoo, Turkey
1998-99	Sri Chamarajendra Zoo, Mysore	Common Langur	10	Serengeti Safari Park, Germany
1998-99	Sri Chamarajendra Zoo, Mysore	Elephant	1	Gifted to President to Sri Lanka
1999-2000	Nandankanan Biological Park	Sloth Bear	2	Leipzig Zoo, Germany
2000-01	Arignar Anna Zoo, Chennai	Jackal	4	Singapore Zoo, Singapore
2000-01	Arignar Anna Zoo, Chennai	Spoonbill	2	Singapore Zoo, Singapore
2000-01	National Zoological Park, Delhi	Peacock	2	Dhaka Zoo, Bangladesh
2000-01	Assam State Zoo, Guwahati	Elephant	1	Ueno Zoo, Japan
2000-01	M.C. Zoological Park, Chatt Bir, Punjab	Tiger Bengal	2	Tripoli Zoo, Libya

Note (i) 1 captive bred elephant from elephant camp Kaziranga Assam was sent to Ichihara Elephant Kingdom, Japan

(ii) 1 captive bred elephant from elephant camp Jaldapara West Bengal was gifted to King of Morocco.

**Regularisation of Encroachments
on Forest Land**

*403. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR:

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

(a) whether the Union Government propose to regularise encroachments on forest land using 1980 as the baseline;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the total area of forest land under encroachment in the country, State-wise;

(c) the details of encroachers with dates of such encroachments upon such forest land;

(d) whether the Union Government are aware of a policy of systematic regularisation of encroachment of forest land both in rural and urban areas of the country as adopted by some States like Himachal Pradesh;

(e) if so the details of such regularisation during the last three years and thereafter indicating the reduction in forest area, State-wise; and

(f) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) The National Forest Policy, 1988 stipulates that the encroachments on forest land should not be regularized. The rules and guidelines made under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, provides for regularisation of pre-1980 subsistence encroachments on forest lands, in respect of which a decision to regularise had already been taken by the State Governments prior to Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 coming into effect, i.e. 25.10.1980. but the decision could not be implemented either wholly or partially before the said date.

The details of area of encroachments on forest lands as reported by the State Governments are given in the enclosed statement. The area encroached by the individual encroachers, name of encroacher and date of encroachment are not compiled and collated by the Central Government.

(d) to (f) A news-item has appeared in a national daily stating that the State Government of Himachal Pradesh has decided to regularise over three lakh encroachments

in the State and that all those encroachments that took place before December 31, 2000, will be regularised. The State Government has been advised not to go ahead with any plan which violates the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and the orders of the Supreme Court dated: 23.11.2001 restraining Government from regularization of any encroachment on forest land.

Statement

Sl.No.	Name of State	Area under Encroachment in sq.km.
1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	3413.22
2	Arunachal Pradesh	40.38
3	Assam	2547.11
4	Bihar	21.77
5	Chhattisgarh	1504.95
6	Goa	10.12
7	Gujarat	54.84
8	Haryana	8.52
9	Himachal Pradesh	14.93
10	Jammu & Kashmir	154.06
11	Jharkhand	339.05
12	Karnataka	1.10
13	Kerala	459.70
14	Madhya Pradesh	728.11
15	Maharashtra	936.10
16	Manipur	0.003
17	Meghalaya	154.64

1	2	3
18	Mizoram	0.13
19	Nagaland	0.00
20	Orissa	756.96
21	Punjab	44.09
22	Rajasthan	175.84
23	Sikkim	120.00
24	Tamil Nadu	182.83
25	Tripura	419.27
26	Uttaranchal	104.00
27	Uttar Pradesh	252.10
28	West Bengal	NA
Total		12443.82

Afforestation

*404. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether many State Governments have not achieved the targets fixed for afforestation during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the percentage of decline in afforestation rate during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(d) the targets fixed for afforestation during the Tenth Five Year Plan; and

(e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to achieve the targets within the stipulated time?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) There have been some shortfalls in this regard.

(b) The shortfall in the achievement of targets was largely due to inadequacy of funds in the State Forestry Sector.

(c) As per the Forest Survey of India Report 1999 there is a net increase in the forest cover of 3896 Sq. Kms. over the previous assessment in 1997.

(d) The targets for afforestation and tree planting are fixed annually for States and Union Territories. The physical targets fixed for 2002-2003 is 1.5 million hectares.

(e) The States and Union Territories have been advised to ensure adequate provision of funds in the Forestry Sector.

[Translation]

Ganga Action Plan

*405. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the total expenditure incurred so far on the Ganga Action Plan and the amount likely to be incurred further by the Government thereon;

(b) the latest position in regard to the presence of pollution in the river Ganges at Rishikesh, Haridwar, Garhmukteshwar, Patna and Munger;

(c) whether the Government have noticed any achievement/improvement in this regard after spending so much funds over the last three years;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (e) An amount of Rs. 451.70 crore has been spent on Ganga Action Plan Phase-I which was completed on 31-3-2000. Under the Ganga Action Plan Phase-II which is under implementation, the approved cost of works is Rs. 1498.86 crore. Of this, an amount of Rs. 747 crore has been released so far to the implementing agencies. The balance amount would be released depending upon the progress of works. The water quality data during the last three years at Rishikesh, Haridwar, Garhmukteshwar, Patna and Munger are given below. The water quality at these locations is within the permissible limits during the period. With the completion of Ganga Action Plan Phase-II, the quality of river Ganga is likely to improve further.

S.No	Location	Period					
		1999		2001		2002	
		# Dissolved Oxygen (mg/l)	#Biochemical Oxygen Demand (mg/l)	Dissolved Oxygen (mg/l)	Biochemical Oxygen Demand (mg/l)	Dissolved Oxygen (mg/l)	Biochemical Oxygen Demand (mg/l)
1.	Rishikesh	9.0	1.0	9.1	1.1	8.2	1.2
2.	Haridwar	8.6	1.2	8.8	1.4	7.9	1.6
3.	Garhmukteshwar	7.9	1.4	7.8	1.8	7.5	2.1
4.	Patna	7.8	2.4	7.7	2.4	6.6	2.0
5.	Munger* (Mokamah)	8.6	2.8	7.7	1.8	7.5	2.4

* There is no monitoring location at Munger. The figures for Mokamah 60 km upstream of Munger are given in the table. There is no major pollution source in the region between Munger and Mokamah.

Standards for Dissolved Oxygen and Biochemical Oxygen Demand in river water for the desired bathing class are 5 mg/litre (minimum) and 3 mg/litre (maximum) respectively.

[English]

Study by Task Force in FPI Sector

*406. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether an inter-ministerial task force constituted to study the growth potential of food processing sector has made certain recommendations for developing, marketing, storage and cold storage facilities in the country during the Tenth Plan period;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the outlay for the food processing industries sanctioned in the Ninth Plan and projected for the Tenth Plan;

(d) the amount spent during the Ninth Plan period for the development of cold storage infrastructural facilities in Maharashtra and the amount to be spent thereon during 2002 - 2003, and

(e) the locations in Maharashtra where these cold storage infrastructural facilities are proposed to be developed during the Tenth Plan in general and during 2002 - 2003 in particular?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI N.T. SHANMU-

GAM): (a) No such inter-ministerial task force has been constituted by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) While the Ninth Plan outlay for the schemes of the Ministry was Rs. 235.00 crores, the approved Tenth Plan outlay is Rs. 650.00 crores.

(d) and (e) During the Ninth Plan, financial assistance amounting to Rs. 590.77 lakhs was extended for infrastructural projects including cold storages in Maharashtra by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries. Financial Assistance of Rs. 191.33 lakhs has been released for infrastructural projects including cold storage at Nashik, Mumbai and Nanded in Maharashtra during 2002-2003. The schemes are project oriented and not State specific. Approval of financial assistance for such infrastructural facilities will depend upon receipt of viable proposals.

National Highways Authority of India

*407. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any representation regarding bifurcation of National Highways Authority of India (NHA) for better administration and service;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any cost-benefit study has been made in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the bifurcation is likely to take place;

(e) whether the Government propose to expand the NHAI; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the steps proposed for working the NHAI more responsive and efficient?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) and (b) A representation was received from an individual for separating construction and finance from the functions of present organization of NHAI. No other details were furnished. The Government did not find the suggestion feasible.

(c) and (d) No action has been taken by the Government.

(e) There is no such proposal at present.

(f) Does not arise. Based on our experience so far, the NHAI Act, 1988, provides adequately for the Authority to be an efficient and responsive organization.

Release of Forest Land for Nuclear Power Plants

*408. SHRI AMBAREESHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several States particularly Karnataka

have sought the permission of the Union Government for release of forest land for the establishment of Nuclear Power plants;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of projects/proposals with regard to release of forest land cleared by the Union Government during the last three years and thereafter, State-wise;

(d) the reasons for pendency of the remaining proposals; and

(e) the time by which the same are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Karnataka Government had sought permission under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of forest land in respect of Kaiga Nuclear Power Plant and this proposal was approved on 6.8.1987. No proposal is pending with the Union Government for diversion of forest land for the construction of Nuclear Power Plants.

(c) and (d) The details of proposals regarding release of forest land received from various State Governments during the last three years are given in the statement enclosed. The reasons for pendency of the proposals include submission of incomplete proposals and delay in submission of details by the State Government.

(e) The proposals can be processed and decided only after information asked for is furnished by the State Governments concerned.

Statement

S.No.	State	No. of proposals received	Approved	Rejected	Rejected for want of information	Returned/ withdrawn by the State Govt.	Under process by Ministry	Pending with States for additional information.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Assam	40	32	4	0	2	1	1
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	50	41	1	2	0	1	5
3.	Andhra Pradesh	80	47	10	1	5	9	8
4.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	24	21	0	0	1	0	2

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
5.	Bihar	12	7	0	1	3	1	0
6.	Chandigarh	13	11	0	0	0	2	0
7.	Chhattisgarh	58	24	2	0	2	5	25
8.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	113	62	17	1	1	13	19
9.	Daman & Diu	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
10.	Delhi	6	2	0	1	1	0	2
11.	Goa	25	7	1	0	0	1	16
12.	Gujarat	346	253	23	15	18	4	33
13.	Haryana	167	139	1	6	0	4	17
14.	Himachal Pradesh	238	135	10	27	6	4	56
15.	Jharkhand	40	11	1	6	1	3	8
16.	Karnataka	141	75	17	11	6	2	30
17.	Kerala	31	19	1	2	2	2	5
18.	Manipur	3	2	0	0	1	0	0
19.	Meghalaya	42	39	2	0	0	1	0
20.	Madhya Pradesh	125	65	11	4	8	20	17
21.	Mizoram	12	10	0	0	0	0	2
22.	Maharashtra	371	207	49	6	13	43	53
23.	Punjab	433	305	5	23	7	1	92
24.	Orissa	91	49	2	11	9	6	14
25.	Sikkim	36	36	0	0	0	0	0
26.	Rajasthan	94	58	6	9	9	0	12
27.	Tamil Nadu	61	50	3	2	0	4	2
28.	Tripura	107	100	2	2	1	1	1
29.	West Bengal	9	5	0	0	2	0	2
30.	Uttar Pradesh	103	84	7	3	5	2	2
31.	Uttaranchal	917	753	43	12	49	10	50
Total		3789	2649	218	145	152	140	475

[Translation]

Image of Indian Airlines

*409. DR. ASHOK PATEL:

SHRI PADAM SEN CHOUDHRY:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Indian Airlines is lagging far behind in comparison with other private airlines in terms of professional attitude of the staff, the quality of food items being served, interior furnishings in the planes, punctuality and provision of information regarding flights;

(b) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to remove these shortcomings; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Indian Airlines is still the most preferred domestic airline in the country. There is a constant endeavour on its part to upgrade and add value to its product and services. Various measures taken/being taken in this direction are as under:

Training to employees

Indian Airlines has been focusing on training to its employees who have direct interface with the travelling public. Special Customer Care Service Programmes as well as Refresher Courses are conducted on regular basis where skill development as well as behavioural aspects are stressed with a view to redress passengers' grievance.

Serving quality food

Indian Airlines uplifts food from the best available caterers. On stations where such hotels/caterers are not available, the best restaurant/airport restaurant in town is engaged. The caterers of Indian Airlines are same from whom other domestic and international operators uplift their catering items. A system of quality check has been introduced at major base stations by appointing flight kitchen supervisors for keeping a stringent check on quality and preparation of meals, at the premises of the caterers.

Improvement in cabin ambience

Improvement in cabin ambience has been carried out on all the 11 B-737 aircraft. A schedule has been drawn for

cabin interior maintenance for different types of aircraft in the fleet of Indian Airlines.

On Time Performance

The On Time Performance is monitored on day-to-day basis. The On Time Performance of Indian Airlines during the year 2001-02 was 77.64% as against 59.91% in the year 2000-01. It has further improved to 81.4% during the 1st Quarter of current year. For 2001-02, in respect of six metros the On-Time Performance is 86%. Time for Baggage Delivery has been reduced. The first baggage is delivered within seven minutes of the arrival of the flight and the last baggage within twenty minutes.

Dissemination of Information

Indian Airlines has adopted various channels for dissemination of information to passengers. This include information through company's website, establishing Flight Information Cell with adequate telephone lines, Interactive Voice Response System and Real Time Automatic Passenger Information Dissemination System (RAPID) which informs passengers on the given telephone number about delay beyond three hours.

Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Irrigation Schemes

*410. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether various Centrally Sponsored 'Accelerated Irrigation Schemes' are unsuccessful owing to the negligence of the State Governments;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government have issued any directions to the State Governments in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) to (d) The Central Government launched Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) during 1996-97 for accelerating Implementation of approved ongoing irrigation/multi-purpose projects on which substantial progress has been made and which are beyond the resource capability of the State Governments and for

other major and medium irrigation projects which are in advanced stage of construction and could yield irrigation benefit in next four agricultural seasons. As per approved guidelines for the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) the first instalment is released for a project as advance after the State Government informs the budget provision. Further release of the second instalment is made after the utilisation certificate for the first instalment is furnished by the competent authority in the State Government as well as on the basis of the monitoring report of the Central Water Commission. With the help of this programme 20 major/medium irrigation projects have achieved their targeted potential. 11 lakh hectare of irrigation has been created up to March, 2001 under various projects getting assistance under this programme.

Thus this programme has been able to expedite the creation of irrigation potential in various States. Some instances were noticed where the funds were not being passed on timely to the user departments. Appropriate directions have been issued to all the State Governments for timely disbursement of Central Loan Assistance. Moreover irrigation including flood control and drainage being a state subject, the responsibility of planning, funding, executing, operating and maintaining rests primarily with the State Governments themselves.

[English]

Survey on Ground Water for Irrigation

*411. SHRI V. VETRISILVAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have conducted any survey to assess the availability of ground water for irrigation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the extent to which the ground water has been exploited for irrigation in each State;
- (d) whether there has been any excess exploitation of ground water in any part of the country;
- (e) if so, the details thereof, and
- (f) the remedial steps being considered by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI) : (a) to (f) Based on survey of ground water resources conducted, the availability of ground water for irrigation has been assessed as 362 BCM (Billion Cubic Metre). The utilizable irrigation potential that can be developed from this is assessed as 64.06 million hectares in the country. The State-wise availability of irrigation potential from ground water and the extent of its use for irrigation is given in the enclosed statement-I. There has been excess exploitation of ground water in certain parts of the country. A list of over-exploited and dark blocks is given in the enclosed statement-II.

Water being a State subject, steps to augment ground water resources is to be taken by the concerned State Government. The remedial steps taken by the Union Government in the country include:

- (i) Implementation of a Central Sector Scheme for Study of Recharge to Ground Water on "pilot basis" in the country during the IX Five Year Plan at a cost of Rs. 23.48 crore.
- (ii) Organisation of mass awareness and training programmes on water harvesting and recharging of ground water all over the country.
- (iii) Constitution of Central Ground Water Authority under the Environment (protection) Act, 1986 for regulation and control of ground water management and development.
- (iv) Notification in 11 areas/districts restricting/banning ground water exploitation.
- (v) Circulation of a Model Bill in the year 1970 which was re-circulated in 1992 and 1996 to all the States/Union Territories to enable them to enact suitable legislation for regulation and control of ground water development.
- (vi) Preparation and circulation of guidelines/Manual on artificial recharge of ground water to the States/ Union Territories to enable them to formulate area specific artificial recharge schemes to check the declining trend in ground water levels.
- (vii) A Central Sector Scheme of Recharge to Ground Water at an estimated cost of Rs. 150 crore for inclusion in the X Five Year Plan has been prepared.

Statement-I*Irrigation Potential from Ground Water
(upto March, 2002 likely)*

(m.ha: million hectare)

Sl.No.	States	Utilisable Irrigation Potential m.ha.	Potential Created m.ha.	Potential Utilised m.ha.
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3.96008	3.31100	2.36500
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.01800	0.00100	0.00100
3.	Assam	0.90000	0.44200	0.28400
4.	Bihar	4.94763	4.03300	2.54700
5.	Goa	0.02928	0.00400	0.00400
6.	Gujarat	2.75590	2.41800	1.78500
7.	Haryana	1.46170	2.37900	2.24000
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0.06850	0.02700	0.02100
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.70795	0.01300	0.01100
10.	Karnataka	2.57281	1.32100	1.03100
11.	Kerala	0.87925	0.17700	0.17000
12.	Madhya Pradesh	9.73249	4.16700	3.09000
13.	Maharashtra	3.65197	3.54900	2.46900
14.	Manipur	0.36900	0.00100	0.00100
15.	Meghalaya	0.06351	0.00200	0.00100
16.	Mizoram	0.00500	0.00100	0.00100
17.	Nagaland	0.00500	0.00100	0
18.	Orissa	4.20258	0.55500	0.35000
19.	Punjab	2.91715	6.92500	6.30300
20.	Rajasthan	1.77783	4.51100	4.03200
21.	Sikkim	Not assessed	0	0
22.	Tamil Nadu	2.83205	2.30100	1.33400
23.	Tripura	0.08056	0.01300	0.01000

1	2	3	4	5
24.	Uttar Pradesh	16.79896	16.34900	13.57400
25.	West Bengal	3.31794	2.23900	1.59700
	Total States	64.05514	54.74000	43.22100
	Total UTs	0.00504	0.06600	0.06500
	Grand Total	64.06018	54.80600	43.28600

Source: Draft Report of the Working Group on Minor Irrigation for formulation of the X Plan (2002-2007) proposals, Minor Irrigation Division, Ministry of Water Resources.

Statement-II

Categorisation of Blocks/Mandals/Taluks/Watehrsheds as Over Exploited and Dark on All India Basis

Sl.No.	States/UTs	Number of Districts	Number of Blocks/ Mandals/ Taluks/ Watersheds	No. of Block/Taluks/Mandals/Watershed			
				Over-exploited		Dark	
				No.	%	No.	%
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Andhra Pradesh	22	1104	12	1.09	14	1.27
2	Arunachal Pradesh	3		0	0.00	0	0.00
3	Assam	23	134	0	0.00	0	0.00
4	Bihar	42	589	3	0.51	9	1.53
5	Goa	3	12	0	0.00	0	0.00
6	Gujarat	19	184	13	7.07	15	8.15
7	Haryana	17	108	33	30.56	8	7.41
8	Himachal Pradesh	12	69	0	0.00	0	0.00
9	Jammu & Kashmir	14	123	0	0.00	0	0.00
10	Karnataka	19	175	7	4.00	9	5.14
11	Kerala	14	154	0	0.00	0	0.00
12	Madhya Pradesh	45	459	2	0.44	1	0.22
13	Maharashtra	29	231	2	0.87	6	2.60
14	Manipur	6	26	0	0.00	0	0.00
15	Meghalaya	5	29	0	0.00	0	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
16	Mizoram	3	20	Not Assessed			
17	Nagaland	7	21	0	0.00	0	0.00
18	Orissa	30	314	4	1.27	4	1.27
19	Punjab	17	138	72	52.17	11	7.97
20	Rajasthan	32	236	74	31.36	20	8.47
21	Sikkim	4	4	Not Assessed			
22	Tamil Nadu	27	384	64	16.67	39	10.16
23	Tripura	3	17	0	0.00	0	0.00
24	Uttar Pradesh	58	819	19	2.32	21	2.56
25	West Bengal	16	341	0	0.00	1	0.29
Total States		470	5691	305		158	
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands						
2	Chandigarh						
3	Dadra & Nagar Haveli						
4	Daman & Diu		2	1	50.00	1	50.00
5	NCT Delhi		5	3	60.00	1	20.00
6	Lakshadweep		9	0	0.00	0	0.00
7	Pondicherry		4	1	25.00	-	0.00
Total UTs			20	5		2	
Grand Total			5711	310		160	

Note: Andhra Pradesh - Mandal; Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra - Taluks/ Tehsils

Poor Growth in Tourism Sector

*412. SHRI ARUN KUMAR: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government spends only one per cent of GDP to promote tourism industry;

(b) if so, whether this is lowest in the World;

(c) whether this factor has contributed for poor growth in tourism sector; and

(d) if so, the remedial steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) The budget of the Central and State Governments on plan schemes for the development of tourism during the 9th Five Year Plan period has been around 0.026 per cent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

(b) Comparable information in respect of other countries is not readily available.

(c) Government expenditure is not the only factor responsible for tourism development. The policy on tourism is that it should be private sector driven with Government working as a proactive facilitator and catalyst. Government provides various tax concessions and incentives to the private sector, which helps in tourism development. As a result of the combined efforts of both the Government and the private sector, there has generally been positive growth in foreign tourist arrivals, foreign exchange earnings and domestic tourist visits.

(d) An allocation of Rs.225 crores has been made for the plan schemes in the year 2002-03 which is 50 per cent more than the allocation made for the previous year. The Planning Commission has indicated an allocation of Rs.2900 crores for the Tenth Plan as against Rs.595 crores actually provided during the Ninth Plan.

Promotion of Coir

*413. SHRI S. MURUGESAN: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether steps have been taken to advocate and promote extensive use of coir through advertisements and other marketing techniques in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Coir Board undertakes various publicity and promotional programmes through print and electronic media, organizes festival sales campaigns, buyer-seller-meets and also participates in important trade fairs and exhibitions for popularizing use of coir products in the domestic market.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Tourist Centres of International Standards

*414. YOGI ADITYA NATH :

SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA :

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are tourists centres of international standards in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to attract more domestic and foreign tourists to such centres; and

(d) the funds provided to the States for the development of these centres?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) While there are a large number of tourist centres/places in the country which are visited by the international tourists, none of them have been designated as tourist centre of international standards as there is no such practice of doing so.

(c) In order to boost domestic and foreign tourists in the country the following steps have been initiated:

- Propagating India as a safe and secure destination.
- Stepping-up marketing in the Western and Northern world.
- Breaking new ground in the East and South, particularly with regard to China, Korea, Japan, Taiwan, Singapore and Australia.
- Positioning and maintaining tourism development as a national priority activity.
- Enhancing and maintaining the competitiveness of India as a tourism destination.
- Improving India's existing tourism products and expanding these to meet new market requirements.
- Creation of world class infrastructure.
- Developing sustained and effective market plans and programmes.
- Special thrust to rural and small segment tourism and
- Attention to civilizational issues and issues pertaining to civic administration and good governance and also of social and cultural values.

(d) Department of Tourism, Government of India provides financial assistance every year to the State Governments/UT Administrations for the projects identified in consultation with them. During the 9th Five Year Plan 1563 projects amount to Rs.372 crore were sanctioned for development and promotion of tourism in places of tourist interest in the country.

Rice Production

*415. SHRI SUBODH ROY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether rice production has registered sharp decline in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government propose to increase rice production during the Tenth Five Year Plan; and
- (d) if so, the incentives/schemes proposed to be introduced for rice producers of the country especially of Bihar during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Production of rice in the country during the last four years was as under:

Year	(India) Production (Million tonnes)
1998-99	86.00
1999-00	89.68
2000-01	84.87
2001-02	91.61 (estimated)

The production depends on monsoons to a large extent as only about 50 percent of rice cultivated area is irrigated.

- (c) Yes, Sir.
- (d) (1) For increasing the production & productivity of rice, Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Rice Based Cropping Systems Areas was implemented in the major rice growing States including Bihar since 1994-95 which continued up to 2000. Since October, 2000 the scheme along with 26 other schemes has been subsumed under Macro Management Mode Scheme to give more flexibility to States in implementation of various programmes on the basis of State's priorities and requirements. Funds are allocated and released to States in lump sum for Macro Management Mode Scheme and not provided on the basis of individual crop.

- (2) Front Line Demonstrations on latest

technology for rice cultivation are organised by ICAR on farmer's fields.

- (3) On Farm Water Management Scheme has been launched in the eastern States including Bihar for the optimum use of surface and ground water aiming to increase the rice production.

- (4) For demonstrating hybrid rice technology a new scheme is contemplated for Tenth Plan.

Pollution by Construction of Dams

*416. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether construction of dams and hydro power generation projects cause water pollution;
- (b) if so, the nature of such pollution;
- (c) whether any scientific survey has been conducted in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details indicating the opinion of the Government thereon;
- (e) whether any report of similar kind outside India have come to the notice of the Government; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Impoundment of water resulting from construction of dam and hydropower generation may result in decrease in dissolved oxygen (DO) levels and build-up in levels of dissolved carbon dioxide (CO₂) as a result of impoundment.

- (c) and (d) The Himachal Pradesh State Environment Protection and Pollution Control Board has studied water quality in three reservoirs, namely - Bhakhra reservoir, Pong reservoir and Pandoh dam. The study has shown that depletion in dissolved oxygen (DO) and increase in Bio-chemical oxygen demand (BOD) content is more rapid in the case of depth profiles than the longitudinal profiles. Further, it has also been seen that BOD increases towards the reservoirs both on longitudinal and depth profiles

- (e) and (f) In this regard, studies have also been carried out on dams in USA and Canada. The findings depend on locational aspects and no general conclusions could be drawn.

[English]

Emission Norms

*417. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any decision on Central Pollution Control Board's proposal to make emission norms more stringent;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal and decision taken thereon;

Category of vehicles	Types of vehicles	Current standard Carbon monoxide (CO) (%)	Current standard Hydrocarbon (HC) (PPM)	Proposed Standard Carbon monoxide (CO) (%)	Proposed standard Hydrocarbon (HC) (PPM)
Two, Three Wheelers	Two Stroke	4.5	-	3.5	7000
	Four Stroke	4.5	-	2.5	1000
Four Wheelers	Without CC	3.0	-	1.5	600
	With CC or Using CNG	3.0	-	0.5	200

(CC - Catalytic Converter) (CNG - Compressed Natural Gas) (PPM - parts per million)

These norms have been recommended to the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways for consideration and notification under the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 to be made applicable throughout the country.

ECO-Cities

*418. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have drawn up an ambitious plan to convert some major cities in the country into eco-cities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether eco-cities are to be developed with some foreign collaboration or any stringent steps are to be taken to check generation of pollution in such cities; and

(d) if so, the details of the schemes formulated by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (d) The Government has initiated Eco-city Scheme during the 10th Plan with an objective to

(c) whether these norms are to be made applicable throughout the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (e) The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has proposed tightening of emission norms for in-use vehicles which are as follows:

improve environment and bring-in visible results through implementation of identified environmental improvement projects in the selected cities/towns. The various components of the Eco-city Scheme include: protection of environmental resources, improving socio-economic and living conditions, planning development activities compatible to environment, improving sanitary conditions, aesthetics, landscaping, traffic and transportation. The scheme has been launched with Central Government funding. Foreign collaboration is limited to technical support and training needs of the local staff through the German Agency for Technical Cooperation under the Indo-German Technical Cooperation. Two projects, Taj Ecocity Programme in Uttar Pradesh and Kottayam-Kumarakom Ecocity Programme in Kerala have been taken up for improving the environment, abatement of pollution and achieving sustainable development through a comprehensive urban improvement system.

Pollution Control

*419. SHRI E. AHAMED: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the various measures taken by the

Government so far to control pollution have produced the desired result;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the specific areas where such measures did not produce the desired results alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of the strategy, if any, being chalked out to check all kinds of pollution?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (d) Various measures have been taken by the government from time to time to control pollution. As a result the increasing trend of pollution has been arrested. The various measures taken include tightening of vehicular emission norms, improvement of fuel quality, action against the polluting industries, installation of Common Effluent Treatment Plants and Sewage Treatment Plants. Action has also been initiated for management of municipal solid waste, bio-medical waste and hazardous waste. The strategy to control pollution entails regulatory and promotional measures to check air, water, land and noise pollution from various sources like industrial pollution, vehicular emissions and other human activities.

Research on Utilisation of Rain Water

*420. **SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:** Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to promote the research on utilisation of unutilised rain water in order to tackle the problem of water crisis in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise/location-wise;

(c) whether any technique for utilisation of rain water exists in the country; and

(d) if so, the extent to which it has been useful?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) to (d) The National Water Policy envisages need for intensifying research efforts in the areas of water harvesting and ground water recharge, water conservation, better water management practices and improvements in operational technology among others. The rain water harvesting technology is more efficient and cost-effective. Percolation tanks, check dams, gabion

structures, dug well recharge structure, recharge shafts, roof top rain water collection are some of the means of rain water harvesting. Various innovations in water conservation by augmentation, efficient utilisation and water quality preservation have been developed and are being practiced in the country. Mass awareness campaign is being run to bring awareness for water as a scarce resource and need for water conservation and its efficient utilisation through peoples' participation.

Central Ground Water Board has taken up a Central Sector Scheme on 'Studies of Recharge to Ground Water' on pilot basis to appraise the applicability of these innovations. Under this, 174 schemes have been taken up in various parts of the country during Ninth Five Year Plan. Under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme, Ministry of Rural Development is also providing technical and financial assistance to the State Governments and other implementing agencies for rain water harvesting through Water Management Programme, artificial recharge of ground water and roof top rain water harvesting.

Accordingly, Several State Governments have taken up the steps to preserve traditional water sources such as ponds, canals and rivers to supply drinking water in rural as well as urban areas. Government of Madhya Pradesh has launched Pani Roko Abhiyan and Government of Andhra Pradesh has started implementation of Neeru-Meeru (water and you) programme for water conservation. Government of Rajasthan has taken up the preservation of their traditional sources of water. Government of Maharashtra has started construction of Budkis, deepening and repairs of existing wells and other water sources. Government of Gujarat has also started rejuvenation of existing water sources.

Corruption in Commercial Staff on AI

4137. **SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA:** Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India has received any information regarding charges of corruption against its commercial staff;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of charges levelled against the Commercial Manager;

(d) whether any investigation has been conducted; and

(e) if so, the follow-up action taken or proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House within one month.

Funds for Development of Road

4138. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received a revised proposal of Rs. 3.20 crore from Government of Kerala under Central Road Fund for development of balance length of 3.02 km. of Erumely-Chalakkayam road; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Improvement of Erumely-Chalakkayam Road was earlier approved under old Central Road Fund (CRF) Scheme. The work was taken up by State Government in three phases and two phases have been completed. Phase III was however not taken up. The State Government has submitted a revised proposal for phase III of the work for sanction under new CRF which is operative since 2000-01. As per policy, the revised estimates for CRF works are not approved. State Government was requested to close the approved work and to furnish details regarding availability of land for further consideration of the proposal under new CRF. The clarifications are still awaited.

Purchase of Tractor

4139. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the large number of farmers in Rajasthan who bought Tractors are unable to pay interest and instalments;

(b) if so, whether any study has been conducted in this regard; and

(c) if so, the outcome thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No such report has been received about large number of farmers in Rajasthan being unable to pay interest and

instalments. National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has informed that the recovery of the bank loan for tractor was generally better than for other activities in the State. Most beneficiaries have derived benefits of tractor loans availed by them.

(b) and (c) Question does not arise.

Losses Suffered by NAFED

4140. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Standing Committee on Food, Civil Supplies and Public Distribution in its Report No.10 of 2001 recommended enquiring thoroughly the matter of import of pulses at highest level and to fix responsibility and accountability in a time-bound manner;

(b) if so, whether the matter has been enquired and accountability and responsibility fixed for the losses suffered; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The recommendations of the Standing Committee contained in Report 10 of 2001 were examined by the Government. As a follow up of the recommendation, the Standing Committee was informed that there is no need for an enquiry as the losses incurred in import of pulses by the NAFED were not due to their inefficiency but due to lower prices coupled with poor demand prevailing in the market at that time. The Government, however, agreed to follow a more systematic and careful approach in future in dealing with similar situations.

[Translation]

Opening of New Hotels and Yatri Niwas

4141. SHRI JAI PRAKASH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to open new hotels and yatri niwas at the prominent religious places, tourists centers of various States including Uttranchal and Uttar Pradesh with the assistance of World Bank; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Declaration of 'Neem' as National Tree

4142. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY:

SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:

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

(a) whether the Government propose to declare 'Neem' tree as national tree;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) The Central Government has already declared "Bargad" as National Tree. Therefore, the question of "Neem" being declared as national tree does not arise.

[English]

Hill Cutting

4143. SHRI M. K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the practice of hill cutting which is so rampant in Assam and other States in the North East which poses a serious threat to the local inhabitants;

(b) if so, whether any study about degradation of the soil and the seismic and other dangers posed to the habitations thereby has been conducted;

(c) if so, the details indicating the outcome of the study; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to avert the resultant calamities?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) No specific instance has been brought to the notice of this Ministry in this regard.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Damage due to Hailstorm in M.P.

4144. SHRI RAMANAND SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of financial assistance provided by the Union Government to the Government of Madhya Pradesh to compensate the loss caused to certain rabi crops by hailstorm last year, district-wise;

(b) whether the financial assistance is quite meagre as compared to the damage;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to increase the same;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (e) It is primarily the responsibility of the State Government to undertake immediate relief measures in the wake of natural calamities including hailstorm. For this purpose, there is ready availability of funds with the State under Calamity Relief Fund (CRF). The entire Central share of CRF for 2001-02 and 2002-03 has been released to the State. Distribution of relief is the responsibility of the State Government. The items and norms of expenditure for assistance out of CRF provides for payment of input subsidy to small & marginal farmers where crop loss is 50% and above. Farmers are also entitled to compensation for damaged crops under the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS).

[English]

Export of Horticulture Products

4145. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to promote export of Horticulture products; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) With a view to increase the production and productivity and improvement in the quality and post harvest management of horticultural products, the Government is implementing a number of schemes. The increase in production/productivity and improvement in quality increases the export competitiveness of these products. Besides, Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) has undertaken the following steps to promote export of horticultural products:

1. Programmes relating to improvement in cultivation practices, storage, transportation and quality improvement of mango to boost export.
2. Promotion programmes of export potential varieties of fruits and vegetables in potential markets.
3. Development of database on production of potential fruits and vegetables market and services.
4. Undertaken publicity and information dissemination, participation in international trade fairs in India and abroad.
5. Organisation of buyer-seller meet and other support services by generating awareness.
6. Setting up of Agri Export Zones for the purpose of developing and sourcing of raw materials, their processing, packaging leading to final exports.

[Translation]

National Agricultural Insurance Scheme

4146. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:

SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the number of the farmers benefited in Jammu and Kashmir and West Bengal from the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme during the last three years and thereafter, separately District-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) is under implementation from Rabi 1999-2000 season only. Jammu and Kashmir has not opted for the scheme so far. West Bengal has implemented the scheme from Rabi 2000-2001 season. District-wise statement indicating number of farmers benefited under the scheme in West Bengal, is enclosed.

Statement

Name of Districts	No. of farmers benefited
Burdwan	70
Birbhum	1257
Jalpaiguri	248
Malda	2759
Midnapore (East)	3368
Howrah	571
Hoogly	427
Midnapore (West)	672
Murshidabad	327
24-Parganas (North)	5836
Dinajpur both (South & North)	2523
Cooch Behar	162
24-Parganas (South)	276
Nadia	2643

[English]

National Highway from Panagarh to Budbud

4147. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether National Highway-2 from Panagarh to Budbud is proposed to be started in near future;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the total amount likely to be spent thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) and (b) Four-laning of Panagarh-Budbud-Palisit section of NH-2 with a bypass for Budbud has commenced from June, 2002 on Annuity basis.

(c) This is an Annuity project with a concession period of 17.5 years including 2.5 years of construction period. The concessionaire will construct and complete the project in the first 2.5 years. Thereafter, he will maintain

and operate the project for 15 years during which an annuity payment of Rs. 55.5 crores would be made to him biannually.

[Translation]

Office Expenses

4148. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the expenditure incurred under various heads such as publicity, advertisement, hospitality catering, opening ceremonies, seminars, conference, tours (including foreign visits), STD and ISD telephone bills, electricity bills especially the electricity bills of air conditioners and coolers in various departments and undertakings under the Ministry during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to launch any drive to cut down the expenditure being incurred under above heads;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RTD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways was created in November, 2000 after splitting of the erstwhile Ministry of Surface Transport. The formal bifurcation of the staff came into force with effect from 1.6.2001. There are no departments and undertakings under the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways. Details of expenditure incurred under various budget sub heads of the Ministry during the financial year 2001-02 and 2002-03 (upto July, 2002) is as under:

Sub heads	Financial year 2001-02	Financial year 2002-03 (upto 31st July)
Advertisement/ Publicity	Nil	Nil
Hospitality	Rs. 5,76,217	Rs. 1,23,848
Telephone	Rs. 55,50,055	Rs. 9,96,637
TA (Domestic)	Rs. 17,30,000	Rs. 2,82,872
TA (Foreign)	Rs. 22,93,704	Rs. 9,36,079
Electricity	Rs. 9,76,446	Rs. 1,29,918

No separate record in respect of expenditure incurred on the electricity bills of air-conditioners and coolers is maintained.

(b) to (d) All possible steps are taken to cut down the expenditure as per instructions of the Ministry of Finance.

Research on Crop Varieties

4149. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether research work on cultivating crop varieties requiring less water and improving yield in most of the desert and drought affected areas in Rajasthan has been conducted in agriculture laboratories;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to formulate a policy for research and development on oilseed, ground nut and pulses with reference to soil of Rajasthan;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the present condition of oil seeds and pulses and other crops in desert/drought affected areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes, Sir. The research institutes of ICAR and the State Agricultural Universities, especially those in Rajasthan like the Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur, the Rajasthan Agricultural University, Bikaner, the Maharana Pratap Agricultural University, Udaipur, and their regional centers are working on development of crop varieties that require less water, and also on varieties that improve the production and productivity. Research on several integrated land management techniques, including management of soil, water, nutrient, pest control, etc. are also helping to improve the production from the land.

(b) The above researches have led to the successful development of several drought tolerant and short-duration crop varieties as well as management practices. The new drought-tolerant crop varieties useful for arid western Rajasthan include Bajra (pearlmillet) varieties like HHB-67, ICMH-356, RHB-30, Pusa-23 etc., Guar (clusterbean) varieties like Maru Guar, RGC 936, RGC 1002; Moth bean varieties like Maru Moth (JMM 259), CAZRI Moth-1, RMO 40, RMO 257; Kulthi (horse gram) varieties like Maru-Kulthi; Moong bean varieties like RMC 62 and K 091 and Cowpea varieties like Charodi 1, C

152, CAZC 10, etc. The varieties are helping the farmers of the region during the period of drought.

(c) and (d) A centrally sponsored scheme of Oil Seed Production Programme (OPP) is under implementation in 28 States including Rajasthan. 9 oilseeds crops including groundnut are covered under the scheme of OPP. Similarly, for the development of pulses a centrally sponsored scheme of National Pulses Development Project (NPDP) is under implementation in 30 States/Union Territories including Rajasthan. Almost all the pulses including Guar and Moth which are specific to Rajasthan are also covered under the scheme of NPDP.

Under these schemes assistance is provided for production and distribution of seeds, seed minikits, improved farm implements, sprinkler sets, micro nutrients, gypsum/pyrite etc. for increasing the production of oilseeds and pulses in the country including Rajasthan. Besides this, Front Line Demonstrations by ICAR and Block Demonstrations by State Department of Agriculture are organized on farmer's field for transfer of improved production and protection technologies.

(e) At present cereal crops are grown in 44% of the cropped area in arid western Rajasthan, while pulses are grown in about 19% area, and oilseeds in 8% area only. The present condition of oilseeds, pulses and other crops in the drought affected areas of Rajasthan is not satisfactory. However, the recent rains might increase the hope of revival of already sown crops of oilseeds and pulses in the state of Rajasthan.

[English]

Construction of Four Lane Highway

4150. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has decided to construct a four-lane highway between Bangalore and Mysore at a cost of Rs. 331 crores;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have agreed to provide assistance to the State under Central Road Fund; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the estimated cost to be incurred thereon by the Union Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.)

B.C. KHANDURI): (a) This Ministry is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways. The National Highway connecting Bangalore and Mysore is not being 4-laned presently. However, as per information received from the Government of Karnataka, the State Government has decided to construct a 4-lane road along the State Highway connecting Bangalore and Mysore at an estimated cost of Rs. 331 crores.

(b) The Government of Karnataka has not requested any assistance from Central Road Funds for this project.

(c) Does not arise.

Programmes Funded by World Bank

4151. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank funded programme on modernisation of Hydrological data collection and updating the accuracy of flood forecasting launched in 1996 and scheduled for completion by March 2002 has been further extended by one more year;

(b) if so, the number of World Bank funded programmes operating in Andhra Pradesh and Uttaranchal;

(c) the progress made on each programme so far;

(d) the amount utilized by the State Government; and

(e) the time by which the programmes are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (e) This pertains to Ministry of Water Resources. The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Sugar Technology Institute in Mau

4152. SHRI BAL KRISHNA CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has since taken over the Sugar Technology Institute Kushmaur located in district Mau in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) if not, the time by which a decision is likely to be taken in this regard;

(d) whether the Government are contemplating to run this Institute as sugar technology institute under the Ministry of Agriculture; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) to (c) The ICAR is contemplating to transfer one of its Institutes namely the National Bureau of Agriculturally Important Microorganisms (NBAIM), presently located at New Delhi to Mau after taking over the National Institute of Sugarcane & Sugar Technology (NISST), Mau from the Department of Food and Public Distribution.

The proposal to transfer the assets and liabilities of NISST, Mau to ICAR is under examination in consultation with the Department of Food and Public Distribution. That Department have been requested to clarify same details relating to financial and other liabilities to work out the modalities for transfer.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Not applicable.

[English]

Construction of Divider on NH-58

4153. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether accidents are increasing on National Highway (NH) No.8 because of non-existence of dividers;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to construct divider on the said NH;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) to (d) No study has been made in respect of accidents on National Highway-8 due to non-existence of central median (divider). Delhi to Jaipur section and Manor to Mumbai section of National Highway-8 have already been upgraded to 4-lane facility with central median.

The remaining stretches of NH-8 are being 4-laned with provision of central median under Golden Quadrilateral of National Highways Development Project (NHDP), by National Highways Authority of India and the projects are targeted for substantial completion by December, 2003.

Bank Guarantee against Issuance of Tickets by Travel Agents

4154. SHRI GUNIPATI RAMAIAH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Airlines has decided to do away with the bank guarantee against the issuance of tickets by the travel agents;

(b) if so, whether IA also allows over trading levels above the bank guarantee to the agents; and

(c) if so, the impact of these measures noticed on boosting sales during the last two months?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) to (c) Indian Airlines has decided to do away with the requirement of a Bank Guarantee in respect of domestic sales in India by an agent whom no irregularity has been recorded for the last 12 consecutive months.

Indian Airlines has taken an insurance cover for sales made in India against credit risk of defaults in payments on domestic sales by its travel agents and on sales on Indo-Nepal, Indo-Male and Indo-Bangladesh sectors by non-IATA agents. This insurance cover is valid for a period of one year from 1st May, 2002 to 30th April, 2003. This has made possible for Indian Airlines to do away with restrictions on sales by agents. In case of non-payment by such agents, insurance company will make good the amounts due to Indian Airlines. With the procedure, the concept of over-trading is no longer valid on domestic sectors.

In respect of international sales made in India, International Air Transport Association (IATA) approved agents furnish a Bank Guarantee to IATA. This Bank Guarantee covers international sales made on any airline by the agent.

Since the insurance cover has been introduced only from 1st May, 2002, its impact on the sales cannot be assessed presently.

Violation of Pollution Norms

4155. DR. N. VENKATASWAMY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pertaining to violation of pollution norms reported in the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the action taken/cases filed against the offenders; and

(c) the progress made with regard to control of pollution during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) The number of cases of violation of pollution norms filed against the offenders as reported by the State Pollution Control Boards during the last three years have been provided in the statement enclosed. The progress made in control of pollution include reduction in number of defaulting industries identified under the 17 categories of highly polluting industries as well as reduction in number of defaulting industries discharging waste water into rivers and lakes. There has also been an increase in the number of Common Effluent Treatment Plants installed.

Statement

*Cases filed during the last three years
as on 31st March, 2002*

Sl.No.	States/Union Territories	No. of cases filed during the last three years
1	2	3
1.	Assam	35
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-
3.	Andhra Pradesh	462
4.	Bihar	9*
5.	Chhattisgarh	-
6.	Goa	-
7.	Gujarat	47
8.	Haryana	-
9.	Himachal Pradesh	-

1	2	3
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	48
11.	Kerala	5
12.	Karnataka	48
13.	Maharashtra	43
14.	Madhya Pradesh	34
15.	Meghalaya	-
16.	Manipur	-
17.	Mizoram	-
18.	Nagaland	-
19.	Orissa	15
20.	Punjab	-
21.	Rajasthan	-
22.	Sikkim	-
23.	Tamil Nadu	-
24.	Tripura	4
25.	Uttar Pradesh	-
26.	Uttaranchal	-
27.	West Bengal	-
28.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	-
29.	Daman Diu & DNH	-
30.	Lakshadweep	-
31.	Delhi	-
32.	Chandigarh	-
33.	Pondicherry	-

* The figure is of two years (April 1999-March 2001) before the bifurcation of State

[Translation]

Scheme for Promotion of Agriculture in U.P.

4156. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate any concrete scheme for promotion of agriculture in Uttar Pradesh during Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the amount likely to be spent in Uttar Pradesh during the said period, year-wise;

(c) the agricultural production likely to be increased in the State as a consequence thereof, year-wise; and

(d) the complete details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) to (d) A number of centrally sponsored schemes such as Macro Management of Agriculture Schemes, On Farm Water Management, Intensive Cotton Development Programme, Oil Seed Production Programme, National Pulse Production Programme and Accelerated Maize Development Programme are being implemented in the State of Uttar Pradesh during Xth Plan. The target for food grain production for 2002-03 for the State of Uttar Pradesh has been kept at 470.15 lakh metric tonnes.

Under the Macro Management Scheme an allocation of Rs. 68.85 crore has been made for Uttar Pradesh. In addition a sum of Rs.16.00 crore under Intensive Cotton Development Programme and a sum of Rs.19.17 crore under On-Farm Water Management Schemes have been allocated for Uttar Pradesh for the year 2002-03. Under the TMOP Scheme a sum of Rs.89.77 lakh has been allocated for year 2002-03. For the remaining period of Xth Plan funds will be allocated on the basis of yearly allocation to be made to the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation by the Planning Commission.

Minimum Support Price for Soyabean

4157. **SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH RAJUKHEDI:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Commission for Agriculture Cost and Prices considers the Minimum Support Price proposed by the Madhya Pradesh Government for soyabean;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government will announce the Support Price for soyabean in accordance with the proposal given by the State Government during 2001-02 and also in the coming years; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) While recommending the minimum support prices (uniform throughout the country) for various agricultural commodities including soyabean (black & yellow), the Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP) takes into account a number of factors like cost of cultivation, demand and supply, input and output prices, the terms of trade for agriculture, inter-crop parity in prices, international prices, etc., and the information elicited through additional Questionnaires from the State Governments and other interest groups on various issues related to the above aspects. The views of the government of Madhya Pradesh have also been taken into consideration.

(b) and (c) The Government fixed the MSPs of Kharif crops including soya bean for the 2001-02 season. The MSP fixed for soyabean (black) is Rs.795 per quintal and for soyabean (yellow) is Rs.885 per quintal. The MSPs have been fixed after taking into account the recommendations of the CACP, views of State Governments including those of Madhya Pradesh and concerned central ministries as well as such other relevant factors, which are considered important for fixation of support prices.

[English]

Construction of National Highways under BOT Scheme

4158. **SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:**

SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:

SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of National Highways undertaken under the Build Operate and Transfer (BOT) scheme in the country particularly in Maharashtra and Karnataka during the Ninth Five Year Plan, State-wise;

(b) the names of the projects completed under BOT scheme in Maharashtra so far;

(c) whether private investors have not shown much interest in construction of roads under BOT scheme in the State;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to attract the private investors in the development of road infrastructure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) Details of National Highways projects undertaken on Built Operate and Transfer (BOT) scheme during the Ninth Five Year Plan are given in the statement enclosed.

(b) Following projects are completed in Maharashtra under BOT scheme :

- (i) Construction of additional 2 lanes with tunnel including strengthening of existing weak 2 lane stretch on NH 4 from km 773/0 to 781/0 in Khanbatki Ghat between Pune and Satara.
- (ii) Construction of R.O.B and its approaches at km 228.00 near village Narelana on NH 3 (Mumbai-Agra road).
- (iii) Construction of Wain ganga Bridge at km 491 of NH 6 (Nagpur-Raipur road).
- (iv) Construction of R.O.B at Nasirabad on NH 6.
- (v) Construction of Patalganga bridge on NH 13.

(c) Private investors have shown much interest

in construction of roads under BOT scheme in the State of Maharashtra.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Following incentives have been offered to attract the private investors in development of road infrastructure.

- (i) 100% tax exemption for 10 years to be availed within 20 years.
- (ii) Concession period allowed upto 30 years
- (iii) Duty free import of modern high capacity equipment for highway construction
- (iv) Government to provide land at no cost and free from all encumbrances
- (v) Government to provide capital grant upto 40% of the project cost to enhance viability, on a case to case basis.
- (vi) National Highways authority of India permitted to participate in equity of BOT projects upto 30% of the total equity.

Further, some projects are also offered on Annuity basis.

Statement

Projects undertaken on BOT

Sl.No.	State	Project
1	2	3
1.	Karnataka	(i) Hubli-Dharwad bypass on NH-4 (ii) Tumkur-Neelmangla (km 62-29.5) section of NH-4 (iii) Maharashtra Border – Belgaum (km. 592-515) section of NH-4
2.	Chhattisgarh	Durg bypass on NH-6
3.	Gujarat	(i) 4 laning from Km.61/4 to 182/4 of NH 8A and Km 185/0 to 216/8 of NH 8B. (ii) Construction of additional 2 lane Narmada bridge at km 193/4-6 on NH 8 (iii) Construction of additional 2 lane Mali bridge at km 92/2-8 on NH8. (iv) Construction of additional 2 lane Watrak bridge between km 33/43 to 42/18 on NH 8.
4.	Rajasthan	(i) Udaipur bypass on NH 8. (ii) Kishangarh ROB on NH 8
5.	Punjab	ROB at Dera Bassi on NH 22.
6.	Andhra Pradesh	(i) Construction of 6 Bridges on Chennai - Vijayawada Section of NH 5. (ii) Ankapalli-Tuni (km 2.8-49) section of NH 5

1	2	3
		(iii) Tuni-Dharmavaram (km 300-253) section of NH 5.
		(iv) Dharmavaram-Rajahmundry (km 253-200) section of NH 5.
		(v) Nellore Bypass (km 178.2-161) NH 5.
		(vi) Nellore-Tada (km 163.6-52.8) section of NH 5.
7.	Tamil Nadu	(i) Korattailayar Bridge on NH 5.
		(ii) Athupalam Bridge and Coimbatore bypass on NH 47
		(iii) Tambaram-Tindivanam (km 28-121) section of NH 45
8.	Maharashtra	(i) Thane-Bhiwandi bypass including widening of existing 2 lane road to 4 lane road & construction of new 2 lane bridge on Kasheli Creek Bridge on NH 3
		(ii) Construction of additional 2 lanes with Tunnel including strengthening existing weak 2 lane stretch on NH 4 from km 773/0 to 781/0 in Khambhatki ghat between Pune and Satara.
		(iii) Road over bridge at km 228.00 near village Nardana on NH 3
		(iv) Wainganga Bridge at km 491 of NH 6 (Nagpur Raipur Road)
		(v) Patalganga Bridge on NH 17
		(vi) ROB at Nasirabad on NH 6
		(vii) Satara-Kagal (km 725-592.24) section of NH 4
9.	West Bengal	(i) Panagarah-Palsit (km 517-581) section of NH 2
		(ii) Palsit-Dankuni (km 581-646) section of NH 2

[Translation]

National Highway No.3

4159. SHRI ASHOK ARGAL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware about collapse of the overbridge being constructed under the conversion of the Agra-Mumbai National Highway-3 into Express Highway near Morena;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have conducted any inquiry into the matter;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof;

(e) the action taken against the company which has been given the contract for the construction of the bridge;

(f) whether there is a provision to cancel the contract;

(g) if so, the time by which the contract is likely to be cancelled; and

(h) the losses incurred as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The four-laning from Km. 70.00 to Km. 85.00 of Agra-Mumbai section of National Highway 3 in the State of Madhya Pradesh is under implementation by National Highways Authority of India (NHAI). The bridge on Asan river in Km. 85.00 near Morena is part of this project. Sub-structure for this bridge has been completed and the superstructure is being done. While casting, one span collapsed on 25th June, 2002 before pre-stressing.

(c) and (d) NHAI has constituted an Expert Team to enquire into the matter. The report is awaited.

(e) It is premature to take action.

(f) Yes, Sir. In the contract agreement there is a provision for termination of the contract on account of non-fulfilment of obligations by the contractor.

(g) and (h) It is too early to give the details.

[English]

Repealing of Forest Conservation Act, 1980 and Environment Protection Act, 1986

4160. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to repeal both Forest Conservation Act, 1980 and the Environment Protection Act, 1986; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Rehabilitation of Displaced Families

4161. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons who encroached upon the forest land in Andaman and Nicobar Islands before and after December 31, 1978 separately and the total area encroached upon by them;

(b) whether any survey has been conducted for ascertaining the total area involved;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any allotment was made to the pre-1978 encroachers and package of rehabilitation was decided for shifting the encroached families to the rehabilitation sites; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) The Andaman and Nicobar Administration has informed that 1367 persons have encroached 2458.983 ha. of forest land prior to 31st December, 1978 and 2271 persons have encroached 2911.79 ha. of forest land after 31st December, 1978. Survey was conducted to ascertain the extent of forest area involved in the encroachment. Encroachments have been reported mainly in South Andaman, Baratang, Middle Andaman, Mayabunder and Diglipur Forest Divisions.

(d) and (e) Central Government has approved one

proposal of Andaman and Nicobar Islands involving 1367 ha. of forest land for regularisation of pre-1978 encroachments under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 on 19.8.1988. One of the condition stipulated was that A.& N. Administration may proceed to lay down individual plots not exceeding 1 ha. for allotment to pre-1978 encroachers.

[Translation]

Cultivation of Medicinal Plant 'Sena'

4162. SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are providing financial as well as technical assistance to the farmers of the country particularly in Rajasthan to boost the cultivation of a medicinal plant "Sena" found in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the name of the disease for the treatment of which the plant "Sena" is used?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Macro Management in Agriculture Supplementation/Complementation of State Efforts through Work Plan in all the States and Union Territories including Rajasthan. The Scheme provides assistance to the farmers for production and technical assistance through training for medicinal & aromatic plants including 'Sena'.

Ministry of Science & Technology has sanctioned a project entitled "Cultivation of Medicinal Plants using biotechnological approaches for the benefit of SC/ST population of the society". Under this project farmers were trained on agro technology of Sena cultivation in various villages around Jodhpur (Rajasthan).

(c) Sena is used as Laxative and Purgative.

National Highways in Delhi

4163. DR. BALIRAM: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state the details of each National Highway originating from the National Capital Territory passing through Delhi alongwith starting and ending points?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.)

B.C. KHANDURI): Five National Highways, viz National Highway Nos. 1, 2, 8, 10 and 24 originate from National

Capital Territory of Delhi and pass through Delhi. The following are the start and end-points of these National Highways.

National Highways No.	Starting Location	End Location	Important Places enroute
1	Delhi	India-Pakistan border at Wagha	Ambala, Amritsar
2	Delhi	Kolkata	Agra, Varanasi, Sasaram
8	Delhi	Mumbai	Jaipur, Ahmedabad
10	Delhi	India-Pakistan border at Sulemanki (Fazilka)	Rohtak, Hissar
24	Delhi	Lucknow	Bareilly, Sitapur

[English]

Market Intervention Scheme for Oil Palm Fresh Fruit Bunches

4164. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have approved the implementation of Market Intervention Scheme for Oil Palm Fresh Fruit Bunches in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the total value of Oil Palm Fresh Fruit Bunches procured by the Government of Karnataka and the share of Union Government's reimbursement thereon;

(c) whether the Government have instructed NAFED for early reimbursement of its share to the Government of Karnataka; and

(d) if so, the time by which the same is likely to be reimbursed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) During 2000 season, Central Government has approved Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for the procurement of 5000 MTs of oil palm in Karnataka. The Government of Karnataka had submitted accounts for 1000.006 MTs for which central share of loss amounting to Rs.2,50,001.50 was released.

During 2001 season, Central Government approved MIS for the procurement of oil palm for the quantity of 8000 MTs for which the State Government has not submi-

tted the accounts for reimbursement of central share of loss.

Hurdles in Disbursement of Loans under PMRY

4165. SHRI P. RAJENDRAN: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Nationalised and Scheduled Banks refuse to disburse the amounts sanctioned to the beneficiaries of PMRY and insist on sureties and securities;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to issue suitable instructions to the Banks to adhere to the guidelines and not to deny financial help to the applicants; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) Under the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY), the individual beneficiaries are not required to furnish collateral sureties/securities for loans upto Rs. 2.00 lakhs for ventures under the industry sector and for loans upto Rs. 1.00 lakhs for service and business sectors. However, a few, complaints relating to the demand for collateral sureties/ securities by some bank branches have been received. These complaints are forwarded to the concerned bank for verification and taking necessary corrective action.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued instructions from time to time to the implementing banks to adhere to the norms laid down regarding the non-

insistence of collateral sureties/securities and to disburse loans within the stipulated time.

Aims/Objectives of Agricultural Extension Programme

4166. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of aims and objectives and Agricultural Extension Programme;

(b) the details of the schemes running with foreign assistance under the programme; and

(c) the present status of the schemes and the States involved in their implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) The Agricultural Extension Programmes are aimed at providing effective mechanism for technology dissemination to the farmers to facilitate increased productivity and income.

(b) and (c) Two externally aided extension schemes are being implemented by the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation as detailed below:

1. Innovations in Technology Dissemination (ITD) component of World Bank assisted National Agricultural Technology Project (NATP)

It is being implemented since November, 1998 in seven States namely Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Orissa and Punjab covering four districts in each. New institutional arrangements for technology dissemination are operationalised by establishing Agricultural Technology Management Agencies (ATMAs) as autonomous bodies at district level representing stakeholders responsible for technology generation and dissemination.

- ATMAs have been established in 28 districts across 7 project States and 24 have become operational. The remaining four districts—three in Jharkhand (Jamtara, Palamu and West Singhbhum) and one in Bihar (Rural Patna)—are in process of being operationalised.

- The total base cost of ITD component of National Agriculture Technology Project is Rs.124.37 crores for the period - November 1998 to December, 2003. So far an amount of Rs.45.43

crores has been released to the Project Implementing Agencies (PIAs).

2. Food Security Programme Funded by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) :

- This Programme is being implemented with effect from February, 1998 with a total budget outlay of Rs.45.12 crore. The sub programmes being implemented include: (i) Development and large-scale adoption of hybrid rice, (ii) Maize-based cropping system for food security in India, (iii) Sustainable dry-land agriculture by Mahila Sanghams in Andhra Pradesh, (iv) Empowerment of women farmers for food security in Uttar Pradesh, (v) Strengthening sustainable livelihoods & natural resource management for women of tribal Orissa, (vi) Supplementary sub-programme on additional support to cyclone affected districts of Orissa and (vii) Sub-programme on management support for food security.

- The sub-programmes are being implemented in selected districts in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan and Bihar. So far an amount of Rs.23.23 crores has been released to the project implementing agencies.

All the sub-programmes except the one on Development and large-scale adoption of hybrid rice - have been extended for another 2 years i.e. up to December, 2004.

Visit of Foreign Tourists

4167. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that foreign tourists who visit the Kullu valley patronise illegal cultivators of Cannabis; and

(b) if so, the preventive steps proposed by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) The Himachal Pradesh Government has informed that there are inputs that some foreigners who are consumers and traffickers and provide monetary support to cultivators of Cannabis.

- (b) (i) A Special Cell has been constituted to prevent/detect and investigate the offences under the Narcotics Drugs & Psychotropic Substances Act in Kullu district.

- (ii) Effective steps are being taken by the Police to prevent/detect and prosecute those who are indulging in cultivation.

Cost of Milk Production

4168. SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of cost of milk production in each State of the country (in Rs./Litre) alongwith the cost of labour per litre of milk, State-wise; and

- (b) the details about changed cost of milk production during the last three years and the share of feed cost and labour cost in those years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The cost of production surveys are not being conducted by all the States due to lack of resources.

However, the cost of production of milk (Rs./kg), cost of labour/kg. of milk, share of feed cost and labour cost as per the recent surveys conducted by Haryana, West Bengal and Himachal Pradesh are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Cost of milk production, cost of labour/kg of milk, share of feed cost and labour to Gross cost.

Cow Milk

State/Items	Haryana		West Bengal		Himachal Pradesh	
	1995-96	1996-97	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
Gross Cost of milk (Rs. /kg)	6.46	7.50	9.32	10.08	10.67	11.18
Labour cost (Rs./kg)	1.49	1.83	2.29	2.39	2.16	2.28
Share of feed cost to Gross cost (%)	71	73	64	65	74	74
Share of labour cost to Gross cost (%)	23	24	25	24	20	20

Buffalo Milk

State/Items	Haryana		Himachal Pradesh	
	1995-96	1996-97	1998-99	1999-2000
Gross Cost of milk (Rs. /kg)	9.03	10.03	13.07	13.87
Labour cost (Rs./kg)	2.03	2.36	2.36	2.46
Share of feed cost to Gross cost (%)	72	73	77	78
Share of labour cost to Gross cost (%)	22	24	18	18

Inclusion of Bhavani-Kooduthurai in Tourist Map

4169. SHRI K. K. KALIAPPAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have any proposal to include Bhavani-Kooduthurai a famous tourist place in Erode district in the All India Tourist Map in near future; and

- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the funds earmarked for the same?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) The All India Tourism Map produced by the Department of Tourism is a compilation of popular major tourist centres of the country. The identification of Tourism Centres for inclusion in the All India Tourism Map is primarily the responsibility of State Governments/Union Territory Administration.

(b) The scheme-wise allocation of funds for tourism projects for the Tenth Five Year Plan have not yet been approved by Planning Commission.

**Casual Labours in Central Government
Office in Delhi**

4170. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the daily wages being paid to casual labours in Central Government offices in Delhi/New Delhi;

(b) whether the wages of these casual labours are to be fixed/revised at least twice a year;

(c) if so, the reasons as to why their wages could not be revised for the last two years; and

(d) the time by which the wages are likely to be revised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) to (d) As per the Department of Personnel & Training's O.M. No. 49014/2/86- Estt. (C) dated 7.6.88 where the nature of work entrusted to the casual workers and regular employees is the same, the casual workers may be paid at the rate of 1/30th of the pay at the minimum of the relevant pay scales plus dearness allowance for work of 8 hours a day. In cases where the work done by a casual worker is different from the work done by a regular employee and is a scheduled employment, the casual worker may be paid only the minimum wages notified by the Ministry of Labour or the State Government/Union Territory Administration, whichever is higher, as per the Minimum Wages Act, 1948. In case of casual employees working in a scheduled employment in central sphere, variable dearness allowance is revised twice in a year in April & October on the basis of average rise or fall in Consumer Price Index Number with 1982 as the base. As and when rates of DA change in respect of Central Government employees, the rates of wages of casual employees performing same nature of work also get automatically revised.

Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi last revised the rates of daily wage labourers employed in various offices of National Capital Territory of Delhi under Minimum Wages Act, 1948 on 7th June 2000 vide their letter No. F.13 (13)/96-Fin (G) (copy enclosed as statement).

Statement

No. F.13(13)/96 - Fin. (G) 179-278
Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi
Finance General Department
S. Sham Nath Marg, Delhi-54

June 7, 2000

To

1. All Secretaries/Joint Secretaries/Under Secretaries, Govt. of NCT of Delhi.
2. All Heads of Departments, GNCT of Delhi/New Delhi.
3. All Autonomous Bodies/Undertaking under the National Capital Territory of Delhi.

Sub.: Revision of rates of daily wages labours employed in various offices of National Capital Territory of Delhi under Minimum Wages Act, 1948.

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to refer to this office letter No. F.13(13)/96-Fin. (G) dated 07/10.6.99 on the above cited subject and to say that w.e.f. 01/02/2000, the rates of wages for Casual Labours employed by various departments of this Govt. at Delhi/New Delhi will be as under:

1. For General Labour employed in Department/Offices observing Six day week

(a) Unskilled	Rs. 93.00 per day
(b) Semi-skilled	Rs. 99.40 per day
(c) Skilled	Rs. 109.35 per day

Clerical and Non-Technical Supervisory Staff.

(a) Non Matriculate	Rs. 100.50 per day
(b) Matriculate but not Graduate	Rs. 110.25 per day
(c) Graduate and above	Rs. 122.25 per day

The above rates are inclusive of the payment for weekly days of rest for which no separate payments is to be made. However, if the workers are asked to work on these weekly off/holidays they will be entitled to normal wages referred to above, provided their working hours are same as during the normal working days.

2. For Casual labours employed in Departments/Offices observing five days week.

(a) Unskilled	Rs 111.60 per day
(b) Semi-skilled	Rs. 119.28 per day
(c) Skilled	Rs. 131.22 per day
(a) Non Matriculate	Rs. 120.60 per day
(b) Matriculate but not Graduate	Rs. 132.30 per day
(c) Graduate and above	Rs. 146.70 per day

The above rates are inclusive of the payments of two weekly holidays for which no separate payment is to be made. However, if the workers are asked to work on these weekly off./holidays, they are entitled to the normal wages referred to above, provided their working hours are same as during the normal working days. All the Heads of Departments are requested to follow these rates and accordingly pay the wages to the casual labours employed in their departments/offices.

This issue with concurrence of Secretary (Finance), Govt. of N.C.T. of Delhi.

Sd/-
(Prem Chand)
Dy. Secretary Finance (G)

F.13(13)/96/Fin.(G)/179-278

Dated: June 7, 2000

Copy to:

1. The Secretary, Min. of Home Affairs, Govt. of India, North Block, New Delhi.
2. The Secretary to the Govt. of India, Ministry of Labour & Rehabilitation (Department of Labour) New Delhi.

Sd/-
(Prem Chand)
Dy. Secretary Finance (G)

Sustainable Development of Tourism

4171. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has commissioned independent agencies in each State for a 20 year perspective plan for sustainable development of tourism;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any agency has already submitted its draft report;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon; and

(e) the details of coordination among the States in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. 15 consultancy firms/agencies have been commissioned to prepare 20 year perspective plans for sustainable development of tourism in 33 States/UTs.

(c) and (d) Draft reports in respect of 27 States/UTs have been submitted by the agencies. These have been referred to the respective State Government/UT Administration for comments.

(e) Coordination among the States at the stage of preparing perspective plan for each State is not envisaged.

Tourism Projects of Himachal Pradesh

4172. COL. (RETD.) DR. DHANI RAM SHANDIL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of tourism projects undertaken in Himachal Pradesh with reference to Shimla during the last five years;

(b) the number of projects pending with the Government; and

(c) the time by which the projects are likely to be given clearance?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) Sixty three tourism projects were sanctioned during the last five years in Himachal Pradesh including Shimla.

(b) and (c) Projects not sanctioned by 31st March in any year are sanctioned in subsequent year only if these are re-identified in consultation with State Governments. During the current financial year, Integrated Development of Kullu-Manali-Lahaul/Spiti-Leh monastic circuit has been identified for sanction.

Welfare Schemes for Labourers

4173. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK:

SHRI C.N. SINGH:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes initiated by the Government for the welfare/benefit of the labourers;

(b) the amount spent on the schemes during each of the last three years and current year till date;

(c) whether the Government have decided to enhance minimum amount of compensation for death payable under the Workman's Compensation Act, 1923;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the other benefits available in case of death in harness?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) and (b) A number of legislations have been enacted viz., the Maternity Benefits Act, 1961; the Minimum Wages Act, 1948; the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923; the Equal Remuneration Act, 1976 and the Employees Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 etc. to protect the interest of labourers. The Government is implementing various welfare schemes in the area of health care, education, housing, insurance, water supply and recreation etc. for certain categories of workers i.e. beedi, cine and certain non-coal mine workers under the Welfare Funds set-up by the Government. A statement containing the total amount spent during last three years is enclosed.

Further, the Government is also implementing a number of Plan schemes through various Ministries/ Departments like Swarnajayanti Gram Swarajgar Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, Sampooran Gramin Rojgar Yojana for rural workers, Work-shed-cum-Housing Scheme, Thrift Fund Scheme, Health Package Scheme, Insurance Scheme for handloom weavers and Insurance Scheme for Khadi Workers etc.

(c) to (e) Under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923 the Government has enhanced the minimum amount of compensation from Rs.60,000 to Rs. 90,000 in case of permanent total disablement. Under the amended Act the ceiling on minimum amount of compensation has been enhanced from Rs.2.28 lakh to Rs. 4.56 lakh in case of

death and that for permanent total disablement from Rs. 2.74 lakh to Rs. 5.48 lakh. The revised rates of compensation have come in force with effect from 8.12.2000.

Statement

Amount Spent during last three years and upto June 2002 on Labour Welfare Schemes

(Rs. in Crores)

Fund	Years			
	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003 (upto 6/02)
BEEDI*	35.37	49.48	50.63	12.01
LSDM*	3.83	4.20	5.03	.83
IMC*	6.78	7.32	7.88	1.30
MICA*	1.33	1.15	1.23	0.30
CINE *	0.20	0.81	0.51	0.05
BEEDI*	- The Beedi Workers Welfare Fund Act, 1976			
LSDM*	- The Lime Stone & Dolomite Mines Labour Welfare Fund Act, 1972			
IMC*	- The Iron Ore, Manganese Ore and Chrome Ore Mines Labour Welfare Fund Act, 1976			
MICA*	- The Mica Mines Labour Welfare Fund Act, 1946			
CINE*	- The Cine Workers Welfare Fund Act, 1981			

Meeting of Cauvery Monitoring Committee

4174. DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have convened a meeting of the Cauvery Monitoring Committee recently on the directions of the Supreme Court; and

(b) if so, the details of issues discussed in the meeting and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Monitoring Committee discussed the distress caused due to sluggish monsoon on 09.08.2002 and recommended that Karnataka may release water in accordance with the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal (CWDT) order dated April, 03, 1992 on pro-rata basis keeping in view the distress situation.

Smuggling of Snake Venom

4175. SHRI C. SREENIVASAN:

SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:

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

(a) whether the smuggling of Snake Venom and snake related materials is rampant in the country;

(b) if so, the details of cases which have come to the notice of the Union Government during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the action taken by the Union Government in this regard;

(d) whether the Union Government propose to bring any fresh law to make the punishment of smuggling of snake venom and snake materials more stringent; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Incidences of smuggling of snake skins and other derivatives are detected from time to time. Prevention of smuggling in wild life and its products is the primary responsibility of the State Governments. State-wise details of cases of seizures are not maintained at the level of the Central Government. However, few

important cases detected during the last three years are given in the statement enclosed.

(c) Action taken by the Central Government to prevent smuggling of snake venom and articles are as follows:

1. Hunting of snake species mentioned in the Schedules of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 is prohibited.
2. Trade in certain rare and endangered species of snakes and articles made from them is prohibited.
3. Export and Import of snake, its parts and products and derivatives is prohibited.
4. Trade in snake venom is regulated as per the provisions of the Wild, Life (protection) Act, 1972.
5. Government of India has set up Regional and Sub-regional Offices for wild life preservation in major export and trade centres of the country to prevent smuggling of wild animals and their products.
6. Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has empowered under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 to apprehend and prosecute wild life offenders. Anti poaching/trading efforts are being coordinated with INTERPOL.

(d) There is no proposal to bring any fresh law to make smuggling of snake venom and articles more stringent.

(e) Does not arise.

Statement

Seizure of snake venom and articles by the wild life enforcement officials during the last three years.

Sl No.	Date/Year	Items seized	Quantity seized
1	2	3	4
1	13.6.2000	Snake skins	1757 numbers
2	13.7.2000	Snake skins	1029 numbers and 3 pieces of garments made of snake skins

	2	3	4
3	2.3.2001	Snake skins	14 numbers
4	15.3.2001	Snake skins	145 numbers
5	14.2.2002	Snake skins	80 numbers
6	30.7.2002	Snake venom	912 grams

Singatlur-Huligu Lift Irrigation Scheme

4176. **SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:** Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has sent for clearance to the Union Government Singatlur-Huligu Lift Irrigation Scheme to enable Karnataka to utilise 7.64 tmc. of water;

(b) if so, whether the proposal has not yet been cleared by the Government;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time which the proposal is likely to be accorded approval?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) The Detailed Project Report of Singatlur (Huligudda) Lift Irrigation Scheme received from Government of Karnataka for techno-economic appraisal in Central Water Commission (CWC) is under correspondence with the State Government. The State Government has to comply with various comments of CWC/Central Agencies for establishing techno-economic viability of the scheme.

(d) Clearance of irrigation project proposals is linked to the promptness with which the State Governments comply with the outstanding observations of the various Central Appraising Agencies.

[Translation]

Water Shortage for Irrigation

4177. **SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH:**

SHRI SURESH CHANDEL:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state.

(a) whether there is acute shortage of water for irrigation in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, whether conservancy work in various ponds, canals and rivers in the country has not been undertaken for the last many years;

(c) if so, whether the Government have formulated any time bound action plan in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (d) Yes Sir. The storages in 70 important reservoirs being monitored by Central Water Commission comprise 74% of total storages of the country. As on 2nd August, 2002, the storage in these reservoirs is 23.37 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM) which is 18% of the total designed live storage capacity of these reservoirs and only 40% of the average storage in these reservoirs in last 10 years. The State Governments have been advised to take appropriate measures for efficient and economic use of water particularly for irrigation projects.

Water being a state subject, all water conservation works are planned, funded and executed by the State Governments from their own resources. The rainwater harvesting technology through percolation tanks check dams, gabion structure, dug well recharge structure, recharge shafts, roof top rainwater collection are some of the means of rainwater conservation. Improving the efficiency of irrigation water use which is the largest consumer of water through modernization and renovation of the existing canals, dams, better water management practices etc. is being practiced through Extension, Renovation and Modernisation scheme, which are also being funded under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP).

Besides, water saving methods like sprinkler and drip are effective in achieving higher irrigation efficiencies which are being promoted under Command Area Development Programme of Ministry of Water Resources.

Infrastructure Development Fund

4178. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Infrastructure Development Fund for the development of Roads alongwith the details of benefit to be achieved thereby;

(b) the details of increase registered in private investment as a result of the constitution of the said fund;

(c) the names of domestic and foreign institutions which have approached the Government for investment or providing loan for roads;

(d) whether the Government have started charging toll-tax on all the National Highways having four lanes, by-passes and major bridges; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) and (b) There is no fund by the name of Infrastructure Development Fund for roads. The Finance Minister in his Budget speech for the year 2002-2003 announced for setting up of an Infrastructure Equity Fund of Rs.1000 crores. The contributions to the Fund to be managed by Infrastructure Development Finance Company Ltd. (IDFC) would be initially made by public sector insurance companies, financial institutions (FIs) and some banks. IDFC has prepared a concept paper which is being discussed with banks/FIs. The details of the scheme are yet to be finalised.

(c) No domestic or foreign institution has approached the Government for investment for providing loan for roads. Generally, the Government approaches to the foreign funding institutions for providing loan for roads.

(d) Yes, Sir. The Government has decided to levy user fee on:

- (i) Four lane sections of National Highways
- (ii) All bridges costing more than Rs. 100 lakh each completed and opened to traffic after 1st May, 1992 but before 4th December, 2001 and all bridges costing more than Rs. 500 lakh each completed on or after 4th December, 2001.

(iii) Road improvement projects, bridges and bypasses taken up on BOT.

(e) Statement is enclosed.

Statement

Details of Four Lane National Highways Section, Bypasses and Major Bridges where User Fee is being charged.

National Highways Four lane sections

Sl.No.	Four lane Section	NH No
1	2	3
1.	Haryana	
	Panipat-Ambala (110 Km)	1
2.	Haryana/ Punjab	
	Ambala-Khanna (66 Km)	1
3.	Punjab	
	Khanna-Jalandhar (100 Km)	1
4.	Delhi/ Haryana	
	Delhi-Agra (90 Km)	2
5.	Haryana/Uttar Pradesh	
	Delhi-Agra (90 Km)	2
6.	Jharkhand/West Bengal	
	Barwa Adda-Panagarh (114 Km)	2
7.	Haryana/Rajasthan	
	Gurgaon-Kotputli (126 Km)	8
8.	Rajasthan	
	Kotputli-Amer (86.5 Km)	8
9.	West Bengal	
	Palsit-Dhankuni (65 Km)	2
10.	Orissa	
	Bhubneshwar-Jagatpur (28 Km)	5
11.	Gujarat	
	Baroda-Surat (65 Km)	8

1	2	3
12.	Andhra Pradesh	
	Vijayawada-Visakhapatnam section (46.2 Km)	5

Bypasses

Sl.No.	Section	NH No.
1.	Uttar Pradesh	
	Moradabad Bypass (18 Km)	24
2.	Andhra Pradesh	
	Eluru Bypass (15.4 Km)	5
3.	Maharashtra	
	Thane-Bhiwandi Bypass	3

Bridges/ROBs

Sl.No.	Bridge/ROB	NH No.
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	
	Keesara Bridge, Nandigama	9
	Vamsadhara Bridge, Srikakulam	5
	Bridge across river at Km. 76/4, 79/4 & 110/4-6, Nellor	5
	Rudram Bridge Hyderabad	9
	Kanakadurgamma-Varodi bridge	5
2.	Bihar	
	M.G. Setu, Patna	19
	Duliya Nala Bridge, Ranjoli	31
	Kari Koshi Bridge, Purnea	31
3.	Chattisgarh	
	Shakti Nalla Bridge, Raipur	6
4.	Gujarat	
	Bhadar, Raidharo & Putarali Bridges, Upleta	8B

1	2	3
	Vatrak Bridge	8
	Sabarmati Bridge/LR, Ahmedabad	8 A
	Mahi Bridge	8
	Narmada Bridge, Zadeshwar	8
5.	Karnataka	
	Kali Setu, Karwar	17
	Sharavathi Bridge, Karwar	17
	Hagari Bridge-Chitradurga Hospet	63
	V.V. Bridge, Bangalore	48
6.	Kerala	
	Kumbalam-Panagadu Kumbalam-Aroor Bridge	47
	Kundanoor Bridge	47A
	Varapuzha, Kottapuram, Chettuva and Puthuponnani Bridge	17
	Nellippuzha Bridge	213
7.	Madhya Pradesh	
	Hiran Bridge, Jabalpur	12
	Tilwarghat Bridge, Jabalpur	7
	Parwati Bridge, Obaidulla Ganj	12
	Degree Nalla Bridge	3
	Assan Bridge	3
	Kshipra Bridge, Indore	3
8.	Maharashtra	
	Wadakkal Bridge	13
	Savitri Bridge	17
	Hattur Nalla Bridge	13
	Sina Bridge	9
	Waghadi Bridge	7

1	2	3
	Patalganga Bridge	17
9.	Manipur	
	Liong Bridge, Imphal	39
	Senapati Bridge, Imphal	39
10.	Assam	
	Gangadhar Bridge, Abhayapuri	31
	Kaliabhor Bridge, Jakhala Bandha	37A
11.	Orissa	
	Maltijore Bridge, Sambalpur	42
	Bhramani Bridge, Banki	23
	Bandhon Bridge, Joshipur	6
	Malguni Bridge, Khurda	5
	Lingara Nallah Bridge, Angul	42
12.	Punjab	
	New Sutlej Bridge, Ludhiana	1
13.	Rajasthan	
	Banganga Bridge, Jaipur	11 A
	Banas/Tonk Bridge, Jaipur	12
	Chander Bhaga, Jhalawada	12
	ROB, Reengus	11
14.	Tamil Nadu	
	Annai Indira Gandhi Bridge Ramanathapuram	49
	Pallar Bridge, Changalpattu	45
	High Level Bridge Km. 271, Namkkal	7
	Vagaikulam Km. 38/6, Tutthkudi (Tuticorin)	7 A
15.	Uttaranchal	
	Kosi Setu	74

1	2	3
	Cable Stayed Bridge, Haridwar	58
	Chandighat Setu, Haridwar	74
	Pathar, Gad Setu	94
	Song Setu, Rishikesh-Dehradun	72
16.	Uttar Pradesh	
	Yamuna Bridge, Kalpi, Kanpur	25
	Sai Bridge, Varanasi	56
	Sarain Setu, Sitapur	24
	Ami Setu, Gorakhpur	29
	Kali Setu, Ghaziabad	24
	Khajuri Bridge, Varanasi	7
	Besso Bridge, Ghazipur	29
	Garrah Setu Bridge, Shahjapur	24
	Subhas Setu, NH-96, Sultanpur	96
	Hamirpur Bridge, Kanpur	86
	Rihand Bridge, Mirzapur	76
	Kanahar Bridge, Mirzapur	7
	Chambal Bridge, Aligarh	92
	Veer Abdul Hamid Setu, Ghazipur	97
	Chander Shekhar Azad, Allahabad	96
	Yamuna River Setu, Meerut	73
	Manjhighat (Pontoon Bridge/Ferry) Ghazipur	19
	Sasur Khaderi, Allahabad	2
	Shastri, Allahabad	2
	Kana River Setu, Banda	76

[English]

Rehabilitation Centre for Handicapped

4179. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Professional Rehabilitation Centres for physically challenged persons in each State;

(b) the function of such Centres and the existing norms for opening them; and

(c) the number of physically challenged persons admitted in the Rehabilitation Centres in each State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) to (c) Ministry of Labour has set up 17 Vocational Rehabilitation Centres (VRC) for physically challenged persons in 16 States of the country to evaluate the residual capacity of persons with disabilities and help them in skill development and economic rehabilitation through wage paid/self-employment. These VRCs act as prime movers for the organisations located in the States/UTs. The number of such persons admitted in these VRCs during the year 2001 is given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

Number of Physically Challenged persons admitted by the Vocational Rehabilitation Centres during 2001

S.No.	Location of VRC	State	Number admitted
1	Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh	3291
2	Guwahati	Assam	1303
3	Patna	Bihar	2103
4	New Delhi	Delhi	1475
5	Ahmedabad	Gujarat	2156
6	Vadodara	Gujarat	780
7	Bangalore	Karnataka	1703
8	Trivandrum	Kerala	1625
9	Jabalpur	Madhya Pradesh	2998
10	Bombay	Maharashtra	1828
11	Bhubneshwar	Orissa	1467
12	Ludhiana	Punjab	1577
13	Jaipur	Rajasthan	1814
14	Chennai	Tamil Nadu	2319
15	Agartala	Tripura	878
16	Kanpur	Uttar Pradesh	3831
17	Calcutta	West Bengal	1930

Dugda Basin Drainage Scheme

4180. DR. NITISH SENGUPTA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of Dugda Basin Drainage Scheme in Contai Sub Division of Midnapore District of West Bengal;

(b) whether any comprehensive master plan are proposed for its implementation; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) As per information furnished by the Government of West Bengal, the Dugda Basin Drainage Scheme in Contai Sub-Division of Midnapore district of West Bengal was taken up by the State Government in 1971-1972 and the completion report of the scheme was furnished in 1988-1989. The scheme after its completion served the purpose efficiently.

(b) and (c) The Government of West Bengal has informed that there is no such proposal. But investigation works have been taken up for improvement of the scheme so as to increase the efficiency.

Lab to Land Programme by ICAR

4181. SHRI SAIDUZZAMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether as part of ICAR Golden Jubilee celebration a Lab to Land Programme was launched;

(b) if so, whether the scientists who originate this programme have been suitably recognised and honoured; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir. The Governing Body of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) in its meeting held in August 1978 decided to commemorate 1979 as its Golden Jubilee Year for transfer of technology from the laboratories to the fields under the programme designated as 'LAB to LAND' Programme.

(b) and (c) Question does not arise, Sir.

Professionalism in IA

4182. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Airlines has not been able to offer services at par with private airlines;

(b) whether Indian Airlines still implement old regulations like not honouring one-year old tickets, delay refunds and generally adopt a bureaucratic approach to passengers requests; and

(c) if so, the steps Indian Airlines propose to initiate to improve its work culture?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) Indian Airlines services and facilities are generally in line with industry practices, including those of Private Airlines.

(b) and (c) Domestic tickets of Indian Airlines are valid for travel for one year from the date of issue. The validity of period earlier was for six months. Refund is permitted within two years from the date of issue and is effected on the basis of channel through which the ticket was purchased like cash purchase, travel agent, credit card etc.

Multi-Sensor Airborne Surveys

4183. SHRI KOLUR BASAVANAGOUD: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Geological Survey of India has requested the Government to relax restrictions in regard to maintenance of flying altitudes to facilitate carrying out multi-sensor airborne surveys; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Requests from Geological Survey of India for relaxation of the minimum altitude for flying are being received in the Directorate General of Civil Aviation from time to time. Such requests are approved based on the merits of the respective cases.

Cultural Complex at Kokrajhar

4184. SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISW-MUTHIARY: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to create necessary infrastructure for the development of Tourism on the Northern Bank of the river Brahmaputra under the foothills of Bhutan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government have any proposal to establish a Bodo Cultural Complex cum Film Studio at Kokrajhar on the Pattern of "Shankar Kalakshetra and Jyoti Chitra Ban, Guwahati" with the Central Fund, in order to preserve and protect the rich ancient Bodo Culture and Heritage;

(e) if so, the action taken so far in this regard; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (c) Development and promotion of places of tourist interest/centres is primarily undertaken by the State/UT Governments themselves. However, the Department of Tourism, Govt. of India provides funds for the identified projects in consultation with the States/Union Territories every year.

During the 10th Five Year Plan the Department of Tourism, Govt. of India proposes to identify travel circuits in the country on an annual basis and develop them to international standards. These circuits will be finalised and developed in close coordination and partnership with the State/UT Governments and the concerned Government of India Departments. In addition to this it is proposed to identify one major destination in each State/Union Territory for overall development each year. In this regard, proposals have been invited from all the State Governments/UT Administrations including the State of Assam.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Maintenance of Arms/Ammunition Kept in Forts

4185. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey on the maintenance and use of arms/ammunition and explosive materials lying in the famous historical Fort of the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) The details of arms and ammunition and explosive materials lying in the forts under the jurisdiction of the Archaeological Survey of India are noted in the statement enclosed.

Statement

Sl.No.	Name of Monument/Fort/Site	Details
1.	Ranthambore Fort, Distt. Sawai Madhopur, Rajasthan	Some Sulphur Powder is lying in one of the rooms at Hamir Palace, Ranthambhore Fort
2.	Chitradurga Fort, Karnataka	Gun-powder grinders are available in Chitradurga Fort
3.	(a) Fort St. George, Chennai, Tamil Nadu	Only canons are preserved.
	(b) Fort, Gingee, Villuppuram District, Tamil Nadu	
	(c) Fort on Rock (Pallapatti), Dindigul, Dindigul District, Tamil Nadu	
	(d) Fort and Cemetery, Sadras, Kanchipuram Distt., Tamil Nadu	
	(e) Fort, Ranjankudi, Perambalur District, Tamil Nadu	
	(f) Big Cannon (Rajagopal Cannon) in the East Rampart, Thanjavur, Thanjavur Distt. Tamil Nadu	
	(g) Fort, Thirumayam, Pudukkottai Distt. Tamil Nadu	
	(h) Fort Vellore, Vellore Distt., Tamil Nadu	
	(i) Arcot Cannon (near Masjid), Arcot, Vellore Distt., Tamil Nadu	
4.	(a) Daulatabad Fort, Distt. Aurangabad, Maharashtra	Guns, canons, swords, etc. are stored.
	(b) Raigad Fort, Distt. Raigad, Maharashtra	
	(c) Sion Fort, Distt. Mumbai, Maharashtra	
	(d) Vijaydurg, Distt. Sindhudurg, Maharashtra	
	(e) Sindhudurg Fort, Distt. Sindhudurg	

Pilot Project under 'On Farm Water Management Scheme'

for ground water exploration and water augmentation;

4186. SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the Government propose to complete the above scheme?

(a) whether Bihar has been included in the pilot project under the 'On Farm Water Management Scheme'

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) There is no pilot project of Govt. of India under 'On Farm Water Management Scheme' for ground water exploration and water augmentation. However, a centrally sponsored scheme of 'On Farm Water Management for Increasing Crop Production in Eastern India' is under implementation in ten eastern States including Bihar.

(b) The details of the scheme are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) The scheme is approved for continuation during the entire X Five Year Plan period.

Statement***Details of Centrally Sponsored Scheme of "On Farm Water Management for increasing crop production in Eastern India"*****For increasing crop production in Eastern India**

(i) **The Scheme:** A new centrally sponsored scheme of "On-Farm Water Management for increasing Crop Production in Eastern India" has been launched during 2001-02 for implementation in all the districts of the States of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Mizoram, Orissa, Bihar, Jharkhand and Chattisgarh. Besides, 35 districts of Eastern Uttar Pradesh and 9 districts of West Bengal have also been included in the scheme. The new centrally sponsored scheme of "On-Farm Water Management for increasing Crop Production in Eastern India" has been formulated to increase the production and productivity of not only kharif and rabi/summer rice but it will also facilitate the farmers to adopt diversified agricultural activities such as growing vegetables, fodder crops, oilseeds, pulses etc. The primary focus of the scheme is on the exploitation of ground/surface water and efficient utilization for increasing productivity in the eastern region resulting ultimately in fetching higher income and reduction in poverty of the farmers of the region. The scheme would be for individual/group of farmers of the ten States.

(ii) **Components of the Scheme:** The components of the scheme are as follows:

Assistance for installation of Shallow Tube Wells with pump sets for individual/group of farmers,

Assistance for community lift irrigation points (LIP) to groups of farmers,

Assistance for electric/diesel water pumping sets to individual farmers and

Assistance for dug wells in the plateau regions only.

(iii) **Nature of the scheme, implementation period and implementing agency:** The scheme is a back-ended credit linked scheme and is being implemented through NABARD in coordination with the State Governments of the ten eastern Indian States.

(iv) **Funding pattern and GOI assistance:** The funding pattern of the scheme will be at 20:50:30 basis i.e., 20% of the average unit cost will be the contribution of the beneficiaries, 50% of the average unit cost as loan from commercial/cooperative/Regional Rural Banks and the remaining 30% being the assistance from Government of India as subsidy. The average unit cost of each component is given by Regional Cost Committee of NABARD and varies from State to State.

(v) **Implementation period:** The scheme has been launched during 2001-02 and will continue during the entire X Five year plan. At the end of the X Plan period, with the implementation of the scheme, an additional irrigation potential of about 34 lakh ha. will be created.

(vi) **Benefits envisaged :** With the implementation of the scheme, assured irrigation at the command of the farmers will be made available by which significant increase in the production and productivity of rabi crops/ summer rice is achievable. With the availability of assured irrigation, the nursery raising during kharif season will be advanced and an additional yield @ 1 tonne per ha. will be achieved. Besides, farmers will be able to adopt crop diversification by including pulses & oilseeds and other horticultural crops.

[English]

Racket of Export Rice at Kandla Port

4187. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a racket of illegal export of rice was unearthed by CISF at Kandla Port in Gujarat;

(b) if so, whether any enquiry was made in this matter.

(c) if so, the details of the enquiry alongwith the action taken thereon; and

(d) the precautionary measures are proposed by the Government to curb such happening in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Suicide by Farmers

4188. SHRI Y.V. RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the recommendations of the Veeresh Committee set up to study causes of suicide by farmers in the country; and

(b) the action taken to implement the recommendations including setting up of a welfare fund?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The Government of Karnataka is concerned in the matter. The State Government have informed that the Committee has made 26 recommendations which are under examination.

[Translation]

Construction of Border Road

4189. MOHAMMAD ANWARUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to construct a border road covering Sitamarhi and Sheohar upto Motihari in Bihar along the border areas of Nepal; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) and (b) This Ministry is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways and does not construct border roads. Sitamarhi-Sheohar section of Sitamarhi-Sheohar-Motihari road is already part of newly declared National Highway No. 104. Work of improvement of riding quality in a length

of 22 km. at an estimated cost of Rs. 298.66 lakhs and special repair work of one bridge at an estimated cost of Rs.16.84 lakhs have been sanctioned on this section of National Highway. Further development works shall be taken up in phased manner as per traffic need, inter-se priority and availability of funds. Portion Sheohar to Motihari of Sitamarhi-Sheohar-Motihari road is not part of National Highway network and responsibility of its development rests with the State Government.

Seeds Prepared from Radio Activity

4190. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have given clearance to the process of patenting the seeds prepared from radio activity;

(b) if so, the names of the seeds patented under it;

(c) whether any precautions have been observed to counter the ill-effect of radio activity; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Radiation is used mainly to induce variability in a crop variety. Only in the initial stage are the seeds exposed to a small dose of gamma radiation. There is no induced radioactivity in the seeds. The treated seeds are grown for several generations without being subjected to radiation treatment. When a variety is released for commercial cultivation, no ill effects are expected or observed. These seeds/plants do not contain any radioactivity.

[English]

Fisheries Regulation Legislation

4191. SHRI SURESH KURUP: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are planning to enact Fisheries Regulation Legislation for the entire EEZ as recommended by the Majumdar Committee of 1978 and Murari Committee of 1997 for the conservation of fish resources and protection of traditional fishermen;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Fisheries in territorial waters is State subject. Formulation of policy guidelines on fishing in the territorial waters under jurisdiction of all States except Gujarat has been accomplished with the promulgation of Marine Fishing Regulation Acts (MFRAs) as recommended by the Majumdar Committee in 1978. Policy guidelines on fishing in the form of Maritime Zones of India (MZI) Act, 1981 already exists for regulating fishing in Indian EEZ by foreign flag vessels. As regards fishing by joint venture and Indian owned vessels, the Government has accepted policy recommendations made by the Review Committee on Deep Sea Fishing Policy in 1996. Subsequently, an Expert Group has gone into formulation of a draft Comprehensive Marine Fishing Policy, the report of which is before the Government.

Homeopathic/Ayurvedic Medicines for Livestock

4192. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Homeopathic/ayurvedic medicines are also being found useful for treatment of livestock;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the steps being taken for early introduction of the system for the benefit of livestock?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) to (c) Though Homeopathic and Ayurvedic medicines do not form part of veterinary curriculum and are not being used as such in veterinary practice, indigenous drugs figure in undergraduate veterinary curriculum as part of chemotherapy.

Further, on the recommendation of the Standing Committee on Agriculture, the Department has engaged a consultant to prepare an Inventory of Traditional Medicinal Practices in India and codifying them.

Bogus Outlets of KVIC

4193. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that several outlets of Khadi Institutions in the country have turned to be bogus and exist only on papers;

(b) if so, the details of the aforesaid outlets detected in each State and Union Territory during the last three years;

(c) whether these outlets continue to claim loans, rebates and tax concessions from KVIC;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to remedy the situation and to take action against the concerned guilty persons?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Unemployment Allowances to Unemployed Persons

4194. SHRI BHUPENDRASINH SOLANKI:

SHRI SUNIL KHAN:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to give unemployment allowances to the unemployed persons/youths in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which unemployment allowance bill is likely to be introduced and implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[English]

Agriculture Produce Marketing Committees

4195. SHRI DINSHA PATEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under the

active consideration of the Government for development of Agriculture Produce Marketing Committees under Centrally sponsored Scheme in the country particularly in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) to (c) Agricultural Produce Marketing Committees (APMCs) are corporate bodies established under the respective State Agricultural Marketing Regulation Acts. APMCs manage the markets. The market yards are notified by the State Governments under the respective State Agricultural Marketing Regulation Acts and are developed by State Governments, Marketing Boards and APMCs. Most of the State Governments and Union Territories have enacted their own legislations to provide for regulation of APMCs. Regulated markets help in mitigating the markets handicap of producers/sellers. The State Governments/Marketing Boards provide facilities to the farmers/traders in order to create a better trade environment, etc. in the APMCs.

At present, the Department is implementing a Scheme of Macro Management which has been devised by integrating 27 on-going Centrally Sponsored schemes and is in operation since November, 2000. The scheme provides flexibility to the States to include intervention according to their agricultural developmental priorities. Most of the States have included proposal for the development of agricultural markets in their Work Plans under the Scheme of Macro-Management. The State can include any component/scheme as a new initiative for development of agricultural activities. The assistance under the scheme is released in lump-sum and the States have the flexibility of re-allocation of this amount under various developmental programmes. Thus, the programme of development of APMCs can be taken up by the State Governments under the above scheme. The Work Plan proposal (2002-2003) submitted by the State Government of Gujarat under the Macro-Management includes proposal for development of Haat Bazar & Direct Market system on the lines of Rythu Bazar/ Apni Mandi at a cost of Rs.436.00 lakhs (Central share of Rs.392.00 lakhs). First instalment i.e. 50% of the total Central share has been released to the State Government of Gujarat.

[Translation]

Promotion of Tourism in Uttar Pradesh

4196. SHRI TUFANI SAROJ: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Union Government propose to promote tourism in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the tourism industry has been adversely affected in Uttar Pradesh after creation of Uttranchal;

(d) if so, the details of annual loss being suffered by the tourism industry in the State; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) State level schemes for development/promotion of tourism are formulated by the concerned State Governments.

(c) and (d) Prior to the formation of Uttaranachal, the hill region of Uttar Pradesh had it's separate budget and separate allocation of funds. Therefore, it has no direct bearing on the income generated by Uttar Pradesh.

(e) Development/promotion of tourism is primarily undertaken by the State Governments/UT Administrations. The Department of Tourism, Government of India, has, however, been providing financial assistance for tourism projects identified in consultation with them. This scheme has now been modified and major projects for development of tourism circuits and tourism destinations are to be taken up in the 10th Plan in consultation with the State Governments/UT Administration. The projects of Uttar Pradesh for the current financial year are yet to be identified.

Construction of National Weed Research Centre at Jabalpur

4197. SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work relating to the establishment of National Weed Research Centre, Jabalpur (Madhya Pradesh) has been completed;

(b) if so, whether the construction work has been done as per the layout plan;

(c) the expenditure incurred thereon; and

(d) the expenditure being incurred/proposed to be incurred on the research work during the ensuing years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) The National Research Centre for Weed Science, Jabalpur (Madhya Pradesh) was established on 22 April 1989 during VII Five Year Plan period (1985-90). The construction work of this centre has not been completed fully as conceived in Approved Master Plan of the centre. About 50 per cent of its development has been accomplished.

(b) Yes, the construction of entire premises has been under progress as per approved master plan of the centre.

(c) The sanction amount for construction and development of NRC-Weed Science during different plan period is as under:

Table 1: Plan-wise expenditure statement

Plan period	Total		Works	
	Sanctioned Amt.	Expenditure	Sanctioned Amt.	Expenditure
VII-1985-90	64.00	18.96	14.24	6.84
Annual Plan 1990-91 & 1991-92	55.00	49.97	-	-
VIII-1992-97	520.00	461.53	202.24	202.24
IX-1997-2002	615.00	612.81	300.00	300.00

(d) The expenditure being proposed to be incurred on research and development of the NRCWS, Jabalpur in next five years (2002-2003 to 2006-2007) is Rs. 1250 lacs.

[English]

Reduction in Fare by IA

4198. SHRIMATI PRABHA RAU:

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether only 10 percent of the passengers travelling by economy class will be benefited by the discounted fares offered by the Indian Airlines;

(b) if so, the number of discounted seats available, out of the total number of economy class seats; and

(c) the reasons for not providing discounted fare benefit to all the passengers travelling in economy class?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) and (b) The number of seats to be allocated on each flight for utilisation by passengers holding concessional and

promotional fare tickets is decided on the basis of booking pattern and revenue yield of the flight.

(c) Promotional fares offered by Indian Airlines have conditions like advance booking, route pattern, age of the passenger, group travel, total duration of travel etc. Passengers fulfilling the stipulated conditions are eligible for the benefit.

Protection of Natural Forests in Andamans

4199. SHRI KALAVA SRINIVASULU: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state the action taken to protect the natural forests of Andaman which are systematically being exploited by saw-mills in the islands?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): The Supreme Court in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 202/95 has issued various directions for conservation and protection of natural forest of Andaman and Nicobar Islands which, inter alia, include following:

(a) Ban on felling of trees from the forest of Little Andaman, national parks, sanctuaries and tribal reserves. For other areas, revised working plans will be submitted to the Court.

(b) No felling of trees shall be permitted for meeting any raw material requirement of the plywood.

veneer, black board, match sticks or any other wood based industries.

- (c) The licenses of all the saw mills and wood-based industries shall not be renewed after 31st March, 2003. However, these units are permitted to exhaust the existing stock till 31st March, 2003. Henceforth, for meeting the local requirement only the Government saw mills shall operate.

In view of the above, there is no threat to natural forests of Andamans to be exploited by the saw mills.

[Translation]

Road Development Scheme

4200. SHRI SHIVAJI MANE: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have formulated any twenty year road development scheme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of provision of funds made including the foreign assistance sought to complete the said scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) to (c) Government have not formulated any twenty year road development scheme. However, the Ministry has got prepared through the Indian Roads Congress, a document titled 'Road Development Plan Vision-2021' which provides guidelines and recommendations for road development in the country, during the next 20 years. The document gives possible sources of funding of road development. However, the provisions of funds from various sources are not indicated therein.

[English]

Air Link of Tirupati

4201. DR. RAJESWARAMMA VUKKALA:

DR. N. VENKATASWAMY:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of air links between Tirupati and other major cities of the country;

(b) whether there is any proposal to increase flights to Tirupati;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has urged the Union Government to revive Jet Airways flights between Hyderabad and Tirupati; and

(e) if so, the response of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) to (c) At present, amongst all scheduled operators including private scheduled operators, only Indian Airlines is operating air services on Hyderabad-Tirupati-Hyderabad sector with a frequency of 2 flights/week. However, Airline operators are free to operate on any route/sector in their commercial judgement subject to compliance of Route Dispersal Guidelines issued by the Government.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Labour Reforms

4202. SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any steps to give effect to labour reforms amending the Industrial Dispute Act and in particular taking care of the individual workman;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) to (c) Various amendments in the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 are proposed based on the requirements of the social partners. Amendments to the Act are made after taking into consideration all the relevant factors.

[Translation]

Hurdles in Development Projects

4203. SHRIMATI RAMA PILOT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether several developmental projects are

held up/pending for want of clearance due to the hurdles created by certain forest departments; and

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) There have been cases of delay in processing of the proposals at the level of the State Government. Delay has been generally caused due to submission of incomplete proposals by the user agencies, long channel of submission and processing of the proposals.

(b) The steps taken/contemplated to remedy the situation include simplification of application form, prescribing specific time frame for processing the proposal at every level, authorizing the Nodal Officers to send the proposals related to public utility involving diversion of forest land up to 5 hectare directly to the Central Government and authorizing Regional Offices of the Ministry to decide certain cases involving diversion of forest land up to 5 hectare at their level.

E- Tickets for Domestic Travel

4204. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken a decision to introduce e-ticket in Domestic airlines; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a), No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Foreign Assistance for Irrigation Projects

4205. SHRI JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA:

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of financial assistance provided by the Asian Development Bank, International Monetary Fund and the World Bank to each State during the last three years for the implementation of irrigation projects;

(b) the amount spent so far, State-wise; and

(c) the time by which the said projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) No funds have been provided by the Asian Development Bank and International Monetary Fund for irrigation projects during the last three years. A statement indicating the details of financial assistance provided by the World Bank and utilized by the State Government during last three years is enclosed.

Statement

S.No.	Name of Projects	Date of Agreement / Date of Completion	Amount of Assistance/ Cumulative Utilisation as on 31.3.2002 (in million US\$)	Disbursement received during		
				1999-2000	2000-01 (In US\$ million)	2001-02
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh-III Irrigation Projects	03.06.1997/ 31.1.2003	325.00 Credit 131.505 loan: nil	13.71	27.10	23.14
2.	A.P. Economic Restructuring Project (Irrigation Component)	30.1.1999/ 31.3.2004	142.00/ 62.99	36.74	12.63	10.62

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3.	Orissa Water Resources Consolidation Project	05.01.1996/ 30.9/2002	290.900/ 179.627	28.67	29.26	16.63
4.	Rajasthan Water Sector Restructuring Project	15.3.2002/ 31.3/2008	143.00/ 5.00	-	-	5.00
5.	U.P. Water Sector Restructuring Project	8.3/2002/ 31.10.2007	149.20/ 5.00	-	-	5.00
6.	Tamil Nadu Water Resources Consolidation Project	22.09.1995/ 31.3.2003	282.90/ 150.059	57.50	32.34	20.36
7.	Haryana Water Resources Consolidation Project	24.06.1994/ 31.12.2001	258.00/ 258.00	32.93	41.50	52.93

* Project completed

Murder of Forest Officials

4206. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 490 dated March 4, 2002 and state:

(a) whether the requisite information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which the same is likely to be collected and laid on the Table of the House?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) The requisite information which has since been collected from all the States and Union Territories except from the State of Jharkhand is given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Sl.No.	Name of the State/UT	Whether several forest officials particularly of lower grade have been murdered in the forest during the last three years;	If so, the details thereof, State-wise;	Whether the Government have taken any effective steps in this regard; and	If so, the details thereof?
		(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
1.	J&K	Yes	One person namely Abdul Rehman Ganie was murdered in the forest by the armed smugglers.	Yes	J&K Govt. has created a separate wing in the Forest Department called Protection Force which shall be equipped with weapons to curb down the activities of armed smugglers the Forest field staff in Protecting the Foresters as well as their lives.

		(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
2.	Uttar Pradesh	Yes	1999-10 2000-06 2001-05	Yes	Rifles/wireless sets are being gradually provided to the employees for their safety, within the available financial resources. Security Force with vehicles and arms have been provided in 19 Divisions under an officer of the level of Asstt. Conservator of Forests. Coordination Committee has been set up at District level also in vulnerable areas.
3.	Uttaranchal	Yes	Two forest guards and one forest assistant were killed in Dehradun Division. One Dy. Range Officer was killed in Corbett Tiger Reserve and three forest guards were grievously hurt in the same incident.	Yes	The communication network has been strengthened. Fire arm training has been given to staff. The power to use fire arms in Forest area and protected areas at par with Police Officers has been given. Secret fund for intelligence gathering has been provided for effective intelligence gathering and action against forest offenders. The ex-gratia payment to the next of the kin of forest officials, killed in such incidents has been fixed at par with Police Force and now the kin of the deceased will be given Rs. 2.5 lakhs.
4.	Assam	Yes	Sixteen lower grade officers were killed 1998-99 = 11 1999-00 = 02 2000-01 = 03 Total = 16 Kidnapping = 7 Killing = 16 Assault = 139 Total = 162	Yes	Assam Forest Protection Force Personnel are deployed in different areas to face the situation. The available force personnel are not sufficient considering the magnitude of the problem. Steps are being taken to take a concerted effort to meet the situation.
5.	Karnataka	Yes	1998 = 01 1999 = 03	Yes	(i) Variety of arms and ammunition like pump-action guns is proposed to be provided to the staff involved in forest protection for their safety. (ii) It is proposed to provide night vision binoculars and night vision goggles, to the staff involved in protection work for their safety. (iii) Karnataka Forest Act has been amended to accommodate the provisions of Criminal Procedure Code wherein under Section 76 'A', forest officers are provided to use as much force and do as much injury to the

		(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
					persons and property to prevent the commission of any offence under the Karnataka Forest Act and Chapter VI of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
6.	Bihar	Yes	Four cases of murder of Forest employees have occurred during the last three years	Yes	<p>In sensitive areas like Sasaram, Munger, West Champaran and Patna, home guards and armed police has been made available by district authorities.</p> <p>In case of forest officers who have threat on their life, personal security guards have been provided. Efforts are being made to organise the forest protection force. A sum of Rs. 2.92 lac has been given to ordnance factories for supply of 507 rifles and 2 lac rounds of ammunition. Out of this, 258 rifles are for Bihar State and rest for Jharkhand.</p> <p>As and when there is need for police for the security of forest personal as well as forest produce, police force is requisitioned. F.I.Rs have been lodged in the respective police stations and the matter is regularly monitored by Forest Officials as well as Government Advocates. In case of murder of Sri Sanjay Kumar, IFS, CBI probe has been ordered.</p>
7.	Tamil Nadu	Yes	1998-1999 = 01 1999-2000 = 03 2000-2001 = Nil 2001-2002 = 01 (upto Feb.)	Yes	To protect forest wealth and the lives of the Forest subordinates working in the sensitive and vulnerable areas, the Government have supplied fast moving vehicles, sophisticated weapons (Block-17 pistols purchased from Austria), besides providing communication facilities, such as telephone, wireless, walkie-talkie sets etc. to the subordinates. With the effective steps taken by the Department, the commission of Forest Offences has drastically come down.
8.	Maharashtra	Yes	While patrolling, one forest labour was severely injured in an attack on 6.8.2000 by wood smugglers. Later he succumbed to injuries. Two other	Yes	<p>Wireless network has been installed in the 4-circles i.e. Thane, Dhule, Chandrapur, Nagpur and the Wildlife areas.</p> <p>Special forest stations are being created at vulnerable places.</p>

	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
		employees were also injured.		Arms are being provided with office & staff in near future. Regular beat checking is being done. Regular night patrolling is being done. Regular deployment of forest special Reserve Police force is used in vulnerable circles. Involving villagers, participation in protecting forest through Joint Forest Management Scheme.
9.	Manipur	Yes	One Forest Officer has been killed Shri Kakai Haokip holding charge of Social Forestry Division was killed by unknown miscreants on the 21st day of March, 2002.	Yes The State Government has provided security guards in the offices as per requirements. Individual Officer having threat perception are also provided with guard. The Department also in close association with Police and other State and Central Security force for control of Forest and Wildlife Offences and safety of the Officer.
10.	Orissa	Yes	Sri Bhagaban Majhi, Ex-Forest Guard of Angul Division, and Sri Sudarshan Altia, Forester and Nandi Kishor Behera, Forest Guard of Phulbani Division were murdered during the year 1999 and 2000 respectively.	Yes 19 units comprise of 260 Nos. of Police personnel including 20 S.Is, 14 A.S.Is, 19 Havildars and 207 Constables. CRPF has been deployed in the Dhuanali and Barbara of Reserve Forest area. 249 Forest Check Gates have been established in to regulate the transit of Forest Produce. 469 V.H.F. sets have been installed. Besides 339 Guns and 61 Revolvers have been supplied to the field protection staff.
11.	Tripura	Yes	One Forest Guard, one Mali-cum-Watcher and a driver engaged on daily wages basis were killed in an extremist attack on a mobile forest patrol party at Krishnapur under Kalyanpur Police Station in Khowai Sub-Division of West Tripura District on 23.11.1999.	Yes Provisional family pension and Death cum-Retirement Gratuity were sanctioned to the family of the deceased. They were also provided with special financial grant as per norms for Government servants killed in extremist violence/attack. Wives of both the deceased Forest Department employees have been given employment. The matter for providing employment to the wife of the deceased daily rated driver of the Forest Department is under consideration of the State Government.

		(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
12.	Madhya Pradesh	Yes	<p>1. Sh. Munshilal Patel forest guard was murdered on 21.01.2002 and his body was found in compartment No. RF-366. This report of murder was lodged in Mingwani police station. Police had arrested the culprits and the case is subjudice.</p> <p>2. A special grant of Rs. 1.00 lakh was given to the descendents of late Shri Munshilal Patel.</p>	Yes	<p>Special police force has been posted in sensitive forest areas. Group patrolling by forest staff started in forest areas to check forest offences. A network of wireless system has been created for the rapid exchange of information. 557 guns of 12-bore make been provided by the Government to the forest staff.</p> <p>Special grant of Rs. 1.00 lakh is sanctioned to the dependants of deceased. Instruction have been issued to make use of police force for preventing forest offences.</p> <p>11,621 forest protection committees have been constituted to obtain public participation.</p> <p>Special task force has been constituted at the district level to prevent forest offence. District Collector, Superintendent of Police and Divisional Forest Officer are members of the task force.</p>
13.	Rajasthan	Yes	Two Forest Guards viz. S./Sh. Sukhveer Singh and Daya Ram were murdered on 2.3.1999 and 24.6.1999 while performing duties during last three years. Challans submitted by Police in Court.	Yes	In sensitive areas, forest officials engaged in the work of Forest & Wildlife protection have been provided with fire arms for self Defence. For fast communication, Wireless sets and walky talky sets have been made available to such staff.
14.	Punjab	Yes	One Forest Guard Sh. Lakhwinder Singh has been murdered in the forests on 30.01.2002	Yes	The State Government has been approached to provide arms to the Forest Officers in the State for their defence.
15.	West Bengal	Yes	<p>2 Nos. of employees have been murdered during the period:</p> <p>1. Sh. Manindra Ch. Sarkar, Deputy Ranger/Forester was murdered during 1998-99.</p> <p>2. Sh. Anil Roy, Banashramik was murdered during 2000-2001.</p>		FIR lodged at Local Police Station and investigation is on.

		(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
16.	Meghalaya	No	Does not arise in view of reply at (a)	Yes	Adequate protection measures have been taken to provide them with effective Arms and Wireless sets while performing their duties in the Forests. Armed Home Guards and Village Protection Volunteers are also posted to perform duties along with the Forest Staff in vulnerable areas.
17.	Chandigarh Administration	No	Nil	Yes	Department has taken necessary steps to tackle such problem by providing wireless sets/guns and vehicle/motor cycle to most of the field staff posted in the field.
18.	Chhattisgarh	No	N.A.	Yes	Wireless network established for quick communication and guns have been provided to the field staff particularly of Range Officer, Dy. Ranger Forester and Forest Guard. Special Armed Forces have also been provided to assist the field staff in sensitive areas.
19.	Kerala	No	N.A.	Yes	For the effective protection of forest and forest employees, forest station system had been introduced in Kerala during 1988. So far, 88 Forest Stations have been established in 11 Territorial Divisions. Each territorial circle is having one Special investigation and protection unit headed by one Assistant Conservator of Forests. In addition to the above, now two units of Rapid Action Forces are also formed with its headquarters at Konni and Nilambur. The Rapid Action Force consists of Forest Officials and Police Officials. The whole Forest area is covered with wireless communication.
20.	Gujarat	No	N.A.	Yes	State Govt. has provided guns to subordinate Forest Staff and revolvers to Range Forest Officers for self protection. The District Administration in cooperation with police assist Forest Officials as and when situation demands.
21.	Andhra Pradesh	No	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
22.	Arunachal Pradesh	No	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
23.	Haryana	No	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.

		(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
24.	Sikkim	No	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
25.	Pondicherry	No	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
26.	Daman & Diu	No	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
27.	Lakshadweep	No	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
28.	Himachal Pradesh	No	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
29.	Nagaland	No	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
30.	Delhi	No	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
31.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	Nil	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
32.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	No	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
33.	Panaji/Goa	No	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
34.	Mizoram	No	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
35.	Jharkhand	Information Not Received.			

Air Service from Nasik

4207. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for discontinuance of passenger air services from Nasik city of Maharashtra;

(b) whether the Government propose to reintroduce the air services from Nasik; and

(c) if so, the time by which it is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) Indian Airlines discontinued operations to Nasik in 1989 after handing over HS 748 aircraft to Vayudoot. The need of air passengers to/from Nasik are presently met through Indian Airlines services to/from Mumbai and Aurangabad which are at a distance of approximately 150 kms. and 160 kms. respectively.

(b) and (c) Indian Airlines at present has no plans to reintroduce air services to Nasik. However, airline operator

are free to operate on any route/sector in their commercial judgement subject to compliance of the Route Dispersal Guidelines issued by the Government.

[English]

National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding

4208. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has submitted memorandum to the Union Government for sanction under Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Project for Cattle and Buffalo breeding;

(b) if so, whether sanction has since been accorded; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. The proposal under National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding with an outlay of Rs. 82.33 crore was received in the Department. Deficiencies in the

proposal were communicated to the State with request to appropriately revise the proposal. A response from the State is awaited.

Ambit of World Heritage Monuments

4209. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE:

SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the ambit of World Heritage Monuments;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have also sought the help of State Governments in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise including Madhya Pradesh and Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Proposal sent by the State Governments are also considered.

(c) 13 sites have been proposed for nomination to the World Heritage List which have been placed on the Tentative List by UNESCO, as noted in the statement enclosed.

Statement

Tentative List of Cultural/Industrial Sites

Sl.No.	State	Sites
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Golconda Fort, Hyderabad
2.	Bihar	Tomb of Sher Shah Suri, Sasaram
3.	Gujarat	Remains of the Historical City of Champaner
4.	Gujarat	Dholavira, a Harappan City
5.	Gujarat	Rani-ki-Vav (The Queen's Step-well) at Patan

1	2	3
6.	Jammu & Kashmir	Buddhist Monastery Complex, Alchi, Ladakh
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	Hemis Gompa, Ladakh
8.	Kerala	Mattanchery Palace, Ernakulam
9.	Madhya Pradesh	Prehistoric Rock Shelter and Caves with Paintings at Bhimbetka
10.	Madhya Pradesh	Group of Monuments at Mandu
11.	Maharashtra	Victoria Terminus, Mumbai
12.	Uttar Pradesh	Ancient Buddhist site, Sarnath, Varanasi
13.	West Bengal	Temples at Bishnupur

Minimum Support Prices

4210. SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA:

SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per MSP scheme the nodal agencies are to procure the entire quantity of produce at guaranteed price as announced by the Government;

(b) if so, whether the Government are committed to reimburse entire losses incurred by nodal agencies in MSP operation;

(c) if so, the details of budgetary provision, losses incurred and losses reimbursed on MSP operations undertaken by nodal agencies of FCI, NAFED, JCI and CCI during 1996-97 to 2001-2002, year-wise;

(d) whether entire losses incurred have been reimbursed as per policy;

(e) if not, the details and reasons therefor;

(f) the reasons for not taking MSP operations in Copra during 2000-01 and 2001-02 inspite of prices being below by 30-40% of MSP;

(g) whether there are any other crops in which MSP operations were not undertaken inspite of prices falling below MSP; and

(h) if not, the details and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) The Government announces each season the minimum support price (MSP) for major agricultural commodities and organizes purchase operations through public and cooperative agencies such as Food Corporation of India (FCI), Jute Corporation of India (JCI), Cotton Corporation of India (CCI), National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation (NAFED) and Tobacco Board, besides other agencies designated by the State Governments.

Incase of fall in prices below MSP levels, the designated central nodal agencies are required to buy the quantities of major agricultural commodities offered by the growers, at minimum support price without any quantitative restrictions.

(b) to (e) In the case of FCI, the Government reimburses difference between the economic cost of food grains and the Central Issue Prices (CIP) in the form of consumer subsidy. In addition, the buffer carrying cost of food grains are also reimbursed to the FCI. Under the Decentralised Procurement of Food grains Scheme, the State Governments arrange to procure, store and distribute food grains under the Public Distribution System (PDS) and the cost of operations is reimbursed to the States as subsidy. The State Governments of West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Chattisgarh have so far taken up the scheme. Statement-I showing subsidy released to FCI and the State Governments is enclosed.

Losses incurred in Price Support Operations are fully reimbursed to NAFED by the Government of India. The Government has released funds to NAFED as an 'on account basis' to meet the losses as all the final accounts of the procurement operations of Oil seeds and Pulses undertaken since 1996-97 onwards have not been received. Statement-II showing the budget, loss incurred and amount released to NAFED is enclosed.

Statement-III showing year-wise budgetary provisions, procurement, losses incurred and losses reimbursed on MSP operations from 1999-2000 to 2001-2002 for Jute Corporation of India is enclosed.

In case of CCI in the year 1999-2000 (Oct-Sept), CCI did not incur any losses on account of MSP operations. In 2000-2001 (Oct-Sept), as the prices remained above MSP, no purchase under MSP operations was undertaken by CCI. During the current year 2001-2002 (Oct-Sept), CCI has reported a loss of about Rs.100 crores on account of MSP operations, out of which Rs.25 crores has been reimbursed till date to the Corporation.

(f) NAFED has been undertaking procurement of Copra under the MSP Scheme since 2000 season onwards. It has procured copra to the extent of 2,34,845 MTs during 2000 season, 49378 MTs in 2001 and 3900 MTs in 2002 season. NAFED will continue to procure Copra as and when price of copra goes below the MSP.

(g) and (h) The designated Central Nodal Agencies undertake purchase operations whenever the minimum support price of major agricultural commodities fall below the MSP level. Large quantities of major agricultural commodities have been procured in recent years.

Statement-I

Subsidy Released to FCI and State Governments

(Rs. in crores)

Year	FCI		M.P.	U.P.	West Bengal	Chhattisgarh	Total
	Consumer Subsidy	Buffer Subsidy					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1996-97	4303.50	862.50	-	-	-	-	5166.00
1997-98	6535.30	936.70	-		28.00	-	7500.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1998-99	7093.86	1552.31	-	-	53.83	-	8700.00
1999-00	7103.01	1753.71	92.64	194.00	56.64	-	9200.00
2000-01	7229.25	4232.75	85.00	398.00	65.00	-	12010.00
2001-02	1,342.10	5881.90	113.0067	436.2983#	220.695	-	17494.00
2002-03	5838.80	3076.70	39.275	298.04	-	9.06	9261.875*

#This includes release of Rs. 10.01 crore as subsidy for the period 09.11.2000 to 31.03.2001 to Govt. of Uttaranchal as part of erstwhile undivided State of Uttar Pradesh and Rs. 55.1484 crore as subsidy for AAY to Govt. of Uttar Pradesh

*Amount of subsidy released (till 06.08.2002) out of the total BE provision of Rs. 21,190 crore (Rs. 20,313 crore for FCI and Rs. 877 crore for the States undertaking decentralized procurement).

Statement-II

The Budget, loss incurred and amount released to NAFED

(Rs. in lakh)

Year	Budget	Loss incurred	Amount released to NAFED For PSS operations
1	2	3	4
1996-97	100.00	Nil	Nil
1997-98	100.00	Nil	Nil

1	2	3	4
1998-99	100.00	Nil	Nil
1999-2000	100.00	6102.00	99.06
2000-2001	2600.00	47808.00	2500.00
2001-2002	35300.00	11488.00	34055.00
2002-2003 (upto 7.8.2002)	30000.00	Operation continued	29848.00

Statement-III

Year-wise Details of Budgetary Provision, Procurement and Losses Incurred on MSP Operations by Jute Corporation of India (JCI) in last 3 years.

Year	Budgetary provision (Rs. in crores)	Procurement under MSP in Lakh bales of 180 kgs.	Procurement Losses Reported by JCI in MSP Operation (Rs. in crores)	Fund provided by GOI as loan (Rs. in crores)
1999-2000	16.00	0.18	55.46*	16.00
2000-2001	35.00	4.54	52.39*	35.00
2001-2002	35.00	2.45	65.60* (Provisional)	35.00

* These figures have not been accepted by Government JCI has been directed to submit detailed break up of losses/justification for these losses.

[Translation]

Industrial Labourers

4211. DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of industrial labourers at the end of the year 2000, State-wise;

(b) the number of the labourers in organised and unorganised sector industries separately; and

(c) the rate of annual increase in the number of labourers in organised sector industries during the last decade?

LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) and (b) Estimates of employment in organised and unorganised sector for major States and all India are given in the statement enclosed.

(c) Annual growth rate of employment in the organised sector during 1991-2000 was not significant.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

Statement

*Employment in organized and unorganized sector
for major states and All India.*

S.No.	Major States	Estimated employment during 1999-2000 in thousand		
		Total Employment	Organised Sector	Unorganized Sector
1	Andhra Pradesh	36148	2071.6	34076.4
2	Assam	9357	1084.5	8272.5
3	Bihar	36437	1613.9	34823.1
4	Gujarat	22931	1690.3	21240.7
5	Haryana	7159	651.6	6507.4
6	Karnataka	23599	1863.3	21735.7
7	Kerala	12444	1209.8	11234.2
8	Madhya Pradesh	34424	1593.7	32830.3
9	Maharashtra	41241	3759.8	37481.2
10	Orissa	14981	797.9	14183.1
11	Punjab	9885	845.8	9039.2
12	Rajasthan	23212	1275.7	21936.3
13	Tamil Nadu	28895	2524.5	26370.5
14	Uttar Pradesh	58924	2552.7	56371.3
15	West Bengal	28237	2352.3	25884.7
	All Major States	387950	25887.4	362062.6
	All India	397000	27959.7	369140.3

[English]

Common Facilitation Centres of Coir Board

4212. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Coir Board has set up any common facilitation centres in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES

(SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) and (b) The Coir Board, by itself, has not set up any common facility centre. However, the Board has given assistance to set up common facility centres for wet processing at the following locations:

(i) Alleppy Small Scale Coir Mats Manufacturing Cooperative Society, Alleppey, Kerala;

(ii) Aryad Block Small Scale Factory Manufactures Cooperative Society at Pathirapally, Kerala;

(iii) Kanjikuzhi Small Scale Coir Mats Manufacturing Cooperative Society, S.L. Puram, Kerala;

(iv) Cherthala Small Scale Coir Mats Manufacturing Cooperative Society, Cherthala, Kerala;

(v) Nilachal Nari Seba Samithi, Sakhigopal, Orissa;

(vi) Ambalappuzha Coir Mats & Matting Cooperative Society, Ambalappuzha, Kerala;

(vii) Cherthala Taluk Small Scale Coir Matting Producers Cooperative Society, Kalavankodam, Kerala; and

(viii) D.R.D.A. Coir Unit, Ambajipet, Andhra Pradesh.

[Translation]

Centrally Sponsored Scheme

4213. SHRI P.R. KHUNTE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any Centrally Sponsored Scheme to protect the crops from various diseases;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) There is no specific Centrally Sponsored Scheme to protect the crops from various diseases. However, there are some Centrally Sponsored Schemes, which have a provision for the control of insects, pests and diseases including Integrated Pest Management demonstrations along with other components. Such Schemes are:

(i) Macro Management of Agriculture - Supplementation/Complementation of States' Efforts through Work Plan

(ii) Technology Mission on Oilseeds, Pulses and Maize.

(iii) Technology Mission on Cotton.

(c) Question does not arise in view of the details above.

Scheme for Macro Management of Agriculture

4214. SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA:

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a Centrally Sponsored Scheme called "Macro Management of Agriculture" which extends financial assistance to farmers in the country particularly in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme, State-wise;

(c) whether any assistance has been released during 2001-2002;

(d) if so, the items on which the subsidy is available to farmers in the country;

(e) whether there is any proposal to expand the list of farm equipment and items for subsidy eligibility; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (f) The Department of Agriculture & Cooperation has been implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme called Macro Management of Agriculture Scheme. This scheme is under implementation in Madhya Pradesh also. The Scheme gives flexibility to the State Governments to select schemes according to their needs and priorities. A detailed list of the schemes included under Macro Management Scheme is given in the statement enclosed. An amount of Rs.631.22 crore was released to the States/UTs during 2001-02 and an amount of Rs.50.00 crore was released to Madhya Pradesh under the scheme.

Subsidy is available on a number of inputs such as seeds, farm machinery and equipment etc. under the Scheme of Macro Management. The States have flexibility in selection of farm equipment and any of the components depending upon their area specific requirements subject to

the condition that the expenditure on new interventions will not exceed 10% of Work Plan size.

Statement

List of Centrally Sponsored Schemes

1. Assistance to Cooperatively Weaker Section.
2. Assistance to Women Cooperatives.
3. Non-overdue Cover Scheme.
4. Agri. Credit Stabilisation Fund.
5. Special Scheme for SC/ST.
6. Integrated Cereal Development Programmes in Rice Based Cropping System Areas.
7. Integrated Cereal Development Programmes in Wheat Based Cropping System Areas.
8. Integrated Cereal Development Programmes in Coarse Cereals Based Cropping System Areas.
9. Special Jute Development Programme
10. Sustainable Development of Sugarcane Based Cropping System Areas.
11. Balanced & Integrated Use of Fertilizer.
12. Promotion of Agricultural Mechanization among Small Farmers
13. Integrated Development of Tropical, Arid & Temperate Zone Fruits.
14. Production and Supply of Vegetable Seeds.
15. Development of Commercial Floriculture.
16. Development of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants.
17. Development of Roots & Tuber Crops.
18. Development of Cocoa & Cashew.
19. Integrated Programme for Development of Spices.
20. Development of Mushroom.
21. Use of Plastics in Agriculture.
22. Bee-Keeping.

23. National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas.

24. Scheme for Foundation & Certified Seed Production of Vegetable Crops.

25. Soil Conservation in Catchments of River Valley Projects & Flood Prone Rivers.

26. Reclamation & Development of Alkali Soils.

27. State Land Use Boards.

[English]

Wells in Gir Forests

4215. SHRI G. GANGA REDDY:

SHRI CHADA SURESH REDDY:

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

(a) whether the Union Government are aware that more than 12,000 open wells exist in Gir Forests endangering the lives of lions and other wild animals;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have directed the State Government to cover the wells around Gir which have turned to be death traps for lions and other animals; and

(c) if so, the progress made in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) Wells are dug by villagers in and around Gir Protected area to overcome the shortage of water during lean months. Most of these wells do not have parapet walls and as a result occasionally there have been reports of wild animals falling into such wells. Under the India Eco-Development project supported by the Central Government, the park authorities have constructed parapet walls around 505 open wells during the period from April, 1999 to July, 2002 to prevent such accidents.

Cotton Cultivation in Punjab

4216. SHRI BHAN SINGH BHURA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to defective seeds the total cultivable area for cotton has come down in Punjab;

(b) if so, the area for the current year in comparison with previous three years; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to increase the area under cotton cultivation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) No, Sir. The area under cotton cultivation in Punjab has gone down due to late supply of canal water, low market price and low yield of the cotton crop during the previous year.

(b) The area under cotton cultivation in Punjab is likely to be 4.58 lakh ha. during the current year compared to 4.74 lakh ha. in 1999-2000, 4.74 lakh ha. in 2000-01 and 6.00 lakh ha. (estimated) in 2001-02.

(c) The steps taken by the Government to increase the area under cotton cultivation include, inter alia, transfer of technology, to farmers through field demonstrations, training & mass media; adoption of Integrated Pest Management; popularisation of new varieties; ensuring the availability of good quality seeds; constitution of surveillance teams to monitor pests/diseases and suggest measures for their control; etc.

Road Safety

4217. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any design has been made relating to road safety by National Highway Authority of India (NHAI);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to utilize such design on all the National Highways in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the funds allocated to various States particularly Orissa in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) and (b) National Highways Authority of India follows the guidelines of Indian Road Congress and the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways relating to road safety. For 4/6/8-laning projects, various safety measures are being provided, which include improved intersection layout, service roads, signs, markings, Road

over bridges, safety barriers, bus bays and truck parkings. Besides, in the stretch between Kotputli and Amer on National Highway-8, Highway Traffic Management System has been provided, on pilot basis, with emergency call boxes, Closed Circuit Television. (CCTV), variable message signs, mobile communications, ambulance, crane and highway patrol. Safety Audit for the improved sections of National Highways is also proposed.

(c) Safety enhancement is a continuous process and suitable measures are provided depending upon site requirements and availability of funds.

(d) An amount of Rs. 24.55 crores has been allocated for safety and environment in various States for the year 2002-03; out of which the amount for Orissa is Rs. 2 crores.

[Translation]

Plantation of Fruit Bearing Trees

4218. SHRI MANSINH PATEL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to plant fruit bearing trees on the forest land which will not only increase production of fruits in the country but also be helpful in maintaining the ecological balance;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether forests land would also be given on lease for this purpose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

[English]

Ranthambore National Park

4219. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to make the Ranthambore National Park fully an animal kingdom of the country after clearing it of all human habitation;

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which it is expected to be done?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) Ranthambore National Park forms part of Ranthambore Tiger Reserve. The State Government has plans for voluntary relocation of inhabitants of Indala village from the National Park to a site outside the park. The State Government has not fixed any time limit in this regard.

Non-Payment of Salary to Tea Workers

4220. DR. JAYANT RONGPI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large number of workers in the tea estates of Tamil Nadu and Southern India are not getting salary since January, 2002;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Plan Outlay for Agriculture Irrigation

4221. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether plan outlay for agriculture irrigation and agro related areas has come down to 20% of the total plan outlay during the Ninth Plan from 37% in the First Plan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of allocation for these areas in the Tenth Plan; and
- (d) the reasons for scaling down allocation for agriculture?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) In absolute terms, there has been a consistent

increase in outlay from the First Plan to the Ninth Plan period in the Agriculture and Allied Activities. A similar trend is also observed in the Irrigation sector. However, the percentage share of investment in the Agriculture and Allied Activities and Irrigation Sector in relation to total public investment over different plan periods has shown a decline. The details of the trend of both the sectors for First and Ninth Plan is given in the statement enclosed.

The Planning Commission is finalizing the Outlay for Tenth Plan, the plan outlay communicated to the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation in the Ministry of Agriculture is Rs.13,200.00 crore.

Statement

Details of 1st and IX Plan outlays in respect of Agriculture and Allied Activities and Irrigation Sector.

(Rs. in crore)

	Ist Plan	IX Plan
Total Plan Outlay	2378	859200
i Agriculture & Allied Activities	354	42462
% of Total Plan Outlay	14.9	4.9
ii Irrigation	456	55420
% of Total plan Outlay	19.2	6.4

[Translation]

Cases on Non-Receipt of Provident Fund

4222. PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of complaints received by the Union Government regarding non-receipt of provident fund on time and harassment faced in the process during the last two years;
- (b) if so, the details of such provident fund cases noticed during the last two years with each of the Chief Commissioner of Provident Fund; and
- (c) the number of officers against whom action was taken on the basis of these complaints and the consequential punishments meted out to each of them separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Daily Wages to Agricultural and Industrial Workers

4223. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether daily wages at different rates are being paid to the agricultural and industrial labourers in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the different rates prevailing in the country, State-wise;

(c) whether any increase has been effected in their daily wages during the last three years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for different rates in the different States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) and (b) Under the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 both Central and State Governments are the appropriate Government to fix, revise and enforce minimum wages in respect of workers engaged in the scheduled employments under their respective jurisdictions. Agriculture is a scheduled employment both in the Central and the State sphere. Statement-I, showing State-wise minimum wages of the agricultural workers is enclosed. As regards industrial workers a State-wise statement showing annual wages compiled on the basis of the latest data published in the Annual Survey of Industries, 1998-99 is enclosed as statement-II.

(c) and (d) The Central Government last raised the basic minimum wages of agricultural workers with effect from 11.11.1999. The wages range between Rs.67/- and Rs.101/-. The State Governments have been revising the minimum wages in agriculture from time to time. There is disparity in the rates of minimum wages in the country because the factors like cost of living, productivity, paying capacity, agro-climatic and Socio-economic conditions, on which fixation and revision of the minimum wages depend, vary from region to region.

Statement-I

Daily Rates of Minimum Wages for Agricultural Workers fixed by different States/UTs under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948

(As on 01.10.2001)

Sl.No.	State/UT	Minimum wages for unskilled agricultural workers
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Rs.52.00 to Rs.55.50 p.d. (According to Zones)
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Rs.39.87 to 42.11 p.d. (According to Areas)
3.	Assam	Rs.45.00 p.d.* without food, shelter and clothing Rs.38.60 p.d. plus food, shelter and clothing
4.	Bihar	Rs.37.88 p.d.*
5.	Goa	Rs.58.00 p.d.
6.	Gujarat	Rs.50.00 p.d.
7.	Haryana	Rs. 74.61 p.d.*
8.	Himachal Pradesh	Rs.51.00 p.d.
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	Rs.45.00 p.d.

1	2	3
10.	Karnataka	Rs.51.63 p.d.
11.	Kerala	Rs.30.00 p.d. for light work Rs.40.20 p.d. for hard work
12.	Madhya Pradesh	Rs.51.80 p.d.*
13.	Maharashtra	Not Available
14.	Manipur	Rs.62.15 p.d.* For Valley Areas Rs.65.15 p.d. For Hill Areas
15.	Meghalaya	Rs.50.00 p.d.*
16.	Mizoram	Rs.70.00 p.d.
17.	Nagaland	Rs.45.00 p.d.
18.	Orissa	Rs.42.50 p.d.*
19.	Punjab	Rs.72.38 p.d.* with meal Rs.82.08 without meal
20.	Rajasthan	Rs.60.00 p.d.
21.	Sikkim	The Minimum Wages Act, 1948 yet to be extended.
22.	Tamil Nadu	Rs.54.00 p.d.
23.	Tripura	Rs.45.00 p.d.
24.	Uttar Pradesh	Rs.58.00 p.d.*
25.	West Bengal	Rs.58.90 p.d.* (with meals) Rs.62.10 p.d. (without meals)
26.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	Rs. 70.00 p.d. (Andaman) Rs. 75.00 p.d. (Nicobar)
27.	Chandigarh	Rs.81.65 p.d.
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	Rs.60.00 p.d.*
29.	Delhi	Rs.102.60 p.d.*
30.	Lakshadweep	Rs.46.80 p.d.*
31.	Pondicherry	
	(i) Pondicherry Region	Rs.20.00 to Rs.22.00 p.d.
	(ii) Mahe Region	Rs. 30.00 p.d. for light work; Rs.40.20 p.d. for hard work
	(iii) Yanam Region	Rs.19.25 to Rs.26.25 p.d.
	(iv) Karaikal	Rs 20.00 to Rs. 22.00 p.d.
	Central Sphere	Rs.86.63 to* Rs.129.93 p.d.*

Note. (1) The Minimum Wages also include the variable dearness allowance, wherever provided.

(2)* Indicate the provision of variable dearness allowance with the minimum rate of wages.

Statement-II**State-wise Annual Wages of Industrial Workers 1998-99**

Sl.No.	States/UTs	Wages (Rs. Lakhs)
1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	0.39
2	Assam	0.32
3	Bihar	0.88
4	Goa	0.82
5	Gujarat	0.63
6	Haryana	0.72
7	Himachal Pradesh	0.70
8	Arunachal Pradesh	NA
9	Jammu & Kashmir	0.55
10	Karnataka	0.70
11	Kerala	0.45
12	Madhya Pradesh	0.57
13	Maharashtra	1.10
14	Manipur	0.24
15	Meghalaya	0.39
16	Mizoram	NA
17	Nagaland	0.21
18	Orissa	0.76
19	Punjab	0.49
20	Rajasthan	0.63
21	Sikkim	NA
22	Tamil Nadu	0.47
23	Tripura	0.21
24	Uttar Pradesh	0.70
25	West Bengal	0.67

1	2	3
26	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0.39
27	Chandigarh	0.93
28	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.95
29	Daman & Diu	0.47
30	Delhi	0.71
31	Lakshadweep	NA
32	Pondicherry	0.50
33	Jharkhand	0.95
34	Chhattisgarh	1.47
35	Uttaranchal	0.53
36	All India	0.66

N. A. - Not available

*[English]***Cost Escalation of Projects in NE**

4224. SHRI A.F. GOLAM OSMANI:

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "AAI NE projects hit rough weather" appearing in the Statesman dated July 13, 2002;

(b) if so, whether several projects of the Airports Authority of India (AAI) in the North-East have been affected by cost escalation in the past few years;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to execute all such projects without any cost escalation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. However, there have been delays in completion of certain projects in the North East Region due to various reasons including:

(i) Insurgency problems prevailing in- some parts of North Eastern Region causing delay in transportation of construction material.

(ii) Non-availability of raw materials for construction due to the ban imposed by Supreme Court including quarrying of stone aggregates in some of the North Eastern State.

(iii) Prolonged duration of rainy season causing delay in supply of construction material at work site.

(iv) Non - availability of land in time for construction/project work.

(d) Airports Authority of India (AAI) has constituted the Department of Project Monitoring, headed by an Executive Director, to effectively monitor all aspects of projects undertaken by AAI, including execution time and costs.

[Translation]

Agreement Between IA and Taj Group

4225. SHRI BRAHMANAND MANDAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agreement has been signed between the Indian Airlines and the Taj Group; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Taj Group and Indian Airlines have jointly launched a promotional scheme, wherein any passenger who buys a return ticket package on the sectors between Mumbai, Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai and Bangalore (excluding journey between Chennai and Bangalore) can avail accommodation for one night at a charge of Rs.1000/- at specified Taj Group of hotels in the destination city. The validity of the scheme is from 15th July to 31st October, 2002.

Funds for Fisheries

4226. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have allocated funds for the fishery production during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent of increase in the fishery production during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) and (b) Central assistance for development in the fisheries sector during last three years is as under:

(Rs. in crore)		
1999-2000	-	92.64
2000-2001	-	86.99
2001-2002	-	83.95

(c) Total fish production has increased by 4.95% in 2000-01 over 1997-98.

[English]

Closure of A&N Islands Forest and Plantation Development Corporation

4227. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the date of establishment of Andaman & Nicobar Islands Forest and Plantation Development Corporation alongwith its objectives;

(b) the details of its performance since its establishment;

(c) whether the Government have appointed any committee to review its working;

(d) if so, whether the Committee has submitted its report to the Government;

(e) if so, whether the Committee has recommended for the closure of the said company;

(f) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(g) whether any revival plan has been submitted to the Government by the management and if so, the decision taken by the Government in this regard; and

(h) the likely impact of the said closure on the employment situation in the Islands?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) The Andaman & Nicobar Islands

Forest and Plantation Development Corporation Ltd. was established on 21 January 1977 and the main objectives are given in the statement enclosed.

(b) It has been in profit for 22 years out of 25 years of its existence.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) The Report of the Committee is under examination with the Ministry.

(g) Yes, Sir. The revival plan is under examination.

(h) In case, it is decided to close the Corporation, it may have impact on the employment of around 2000 employees.

Statement

Main Objectives

1. To provide the necessary infrastructure to harvest and develop forest resources, to promote forest resources based industries, to arrange marketing of timber and other forest resources on the mainland and abroad.
2. To plant, grow, cultivate, produce, and raise plantations of various forest species of proven utility and other agriculture, plantation, horticultural crops, medicinal and aromatic plants and to buy, sell, export, import, process, distribute or otherwise deal with all kinds of forest crops, natural products, agricultural, plantation and horticultural crops, medicinal and aromatic plants.
3. To carry on the business of planters, cultivators, producers, sellers and dealers in timber, processed or not and such other products of every description and to manufacture, dispose of sell and deal in products of natural forest and forest plantation, agriculture, plantation and horticultural crops and medicinal and aromatic plants.
4. To establish, administer, own and run industries for manufacturing forest products agricultural, plantation and horticultural products, medicinal and aromatic plants.
5. To conduct and contract for training and research

connected with the integrated development of forest resources of the islands and cultivation as well as processing of agricultural, plantation and horticultural crops, medicinal and aromatic plants.

6. To maintain and improve Wild Life and other natural Resources.

Handing Over Charge of Buildings to ESI Hospitals

4228. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh have requested for handing over of buildings for commissioning of ESI hospitals at Tirupati and Nizamabad;

(b) if so, the steps initiated thereon and the reasons for delay in this regard; and

(c) the time by which the buildings are likely to be handed over?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) to (c) The ESI Hospital Buildings at Tirupati and Nizamabad have already been handed over to the State of Andhra Pradesh on 9.6.1999 and 20.1.2000 respectively. The ESI Hospital at Tirupati was commissioned on 8.7.1999 whereas the ESI Hospital at Nizamabad was commissioned on 29.12.2000.

Airports in North-East

4229. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the names of locations of Airports that were operational in North-East prior to independence of India;

(b) the names and locations of Airports presently operational in North-East;

(c) whether some of the pre-independence Airports are not presently operational;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which these are expected to be made operational?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) No reliable information in regard to the operational airports in North East region prior to independence of India is available.

(b) The airports at Agartala, Lengpui (Aizawl), Bagdogra, Dibrugarh, Dimapur, Guwahati, Imphal, Jorhat,

Silchar, Tezpur, Lilabari (North Lakhimpur) and Shillong (Barapani) in the North East are presently operational but no scheduled flights are operating at present from Lilabari and Shillong airports.

(c) to (e) The airports at Passighat, Rupsi, Tural (Aizawl), Shella, Kamalpur, Kailashahar and Khowai in the North East are presently non-operational. It is true that there has been decrease in the number of airports connected with air services over a period of time. This has been due to the shortage of smaller aircraft with domestic operators. The non-operational airports can be made operational once airlines indicate their plan for starting their operations through specific non-operational airports.

[Translation]

Monitoring of Pollution Level

4230. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the level of pollution is being checked, State-wise;

(b) if so, the details of technique applied to monitor the level of pollution, State-wise;

(c) whether monthly reports are collected through such technique; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (d) Pollution levels are checked regularly through a network of air and water quality monitoring stations located in different States. Improved West and Gaeke method, Jacob & Hochheiser modified (Sodium-Arsenic) method and Gravimetric method using High Volume Sampler are used for measuring Sulphur Dioxide, Oxides of Nitrogen and Particulate Matter respectively in the ambient air and Physico-Chemical methods including standard Colorimetric and Gravimetric techniques are applied for monitoring water pollution. The monthly air and water Quality data are collected using standard techniques & guidelines and the information compiled on annual basis.

[English]

Plants and Seeds from Abroad

4231. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to prevent individuals bringing in plants and seeds clandestinely from abroad without any authorization;

(b) if so, whether while plants are intercepted, it is not possible to detect seeds which could be smuggled in small quantities and could be harmful to the Agricultural Sector; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the remedial steps taken or proposed to be taken in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Department of Agriculture & Cooperation has initiated measures to incorporate an appropriate declaration to be furnished by incoming international passengers, in the disembarkation card, relating to plants, seeds and other plant material being brought into India by them in their personal baggage, which would be submitted by the passenger to existing law enforcing agencies at the entry point. Further, personnel of the concerned existing law enforcing agencies are being trained regularly so as to sensitize them regarding these aspects.

Deficient Monsoon

4232. SHRI E. AHAMED: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether monsoon has become deficient in the traditional monsoon area like Kerala over a period of time;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have made any study of the pattern of monsoon in different parts of the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) to (d) According to India Meteorological Department, there is no long-term trend in the southwest monsoon rainfall over different parts of the country including Kerala.

Maintenance of Monuments in Tamil Nadu

4233. DR. V. SAROJA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of excavation carried out in Tamil Nadu during the last three years; and

(b) the steps taken by ASI for preservation and maintenance of Mahabalipuram in Tamil Nadu in view of erosion by sea and other natural elements?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) During the last three years, the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has carried out excavation at Mahabalipuram, District Kanchipuram and Gingee, District Villupuram in Tamil Nadu. Details of the findings are given in the statement enclosed.

(b) The ASI has constructed a groyne and developed a green belt of casurina trees along the sea shore for preservation of the Shore temple against sea erosion and other natural elements. In addition routine conservation measures, including chemical preservation are taken up as per necessity for maintenance of all the centrally protected monuments of Mahabalipuram.

Statement

Excavation at Gingee

The earlier excavations, started in 1973-74 at Gingee Fort (Lat. 12° 15' N and Long 79° 25' E), had revealed some palace remains with a central hall flanked by rooms and an open pillared verandah on all sides, all located on a high plinth and an audience hall.

The work that was resumed in 2001-2002 has yielded a large rectangular structure to the south of Royal throne. It is built of cut stones with brick veneering and covered by stucco ornamentation. The flooring was made of fine lime mortar. A fragmentary wall and patches of lime flooring were unearthed to the east of throne. Pottery unearthed during the excavation include polished red, black-and-red, coarse red and sherds of porcelain and celadon wares, the other artifacts being smoking pipes, votive lamps made of terracotta, iron nails, a miniature copper vase and stone cannon balls.

Excavation at Mahabalipuram

The excavation at the Shore temple site at Mamallapuram (Lat. 12° 37' N and Long 80° 12' E), started in 1990-91 and closed in 1999-2000, has unearthed an elliptical structure with a rock cut *varaha*, a miniature shrine, an ancient well, flights of steps, and a number of inscriptions belonging to the early Pallava period.

Also, a massive stepped structure of about 100m

running almost parallel to the shoreline was exposed during clearing of sand nearabout the temple. The structure is built of laterite blocks and veneered with granite slabs. The work of 1999-2000 has revealed an abrupt end of the laterite wall. It is L-shaped with its longer wall running north-south and the smaller one east-west. Besides, three brick chunks 5.60 x 1.45 m, 4.80 x 1.10 m and 2.70 x 0.85 m have also been exposed. A rectangular brick structure having stone cushion, a well-dressed stone flooring, two brick structures have been unearthed near a modern well.

[Translation]

Organizations Engaged in Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

4234. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of organizations in Rajasthan working for prevention of cruelty to animals and were given assistance during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government have ever inspected the organizations to whom assistance has been provided; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) 23 organizations working for prevention of cruelty to animals in Rajasthan were given assistance under various schemes being implemented by this Ministry during the last three years.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. There is a well-laid down system of inspection of units before and after release of funds by the designated inspecting agencies. No funds are approved without an inspection report certifying the credentials of applicant. Officers of the State and Central Governments also carry out inspections from time to time.

[English]

Construction of Super Highway in Orissa

4235. SHRIMATI KUMUDINI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal for construction of a Super Highway in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of new National Highways announced during the last three years, State-wise; and

(d) the progress made in that regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. There is no proposal to construct a Super Highway in Orissa. However, National Highway No.5 and 60 in the State, forming part of Golden

Quadrilateral, are being four laned under National Highways Development Project. The work is targeted to be substantially completed by December 2003.

(c) Details are given in the enclosed statement.

(d) Development of National Highways is a continuous process and is taken up in a phased manner keeping in view the traffic needs, inter-se priority and availability of funds.

Statement

Details of National Highways Declared during the last three years

Sl.No.	Name of State	National Highway No.	Total Length (in Kms.)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Ext. of NH-9, 202, 205, 214 & 219	1088
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	153	40
3.	Assam	Extn. of NH 54, 151, 152, 153 & 154	474
4.	Bihar	30A, 77, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 98, 101 102, 103, 104,105, 106 & 107	1719
5.	Chhattisgarh	12A, 18, 200, 202, 216 & 217	934
6.	Gujarat	Extn. of 6, 8A, 8D,8E	459
7.	Haryana	21A, 71, 71A, 72 & 73	423
8.	Himachal Pradesh	21A, 70, 72 & 88	334
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	IC & Extn. of IB	175
10.	Jharkhand	Extn. of 75, 78, 80, 98, 99 & 100	649
11.	Karnataka	Extn. of 13, 206, 207, 209, 212, 213 & 218	1204
12.	Kerala	208, 212, 213 & 220	500
13.	Madhya Pradesh	12A, 59A, 75, Extn. of 75, 76, 78, 79, 86, Extn. of 86 & 92	2124
14.	Maharashtra	204 & 211	526
15.	Manipur	150	523
16.	Meghalaya	Extn. of 40 & Extn. of 62	120
17.	Mizoram	44A, 150 & 154	376
18.	Nagaland	150	36

1	2	3	4
19.	Orissa	200, 201, 203, 215 & 217	1595
20.	Pondicherry	Extn. of 45A	20
21.	Punjab	Extn. of 64, 70, 71 & 95	436
22.	Rajasthan	Extn. of 11A, Extn. of 65, 76, 79, 79A, 89 & 90	1496
23.	Tamil Nadu	Extn. of 45A, 45B, Extn. of 67, 205, 207, 208, 209, 210, 219 & 220	1277
24.	Tripura	44A	65
25.	Uttaranchal	72, 72A, 73, 74, 87, 94, 108 & 109	702
26.	Uttar Pradesh	2A, 24A, 25A, 56A, 56B, Extn. of 58, 72, 72A, 73, 74, 75, Extn. of 75, 76, 86, 91, 92, 93, 94, 96 & 97	2055
27.	West Bengal	Extn. of 60, 80 & 81	245
Total			19595

Tube-well Projects in Gujarat

4236. SHRI SAVSHIBHAI MAKWANA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state the details of new Tube-well Projects started in Gujarat during the last two years, district-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): The Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), under its exploratory drilling programme, has drilled 216 exploratory tubewells in the State of Gujarat during last two years. District-wise and year-wise number of exploratory wells drilled by CGWB is given in enclosed Statement.

Statement

Number of Exploratory Tubewells Drilled by CGWB in Gujarat during last two years

Sl.No.	District	No. of Exploratory Drilled	
		2000-01	2001-02
1	2	3	4
1.	Banaskantha	1	4
2.	Bharuch	4	-
3.	Gandhi Nagar	3	3

1	2	3	4
4.	Junagadh	2	-
5.	Kheda	3	-
6.	Kachchh	10	42
7.	Mehsana	6	1
8.	Rajkot	1	32
9.	Surat	3	-
10.	Sabar Kantha	28	45
11.	Jamnagar	-	28
Total		61	155

[Translation]

Bilaspur Irrigation Project

4237. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount likely to be spent on Bilaspur Irrigation Project and the work completed so far thereon;

(b) the number of cities and villages likely to be benefited on completion of the project;

(c) whether the Government propose to include Bisalpur Irrigation Project amongst the Centrally Sponsored Schemes; and

(d) if so, the time by which the same is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) The amount likely to be spent on Bisalpur Drinking Water & Irrigation Project is Rs. 657.91 crore. The Dam along with intake structure for water supply to Ajmer and Jaipur districts has already been completed and construction of Right Main Canal (51.64 Km) has been completed upto 45 Km.

(b) On completion of the Project, Jaipur, Ajmer and 256 villages of Tonk District of Rajasthan will be benefited.

(c) and (d) Bisalpur project is already getting Central Loan Assistance under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP). So far, an amount of Rs. 41.56 Crore has been made available to the State Government for this project.

[English]

Harvesting of Rain Water

4238. SHRI CHANDRA VIJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to review the anachronistic rules prohibiting the public and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) to harvest rain water and recharge ground water;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to prohibit establishment of water intensive industries in water scare areas; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) In order to regulate development of ground water in the over-exploited areas, the Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA), constituted under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 has declared 11 areas as notified areas restricting fresh ground water withdrawal. In the notified areas, no person/organization/agency (Government or non-Government) can undertake any scheme/project of ground water development and

management without prior permission of the Authority. In the notified areas of Delhi, however permission of the CGWA is necessary even for construction of recharge wells. This is being done to avoid misuse of recharge structures for construction of production wells for abstraction of ground water.

Cultivation of Aromatic Plants in NER

4239. SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is great potentiality for the cultivation of aromatic plants in the North-East Region (NER) of the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government have set up any committee for identification of the areas in the NER where the aromatic plants could be grown;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the funds allocated for encouraging the farmers for the cultivation of said plants in the region during the last three years, Year-wise; and

(d) the action taken for the commercial cultivation and marketing of medicinal and aromatic plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government of India has set up a National Medicinal Plants Board on 24th November, 2000 with specific mandate to coordinate, formulate policies, conserve and develop medicinal and aromatic plants in the country including North Eastern Region. The Board has made available Rs.534.66 lakhs in North-Eastern region for 35 projects in the field of development of medicinal and aromatic plants.

Besides, under the Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in North-Eastern States including Sikkim, funds amounting to Rs.67.24 crores have been made available during 2001-02 in the Region for all round development of horticulture including medicinal and aromatic plants. During 2002-03, under the scheme, funds amounting to Rs.120.00 crores have been provided for implementing its programmes in the area.

Further, funds amounting to Rs.9.46 lakhs and Rs. 6.43 lakhs have also been made available through Directorate of Arecanut and Spices, Ministry of Agriculture, to Regional Research Station (CSIR), Jorhat and Assam

Agriculture University respectively for production and distribution of quality planting material of aromatic plants and establishment and maintenance of herbal gardens in the region.

Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research and Department of Biotechnology have been supporting research and development projects on various medicinal and aromatic plants in the country including North-Eastern region.

(d) Medicinal Plants Board invites marketing project proposals relating to medicinal and aromatic plants. The Board has approved one such project for Tripura.

Insurance Claim of Farmers of Andhra Pradesh

4240. SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY:

SHRI Y.V. RAO:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether insurance claims of about 8,000 cotton farmers from Adilabad district of Andhra Pradesh have not been settled so far;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have received any request from the Government of Andhra Pradesh in this regard; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) The General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC) has now been directed to settle these claims immediately in respect of cotton crop for 38 Mandals of Adilabad district of Andhra Pradesh.

(b) Settlement of these claims were delayed because correct and revised yield data based on which the admissible claims are calculated by the IA was received from the State very late.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The IA has already been directed to settle the admissible claims expeditiously.

Production of Makhana

4241. SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total production of Makhana in the country during the last three years, State/Union Territory-wise;

(b) the requirement of Makhana in the country; and

(c) the measures the Government propose to take to increase the production and export of Makhana?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) The total production of Makhana in the country is 4000 tonnes of which about 90% is produced in the State of Bihar. The details of production of Makhana in Bihar State during the last three years is as follows:

Year	Production (MT)
1999-2000	3500
2000-2001	3500
2001-2002	3600

(b) No assessment has been made about the requirement of Makhana in the country.

(c) The Government is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Macro Management in Agriculture - Supplementation/Complementation of State Efforts through Work Plans under which the State Governments can take up developmental programmes for horticultural crops including Makhana as per their felt needs and requirements.

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is providing research support for the development of Makhana under their A. P. Cess fund. Besides, ICAR has established a National Research Centre for Makhana at Darbhanga to cater to the needs of the Makhana growers in the country.

The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) is providing financial assistance for promoting export of all agricultural products including Makhana through the Schemes being implemented by them.

Godavari Action Plan

4242. DR. B.B. RAMAIAH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether work on "Godavari Action Plan" for the forthcoming "Kumbh Mela" has started at Nasik in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details alongwith the contribution made by the Union Government in this project; and

(c) the time by which the said project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) A scheme of pollution abatement of river Godavari, which is known as the Godavari Action Plan, is being implemented in three towns of Maharashtra namely, Nasik, Trimbakeshwar and Nanded. The action plan was approved by Government in July 1995 under the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP). The approved cost of works in these towns is Rs. 95.03 crore. Out of this amount, the cost of works for Nasik and Trimabakeshwar towns is Rs. 80.53 crore. Under the plan in Nasik and Trimabakeshwar, sewage shall be intercepted and diverted for treatment in three sewage treatment plants of 78 million litres per day, 22 million litres per day and 1 million litres per day capacities. The scheme also includes other works such as construction of 36 units of low cost toilets, river front development of 8 ghats, 9 units of improved wood crematoria, renovation of 4 ponds, afforestation and public participation & public awareness. The Government has released an amount of Rs. 41.60 crore so far.

The project at Nasik and Trimabakeshwar are targeted for completion by March 2003, before the commencement of ensuing Kumbh Mela.

Schemes for Child Labour

4243. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:

SHRIMATI PRABHA RAU:

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Maharashtra have formulated a number of schemes for the benefit of child labour under the Centrally sponsored National Child Labour Project (NCLP);

(b) if so, the details of the schemes;

(c) whether the Government have sanctioned any grants for the implementation of these schemes; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) to (d) Under the Scheme of National Child Labour Projects (NCLPs), the State Government of Maharashtra has been sanctioned NCLPs at Solapur and Thane Districts with an annual budget of Rs. 73,73,600/- and Rs.25,11,000/- for coverage of 1700 and 1000 child labour respectively.

Besides the above, the Government has received proposals from the State Government of Maharashtra for setting up National Child Labour Projects in certain other districts of the State also.

Initial scrutiny of the proposals has been done and letters issued to the concerned districts for resubmitting revised proposals as per the scheme through the State Government.

[Translation]

Import of Quality Seeds

4244. SHRI MANJAY LAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have to import quality seeds in order to meet their shortage;

(b) if so, the types of seeds imported during the last three years; and

(c) the details of the seeds distributed to various States/Union Territories during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

US Farm Bill, 2002

4245. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the US Farm Bill of 2002 has incorporated many new provisions which are likely to depress global commodity prices and affect the exports of developing countries including India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this bill has been examined by Union Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof and to what extent it may affect India; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (e) Under the US Farm Security and Rural Investment Act 2002, the support to various agricultural commodities is sought to be provided. Reports are indicating that assistance stipulated under US Farm Bill may have a price depressing effect on world markets. This may have a negative effect on the exports of developing countries.

India in its negotiating proposals filed with the WTO has already demanded substantial reductions in domestic support and elimination of export subsidies by the developed countries within a limited period.

Performance of NABARD and NCDC

4246. SHRI ANANT GUDHE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently reviewed the performance of NABARD and NCDC for the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof in terms of physical and financial targets fixed and achieved, scheme-wise and State-wise particularly in Maharashtra;

(c) the details of projects completed/in progress during the last three years in Maharashtra alongwith financial and physical achievements;

(d) the details of fresh proposals received from the Maharashtra Government; and

(e) the action taken thereon, alongwith the funds likely to be made available to Maharashtra State, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Afforestation Schemes

4247. CHOWDHARY TALIB HUSSAIN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Central Schemes being implemented in Jammu and Kashmir and the details of NGOs working for conservation of forests and afforestation there,

(b) the amount of funds allocated and spent during the last three years under various schemes;

(c) whether Shivaliks and its branches have not received the due attention in respect of protection and plantation schemes; and

(d) if so, the remedial steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) The Centrally Sponsored Schemes of the Ministry of Environment & Forests being implemented in Jammu & Kashmir for conservation of forests and afforestation are as follows:

Ninth Plan

- (1) Integrated Afforestation Eco-development Project Scheme (IAEPS)
- (2) Area Oriented Fuelwood Fodder Project Scheme (AOFPS)
- (3) Non-Timber Forest Produce including Medicinal Plants (NTFPS)
- (4) Grant-in-Aid Scheme to NGOs.
- (5) Forest Fire Control and Management

Tenth Plan

- (6) National Afforestation Programme Scheme.
- (2) Grant-in-Aid Scheme to NGOs.
- (3) Forest Fire Control and Management

The following NGOs have been sanctioned grant assistance for afforestation works in Jammu & Kashmir during the IX Plan:

- (i) The Kashmir Arts Embroidery Workers Industrial Co-operative Society Ltd.
- (ii) Kamal Embroidery Workers Industrial Co-operative Society, District: Badgam.
- (iii) Pir Panchal Environmental & Bio-Development Society, District: Poonch.
- (iv) Women & Children Welfare Society, District: Badgam.
- (v) The Kashmir Gift Embroidery Works Industrial Co-operative Society, District: Badgam

(b) The details of funds allocated and spent under various Centrally Sponsored Scheme are as follows:

(In Rupees lakhs)

S.No.	Name of the Project	1999-2000		2000-2001		2001-2002	
		Funds allocated	Amounts Spent	Funds allocated	Amounts Spent	Funds allocated	Amounts Spent
1.	IAEPS	80.91	70.87	78.67	78.67	0.00	0.00
2.	NTEP	37.74	34.77	38.00	30.00	60.00	60.00
3.	AOFFP	88.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4.	Forest Fire Control	100.00	45.85	32.70	0.00	91.70	55.77
Total		307.32	151.49	149.37	108.67	151.7	115.77

Under the Grants-in-Aid Scheme to NGO's, a sum of Rs.19.61 lakhs has been released during the last 3 years.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The Shivalik and its branches have received due attention in respect of plantation. The Centrally Sponsored Schemes namely IAEPS Chenani, AOFF, Forest Fire Control and RVP Thain FD-II have been/are being implemented in Shivalik. Besides State Plan Schemes are also being implemented in the Shivaliks.

Sea Erosion

4248. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the total areas in east coast in Orissa affected by sea erosion;

(b) the steps taken to check sea erosion during the last three year;

(c) the amount spent and the financial assistance given to the State for the purpose;

(d) whether the Government propose to enhance Central Assistance during 2002-03; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) No information regarding total area affected by sea erosion in east cost in Orissa is available. However, as reported by the Government of Orissa, total length of coastline affected by sea erosion in Orissa is 107.55 Kms.

(b) Flood Management being a State subject, the responsibility of planning funding, executing and

operating flood control schemes including sea erosion primarily rests with the State Governments. The assistance rendered by the Central Government is technical, catalytic and promotional in nature.

A revised proposal amounting to Rs. 505.73 crore received from the Government of Orissa in July, 2001 for inclusion in the National Coastal Protection Project which, envisaged construction of sea walls at open beaches (75.20 Km) and at mouth of rivers (23.35 km), new saline embankments (74.80 km) and river bank protection works in tidal reaches (43.201 km) was examined in Central Water Commission (CWC) and comments sent to the State Government in October, 2001. The reply to the comments is awaited from the State Government.

Further, the scheme costing Rs. 4.95 crore for inclusion in the proposed Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) as received from the State of Orissa were also examined in CWC and comments sent to the State Government in January, 2002 the reply of which is awaited.

(c) to (e) No Central Assistance to check sea erosion was provided to the State of Orissa during the last three years.

Marine National Park

4249. SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the policy of the Government towards the existing and upcoming industries which are suffering due to existence of Marine National park (MNP) in Jamnagar district of Gujarat;

(b) whether the Government are taking any action where crores of Rupees are going to become NPA because of MNP;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government propose to allow and regularise upcoming and existing projects and completely barring any new project in that area; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) The Marine National Park and Sanctuary has been notified for the protection, propagation and development of the unique marine bio-diversity of the region. According to Section 29 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, only such activities that are for development of wildlife, can be permitted in any national park and sanctuary. The High Court of Gujarat, in its order dated 18th July, 2001, has restrained the Government from granting any more authorization and permission for laying down pipelines in any part of the sanctuary or the national park. The Judgement also mentions that even the pending cases shall be decided keeping in view the provisions of Section 29 of the Act.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

IASRI

4250. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether maintenance work in Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute (IASRI) is being done through private contractors;

(b) if so, the list of all the works awarded to private contractors during the last three years along with details such as bid amount, name of the firm, registration number of contractor, sales tax clearance particulars, contractor-wise;

(c) whether fresh open tenders were invited every year in all the cases; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As given in the statement enclosed. For maintenance and works sales tax component is not involved.

(c) Yes, Sir. In most of the cases.

(d) Only in cases where the contractor/firm were manufacturers, authorized dealers, Government Departments the repeat orders were given.

Statement

Sl.No.	Year	Name of Work	Name of Firm/Contractor	Regn. No.	Bid Amount
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	99-2K	Annual Civil Maint. of IASRI	Sh. Rajesh Kumar Sharma, New Delhi	5344 with CPWD	1,32,300
2.	99-2K	Annual Civil/Elect. Maint. of IASRI Staff Quarters of IASRI including Operation of Water Supply Pump	Sh. Rajesh Kumar Sharma, New Delhi	5344 with CPWD	1,65,600
3.	99-2K	Annual Contract for Operation of KONE Lifts of IASRI	M/s. KONE Elevator India Ltd., New Delhi	The firm is manufacturer of the lifts	18,000
4.	99-2K	Annual Elect. Maint. of IASRI	M/s. Pomera & Co. P. Ltd., Karnal (HR)	5821 Dt. 29.4.98 with PWD, Karnal	2,12,400
5.	99-2K	Cleaning of O.H./U.G. Water Tanks of IASRI	M/s. Aqua Purifiers India, New Delhi	8682 with CPWD	47,250
6.	99-2K	A.M.C. of 2 Nos. of Capacitors Panels at Sub-Station of IASRI	M/s. Standard Capacitors, Delhi	55/55/07285/TMT/SSI	60,000

1	2	3	4	5	6
7.	99-2K	Annual Maint. of 200 KVA DG Set of IASRI	Goodwill Autoways (Regd.), New Delhi	Firm is the Authorised Dealer of the Battery, DG Sets etc.	11,700
8.	99-2K	Construction of Garage & Store Yard in IASRI	Saggu Furnishers, N.Delhi	9277 with CPWD	4,35,854
9.	99-2K	Cleaning of sewerlines Manholes Underground Sump of IASRI	Sh. Rajesh Kumar Sharma, New Delhi	5344 with CPWD	19,200
10.	99-2K	Construction of Garbage Yard in IASRI	Saggu Furnisher, New Delhi	9227 with CPWD	1,01,613
11.	2000-01	Annual Maint. of 2 Nos. of Capacitors Panels at Sub-Station of IASRI	M/s. Standard Capacitors, Delhi	55/55/07285/TMT/SSI	60,000
12.	2000-01	Remodeling of Director's of Officer's Toilet at 1st Floor of New Building of IASRI	Sh. Manoj Kumar, Delhi	5282 with CPWD	61,890
13.	2000-01	A.M.C. of KONE Lifts of IASRI	M/s. KONE Elevator India Ltd, New Delhi	The firm is manufacturer of the lifts	39,600
14.	2000-01	Annual Maintenance of 200 KVA DG Set of IASRI.	M/s Goodwill Autoways (Regd.) New Delhi	Firm is Authorised Dealer of the Battery, DG Sets etc.	11,700
15.	2000-01	Annual Civil Maint. of IASRI	Sh. Major Kumar, Delhi	5282 with CPWD	1,31,400
16.	2000-01	Annual Civil/Elect. Maint. of IASRI Staff Quarters of IASRI including Operation of Water Supply Pump.	Sh. Manoj Kumar, Delhi	5282 with CPWD	1,64,400
17.	2000-01	Annual Electrical Maintenance of IASRI	M/s. Arora Engg. & Contractors, New Delhi	E.C. No. 2493 with Govt. of NCT, Delhi	1,92,600
18.	2000-01	Re-Surfacing of Internal Roads of IASRI	Sh. C.S. Gulati, Govt. Contractor, Delhi	123 with MCD, Delhi	2,85,747
19.	2000-01	Remodeling of Main Gate of IASRI	M/s. Design Consultants, New Delhi	554 with CPWD	61,287
20.	2000-01	Repair of Toilets at Ground & 1st floor of Guest Hosue of IASRI	M/s. Bharat Interiors & Contractors, New Delhi.	GIR No. 461-A 14(6)	2,12,181
21.	2000-01	Repair of Main Ent. Floor of Comp. Bldg. & White Washing/ Painting in diff. bldgs. of IASRI	Sh. Dinesh Kumar, Govt. Contractor, Karnal (HR)	1/TCK, SE/TCC-II, HSEB, Karnal	1,25,620
22.	2000-01	Construction of Dinning Hall in the Guest House of IASRI	M/s. U.K. Traders, Govt. Contractor & Civil Engineer, Delhi	229 with MCD, Delhi.	56,285

1	2	3	4	5	6
23.	2000-01	Renovation of Toilets at Ground & 1st floor of Computer Building of IASRI	M/s. U.K. Traders, Govt. Contractor & Civil Engineer, Delhi	229 with MCD, Delhi	2,24,790
24.	2000-01	Annual Maintenance of 100 KVA DG Set of IASRI	M/s. Goodwill Autoways (Regd.), New Delhi	Firm is the Authorised Dealer of the Battery, DG Sets etc.	10,800
25.	2000-01	Renovation of Computer Lab at IASRI	M/s. Bharat Bhushan & Co., New Delhi	I.T. No. AAGPB/05095	3,33,500
26.	2000-01	Annual Contract for Operation of 2 Nos. of KONE Lifts of IASRI	M/s. Gogia Brothers, New Delhi	E.C. No. 1764 with Govt. of NCT, Delhi	32,850
27.	2001-02	Annual Maint. of 2 Nos. of Capacitors Panels at Sub-Station of IASRI	M/s. Standard Capacitors, Delhi	55/55/07285/TMT/SSI	60,000
28.	2001-02	A.M.C. of KONE Lifts of IASRI	M/s. KONE Elevator India Ltd., New Delhi	The firm is manufacturer of the lifts	39,600
29.	2001-02	Annual Maintenance of 200 KVA DG Set of IASRI	M/s. O.V.N. Trading Engineers Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi	Firm is Authorised Dealer & Service Provider of DG Sets.	19,391
30.	2001-02	Annual Maintenance of 100 KVA DG Sets of IASRI	M/s. O.V.N. Trading Engineers Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi	Firm is Authorised Dealer & Service provider of DG Sets.	14,263
31.	2001-02	Annual Civil Maint. of IASRI	Sh. Jagmohan Singh, New Delhi	786 with CPWD	1,20,420
32.	2001-02	Annual Civil/Elect. Maint. of Staff Quarters of IASRI	Sh. Jagmohan Singh, New Delhi	786 with CPWD	67,920
33.	2001-02	Annual Electrical Maintenance of IASRI	M/s. Gogia Brothers, New Delhi	E.C. No. 1764 with Govt. of NCT, Delhi	1,17,000
34.	2001-02	Annual Contract for Operation of Water Supply Pumo at Staff Quarters, Paschim Vihar	M/s. P.R. Construction Co., New Delhi	9999 with CPWD	33,600
35.	2001-02	Annual Contract for Operation of 2 Nos. of KONE Lifts of IASRI	M/s. Gogia Brothers, New Delhi	E.C. No. 1764 with Govt. of NCT, Delhi.	45,600
36.	2001-02	Overhauling/Dehydration of Transformers at Sub-Station of IASRI	M/s. Gogia Brothers, New Delhi	E.C. No. 1764 with Govt. of NCT, Delhi	30,600
37.	2001-02	Water Proofing Treatment over Roof of Old Building of IASRI	Sh. C.S. Gulati, New Delhi	123 with MCD, Delhi	1,10,198
38.	2001-02	Cleaning of Overhead, Underground Water Tank of IASRI	M/s. Aqua Purifiers, India, New Delhi	8682 with CPWD	52,920

1	2	3	4	5	6
39.	2001-02	Attending/ Repairing of Cable fault in the Emergency situation in the Sub-Station of IASRI	M/s. Gogia Brothers, New Delhi	E.C. No. 1764 with Govt. of NCT, Delhi	18,300
40.	2001-02	Repairing of Cable fault in the Sub-Station of IASRI	M/s. Gogia Brothers, New Delhi	E.C. No. 1764 with Govt. of NCT, Delhi	64,500
41.	2001-02	Renovation of Toilets at 2nd floor of Computer Building of IASRI	M/s. Gupta Brothers New Delhi	F/Kar/87 with the HQ Commander works Engineers, Kanpur	1,17,443
42.	2001-02	Renovation of Toilets at First & Second Floor of Sukhatme Hostel of IASRI	M/s. Gupta Brothers New Delhi	F/Kar/87 with the HQ Commander works Engineers, Kanpur	85,322
43.	2001-02	Re-Flooring work in Common Rooms, Dinning Room etc. in the Guest House of IASRI	M/s. Gupta Brothers New Delhi	F/Kar/87 with the HQ Commander works Engineers, Kanpur	87,573
44.	2001-02	Water Proofing Treatment over Roof of Computer Building & Sub-Station of IASRI	M/s. Ess Dee Construction New Delhi	6165 with MCD	2,52,089
45.	2001-02	Renovation of Entrance Hall of Guest House of IASRI	M/s. Goel Construction & Engineers, New Delhi	MJPL/TS/Civil/B-74 with IOCL	1,07,384
46.	2001-02	Re-Wiring at Ground Floor of Guest House of IASRI	M/s. Gogia Brothers, New Delhi	E.C. No. 1764 with Govt. of NCT, Delhi	4,95,784
47.	2001-02	Replacement of Valve, Foot valve, Repair of Diesel Engine/Shutters of Krishi Niketan Pump House of IASRI	M/s. Gogia Brothers, New Delhi	E.C. No. 1764 with Govt. of NCT, Delhi	79,200
48.	2001-02	Re-Wiring from Main Switch to D.V.B. Meter, including change with 40 Amp. D.P. Isolator of Staff Quarters, Krishi Niketan, Paschim Vihar	M/s. Gogia Brothers, New Delhi	E.C. No. 1764 with Govt. of NCT, Delhi	58,710
49.	2001-02	Replacement of 5 H.P. Jet System in the Horticulture Pump House and install at 7.5 H.P. Summer Sevil Pump Set with complete material.	M/s. Gogia Brothers, New Delhi	E.C. No. 1764 with Govt. of NCT, Delhi	76,360
50.	2001-02	Replacement of damaged 65 m.m. G.I. Water Supply Pipe Line from MCD Pipe Line to Water Sump of Krishi Niketan Staff Quarters	Sh. Manoj Kumar, Delhi	5282 with CPWD	33,034

1	2	3	4	5	6
51.	1999-2K	EPABX JS-500 200 Lines	M/s. Saral Communication	AOBPS 4684 K	78,000/-
52.	1999-2K	Water Coolers	M/s. J/P/ Enterprises		35,536/-
53.	1999-2K	Intercom 64 lines	M/s. Ability Electronics	LC/40/11795/0886 Dt. 23.8.96	12,190/-
54.	1999-2K	Gestetner Machine	M/s. VSM India Ltd.	IDE - 797	10,450/-
55.	1999-2K	Airconditioners	M/s. Najmus Automation	WC-3-112008147-0201	52,500/-
56.	1999-2K	Little Master Photo Copier	M/s. HCL Ltd., Info System	ND/5022496	5,000/-
57.	1999-2K	Fax Machine	M/s. Modi Zerox	LC-089/1875 For 1/0596	4,000/-
58.	1999-2K	House Keeping	M/s. Manoj Kumar	5282 CPWD	1,16,220/-
59.	1999-2K	Room Cooler, Desert Coolers	M/s. Manoj Kumar	5282 CPWD	35,163/-
60.	1999-2K	M/s. Pest Control	M/s. Pest Control Advisors & Services	IL-17 Dt. 26.7.72	20,400/-
61.	2000-01	EPABX JS-500 200 Lines	M/s. Saral Communication	APBPS 4684 K	81,900/-
62.	2000-01	Intercom 64 lines	M/s. Ability Electronics	LC/40/11795/0/886 Dt. 23.8.96	12,190/-
63.	2000-01	Gestetner Machine	M/s. VSM India Ltd.	IDE - 797	10,450/-
64.	2000-01	Airconditioners	M/s. Najmus Automation	WC-3 102008147-0201	52,500/-
65.	2000-01	Water Coolers	M/s. Najmus Automation	WC-3 102008147-0201	12,025/-
66.	2000-01	Little Master Photocopier	M/s. HCL Ltd., Info System	ND/5022496	5,000/-
67.	2000-01	Fax Machine	M/s. Modi Zerox	lc-089/1875/ For 1/0596	5,000/-
68.	2000-01	House Keepng	M/s. Manoj Kmuar	5282 CPWD	1,74,168/-
69.	2000-01	-do-	M/s. Manoj Kumar	5282 CPWD	18,003/-
70.	2000-01	Pest Control	M/s. Hind Pest Control	IL-17 dt. 26.7.72	19,000/-
71.	2001-02	EPABX JS - 500 200 Lines	M/s. Saral Digitech	AOBPS 4684	1,10,200/-
72.	2001-02	Intercom 64 Lines	M/s. Ability Elect.	LC/40/11795/0886 dt. 23.8.96	15,445/-
73.	2001-02	Gestetner Machine	M/s. Impact Automation	Manufacturer	4,695/-
74.	2001-02	Airconditioners	M/s. Najmus Automation	WC-3-112008147-0201	1,18,500/-
75.	2001-02	Water Coolers	M/s. Najmus Automation	WC-3-112008147-0201	30,424/-
76.	2001-02	Little Master Photocopy	M/s. HCL Ltd.	ND/5022496	500/-
77.	2001-02	Fax Machine	M/s. Modi Zerox	IC-089/1875 for 1/0596	5000/-

1	2	3	4	5	6
78.	2001-02	House Keeping	M/s. Manoj Kumar	5282 CPWD	1,11,919/-
79.	2001-02	Room Coolers / Desert Coolers	M/s. Anand & Co.	WC/46000094/1296	30,974/-
80.	2001-02	Pest Control	M/s. Hind Pest Control	IL-17 dt. 26.9.72	19,000/-
81.	1999-2K	A.M.C. of Photo Copy Machine	M/s. Modi Xerox Ltd.	LC/89/187541/0596	28,023/-
82.	1999-2K	A.M.C. of U.P.S. System.	M/s. Manak Engg. Services	LC/87/140315/0989	29,400/-
83.	1999-2K	A.M.C. of Computer Systems	M/s. Sirius Infotech	LC/89/198993/11-97	29,975/-
84.	1999-2K	Computer System	M/s. Wipro Infotech Ltd.	Manufacturer	1,01,000/-
85.	1999-2K	Connectivity/AMC Charges of FTDMA V-SAT	M/s. National Informatic Centre	Under Min. of Planning Govt. of India	1,45,000/-
86.	2000-01	Computer System	M/s. Wipro Infotech Ltd.	Manufacturer	1,87,800/-
87.	2000-01	A.M.C. of Photocopy Machine	M/s. Modi Xerox Ltd.	LC/89/1875417/0596	29,462/-
88.	2000-01	A.M.C. of U.P.S. System	M/s. Manak Engg. Services	LC/87/140315/0989	39,200/-
89.	2000-01	A.M.C. of Computer Systems	M/s. Sirius Infotech	LC/897/198993/11-97	22,500/-
90.	2000-01	Connectivity/AMC Charges of FTDMA V-SAT	M/s. National Informatic Centre	Under Min. of Planning, Govt. of India	2,11,200/-
91.	2001-02	Photocopy Machine	M/s. Modi Xerox Ltd.	LC/89/187541/0596	4,708/-
92.	2001-02	UPS & PCs	M/s. UC System	LC/44/195528/0397	1,00,325/-
93.	2001-02	Overhead Projector	M/s. SVG	Manufacturer	18,468/-
94.	2001-02	Connectivity/AMC Charges of FTDMA-VSAT	M/s. National Informatic Centre	Govt. Organisation	1,50,000/-

Delhi Milk Scheme

4251. SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have issued instructions to all the Government departments to procure stationery and printing material through NCCF as well as Kendriya Bhandar and also from registered firms;

(b) if so, whether DMS has flouted the norms in making such purchase;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) action taken by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes Sir. Instructions were issued by the Department of Personnel & Training in July, 1981, in consultation with Ministry of Finance making it mandatory for Central Government Department/bodies controlled or financed by the Central Government, to make local purchase of stationery and other items from Kendriya Bhandar. Instructions were issued in 1987 and 1994 to bring Super Bazar and NCCF also under the purview of this arrangement. There are no instructions to procure stationery etc. from the parties registered with these bodies.

(b) to (d) DMS has not flouted any norms/procedure for any purchase.

Visa-on-Arrival

4252. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Singapore High Commission has agreed to issue Visa-on-Arrival to Indian Tourists;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of other countries which are issuing Visa-on-Arrival to Indian Tourists?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) No, Sir. Singapore High Commission has not yet started issuing Visa-on-arrival to Indian tourists.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) Countries which extend Visa-on-arrival facility to Indian tourists are Fiji, Maldives, Laos, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, Comodia, Jamaica, Madagascar, Comoros, Azerbaizan, Thailand, Kenya, Samoa and Sri Lanka.

Development of Sun Temple, Konark

4253. DR. PRASANNA KUMAR PATASANI:

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have drawn a special plan to preserve/improve ancient heritage sites/monuments/forts/temples in Orissa;
- (b) if so, the details of the funds allocated for this plan; and
- (c) the special steps being taken to create a new atmosphere around these monuments particularly the Sun Temple?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) Yes Sir, for developing the environs around the Sun Temple Konark a detailed plan has been drawn up and proposals are being formulated for improving Buddhist sites at Lalitgiri, District Cuttack Ratnagiri, Udaigiri Distt. Jajpur, Asokan Edict at Dauli and Jaina Caves at Udaigiri and Khandagiri.

- (b) As the proposals are still at the planning stage no specific funds have been allotted yet.

- (c) All shops, tourist huts, restaurants, documentation-cum-cultural-information centres, parking lots etc. at Sun Temple, Konark are to be grouped and reorganised in two complexes at a distance from the monument and soft light beam provided for illumination of the complex.

Loans under PMRY

4254. SHRI BHIM DAHAL:

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

SHRI A. NARENDRA:

SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:

SHRI J.S. BRAR:

Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of applicants provided with loans under Prime Minister Rozgar Yojana during each of the last three years and thereafter, State-wise and district-wise;
- (b) the details of funds allocated and utilised under the above scheme, district-wise;
- (c) whether most of the funds have been sanctioned ignoring the claim of rural and village youths;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the Government propose to issue instructions to the Banks/District officials to consider sympathetically the youths belonging to rural areas and if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the steps taken to enhance the allocation and coverage of more persons during 2002-2003?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) Under the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana, the Government of India monitors the implementation of the Scheme State/U.T.-wise and not district-wise. Based upon the reports received from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), statement-I showing state-wise details of the number of applications disbursed loans, during the last three years i.e. 1999-2000; 2000-2001 and 2001-02 under the PMRY is enclosed. The Progress Report for the year 2002-03 under the PMRY is yet to be received from the RBI.

- (b) Under the PMRY, the Central Government

releases funds for Subsidy as well as for Training and Entrepreneurial Development etc. While the funds for Subsidy are authorised to the RBI for passing on to the individual beneficiaries through the implementing banks, the funds for Training and Entrepreneurial Development etc. are released to States/UTs. In turn, the State Governments allocate these funds on their own to their districts and monitor the utilization of these funds. An amount of Rs. 151.91 crores has been released to State/UTs for Training and Entrepreneurial Development etc. between 1993-94 to 2002-03 (as on 05.08.02) under the PMRY. Out of this amount, State/UTs have reported utilisation of Rs. 121.81 crores. The State/UT-wise details of funds released and utilised from 1993-94 to 2002-03 (as on 05.08.02) are given in the enclosed statement-II.

(c) to (e) No, Sir. As per the Evaluation Study (2nd round) conducted by the Institute of Applied Manpower Research (IAMR), New Delhi in 2000-01, the distribution of the beneficiaries in rural and urban areas is 49.9% and 50.1% respectively.

(f) The steps taken to enhance the coverage of the scheme include allocation of additional targets to the States, measures to improve the recovery of loan over dues, regular interaction with the implementing agencies, relaxation in the eligibility parameters for the applicants like enhancement in the family income ceiling, relaxation of residency criteria for married women, etc.

Statement-I

State-wise details of the number of applicants disbursed loans, during the last three year i.e. 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-02 under the PMRY as on 29.07.02

(Based on the RBI reports)

Sl.No.	State/UTs	1999-2000 (Nos.)	2000-01 (Nos.)	2001-02 (Nos.) (Up to July 2002)
1	2	3	4	5
Northern Region				
1	Haryana	5856	6084	4936
2	Himachal Pradesh	2011	1956	2153
3	Jammu & Kashmir	871	669	789
4	Punjab	8519	7784	6639
5	Rajasthan	11089	11492	9227
6	Chandigarh	51	48	87
7	Delhi	614	736	575
North Eastern Region				
8	Assam	5850	3401	1592
9	Manipur	310	25	76
10	Meghalaya	356	216	113
11	Nagaland	73	26	28
12	Tripura	244	350	487

1	2	3	4	5
13	Arunachal Pradesh	215	265	175
14	Mizoram	84	75	24
15	Sikkim	43	44	37
Eastern Region				
16	Bihar	9159	8973	5391
17	Jharkhand*			2230
18	Orissa	6731	6768	1655
19	West Bengal	2910	2193	1658
20	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	128	115	93
Central Region				
21	Madhya Pradesh	21207	19615	8933
22	Chhattisgarh*			1226
23	Uttar Pradesh	36919	36620	29714
24	Uttaranchal*			3856
Western Region				
25	Gujarat	10085	8046	6674
26	Maharashtra	26202	23077	14951
27	Daman & Diu	17	19	8
28	Goa	382	285	161
29	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	25	22	10
Southern Region				
30	Andhra Pradesh	13309	12330	7391
31	Karnataka	15255	9404	6400
32	Kerala	12500	10442	8301
33	Tamil Nadu	12154	9509	9067
34	Lakshadweep	33	16	13
35	Pondicherry	252	214	161

* States were carved out in Nov. 2000. Hence, separate progress report is from 2001-02.

Statement-II

State/UT-wise details of funds released and utilised from 1993-94 to 2002-03 (as on 5.8.2002)

(Amount Rs. in thousand)

S.No.	State/UT	Funds released	Funds utilised
1	2	3	4
1	Andhra Pradesh	154305.73	138957.20
2	Assam	57723.25	55125.00
3	Arunachal Pradesh	2587.26	2435.45
4	Bihar	50955.03	29768.68
5	Chhattisgarh	4798.54	0.00
6	Delhi	7410.25	3332.31
7	Goa	2081.75	1485.22
8	Gujarat	103789.45	29391.10
9	Haryana	29856.23	25112.58
10	Himachal Pradesh	8729.69	7445.69
11	Jammu & Kashmir	9920.54	6142.12
12	Jharkhand	6952.10	0.00
13	Karnataka	105677.97	87117.97
14	Kerala	75502.03	70396.45
15	Madhya Pradesh	141642.22	131415.53
16	Maharashtra	129018.94	105050.72
17	Manipur	9058.16	7479.00
18	Meghalaya	5138.55	3782.10
19	Mizoram	1986.60	1905.00
20	Nagaland	2225.97	1797.65
21	Orissa	57407.83	40547.05
22	Punjab	59440.93	49265.17
23	Rajasthan	63058.55	60517.68

1	2	3	4
24	Tamil Nadu	96457.11	70163.88
25	Tripura	7876.60	5590.20
26	Uttar Pradesh	270197.95	244811.71
27	Uttaranchal	5166.87	0.00
28	West Bengal	41075.90	33697.35
29	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1275.50	567.31
30	Chandigarh	1335.40	860.27
31	Daman & Diu	1010.35	155.35
32	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	937.50	185.50
33	Lakshadweep	459.23	112.25
34	Pondicherry	3180.73	2615.20
35	Sikkim	894.20	837.65
Total		1519134.90	1218066.34

[Translation]

Flood Control in Uttar Pradesh

4255. SHRI RAM RATI BIND: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of damage caused to life and property and the area submerged due to floods in the Ganga river in Mirzapur, Sant Ravidas Nagar (Bhadoli), Varanasi, Allahabad and the Ghaghra and the Tamsa rivers in Azamgarh and Man districts of Uttar Pradesh between January 1, 1998 and July 15, 2002;

(b) the preventive measures taken and the financial assistance provided to the State, year-wise;

(c) whether the Government propose to send a Central Team to review the situation and take appropriate action in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) The details of damage caused to life and property and the area submerged due to floods for the

districts of Mirzapur, Sant Ravi Das Nagar (Bhadohi), Varanasi, Allahabad, Azamgarh and Mau districts of Uttar Pradesh as reported by the Government of Uttar Pradesh for the last four years i.e. 1998-99, 1999-2000, 2000-01 and 2001-02 is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) Flood Management being a State subject, the responsibility of planning, funding, executing and operating flood control schemes primarily rests with the State Governments. The assistance rendered by the Central

Government is technical, catalytic and promotional in nature.

A central assistance amounting to Rs. 10.89 crore under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely Critical Anti Erosion Works in Ganga Basin States and Rs. 1.75 crore under Flood Protection Works of Kosi and Gandak rivers in Nepal portion has been released to the Govt. of Uttar Pradesh during the last three years as per the year-wise breakup given below:

Sl.No.	Name of the scheme	Financial Assistance (Rs. Lakh)			Total (Rs. Lakh)
		1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02	
1.	Critical Anti Erosion Works in Ganga Basin	-	400.00	689.00	1089.00
2.	Flood Protection Works on Gandak (Nepal portion)		175.22	-	175.22

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. A Central Team is scheduled to visit the erosion sites on Ganga river in the districts of Mirzapur and Sant Ravi Das Nagar (Bhadohi) as per the

programme being finalized in consultation with the Govt. of U.P. from where the report on the erosion problem has been received recently on 6.8.2002.

Statement

Statement showing the flood damage during the year 1998-2001

Sl.No.	Name of district/ year	Area affected in lakh ha.	Population affected in lakh ha.	Damage to Crop		Damage to House		Cattle lives lost No.	Human lives lost No.	Damage to public utilities in Rs. lakh	Total Damage to crops Houses & Utilities Col. 6+8+11)
				Area in lakh ha.	Value in Rs. lakh	Area in lakh ha.	Value in Rs. lakh				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Mirzapur										
	1998					No damage reported by State Government					
	1999					No damage reported by State Government					
	2000	-	0.64		-			10	7		
	2001					No damage reported by State Government					
2.	Sant Ravidas Nagar										
	1998					No damage reported by State Government					
	1999					No damage reported by State Government					
	2000					No damage reported by State Government					
	2001					No damage reported by State Government					

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
3.	Varanasi										
	1998				No damage reported by State Government						
	1999				No damage reported by State Government						
	2000	0.1	1.9	0.08	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2001	0.046	0.35	-	-	-	-	2	5	-	-
4.	Mau										
	1998	0.19803	0.82686	0.1367	-	-	-	11	3	-	-
	1999				No damage reported by State Government						
	2000				No damage reported by State Government						
	2001				No damage reported by State Government						
5.	Allahabad										
	1998				No damage reported by State Government						
	1999				No damage reported by State Government						
	2000				No damage reported by State Government						
	2001				No damage reported by State Government						
6.	Azamgarh										
	1998	0.64049	6.83308	0.31084	-	-	-	53	21	-	-
	1999				No damage reported by State Government						
	2000	-	0.20	-				-	-	-	-
	2001	-	1.905	-	-	-	-	-	16	-	-

Note: No damage Report has been received from the Govt. of Uttar Pradesh for the period (upto 15/7/2002) in the year 2002 for the above areas.

[English]

Allocation of Tourism Sector

4256. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR:

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether during the Tenth Plan the Union Government have allocated Rs.2900 crore for development of tourism;

(b) if so, whether any concrete proposals in this regard have been chalked out;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether his Ministry has acknowledged the weakness on two fronts i.e. product development and market promotion; and

(e) if so, the remedial measures being considered by the Union Government during the Tenth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) During the 10th Plan, the Department of Tourism has broadly proposed schemes namely Development of Tourist Infrastructure, Human Resource Development, Promotion & Publicity, Computerisation & Information Technology etc. This includes four new schemes viz. Integrated Development of Tourist Circuits, Product/Infrastructure and Destination Development, Large Revenue Generating Projects and Capacity Building for Service Providers which have been proposed for development and promotion of tourism in the country.

(d) and (e) During the 10th Plan the focus will be on integrated development of tourism circuits and destinations in the country instead of spreading the resources on small projects as was done earlier. Market Promotion is an ongoing process and is carried out with the available funds allocated. Remedial measures include a well concerted Market Promotion Plan, Use of the print and visual media, Events, Fairs & Festivals and use of Information Technology.

[Translation]

Fertility of Famine Struck Land

4257. SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the efforts made by the Government to increase the fertility of land which were under famine during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): In order to increase the fertility of degraded lands including famine struck land, Government is implementing various integrated soil, water and nutrient management programmes. Besides, various agro-forestry models also help to restore soil fertility.

Use/Distribution of Urea Fertilizer

4258. SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL:

SHRI RAJO SINGH:

SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to open the distribution of urea to private sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the percentage of urea fertilizer being used in the country, particularly in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh:

(e) whether the Government are contemplating to reduce the use of this fertilizer; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) to (c) The distribution of fertilizers within the state is the responsibility of the concerned State Governments. The fertilizers are normally distributed to farmers through cooperative network, State Government and private outlets/sale points. However, the State Governments of H.P., J&K, Tripura and Nagaland are distributing urea through State Institutional agencies/State Governments. Besides, in Madhya Pradesh, while urea is mainly distributed through State Institutional agencies, fertilizer companies are also permitted to sell through company owned retail outlets.

(d)	State	Percentage of Urea consumption to total fertilizer consumption during 2000-01
	Bihar	67.13
	Uttar Pradesh	69.20
	All India	53.96

(e) and (f) The Government is implementing the following Schemes for balanced and integrated use of fertilizers and organic sources of nutrients:

(i) The soil test based judicious use of chemical fertilizers, organic nutrients and biofertilizers is being promoted as Integrated Nutrient Management to increase the efficiency of chemical fertilizers.

(ii) Financial support is being given to decontrolled phosphatic and potassic fertilizers so as to increase their consumption and thereby to bring balance in NPK consumption.

(iii) Cheap and renewable sources of organic nutrients like organic manures, green manures and

biofertilizers are being promoted as supplement to the chemical fertilizers.

[English]

**Spread of Diseases due to Pollution
in Gurgaon**

4259. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that due to shortage of basic amenities like clean drinking water, proper drainage/road system and increased number of polluting units particularly noise polluting units in the Nai Abadi residential area of Gurgaon, the people are facing health problems and suffering from various kinds of ailments;

(b) if so, whether the Government are also aware of the fact that the developmental grants for the said area are remaining unutilized for a quite long time;

(c) if so, the details indicating the steps taken by the Government in this regard so far;

(d) whether the State Pollution Control Board has failed to identify the polluting factories/industries in the said area and particularly Street No.6 and has joined hands with the owners of these factories;

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

(f) the steps proposed for shifting of the polluting units from there and give relief to the public of the area?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Release of Animals from Quarantine
Station, Chennai**

4260. SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY:

SHRI Y.V. RAO:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Quarantine Station at Chennai is not releasing the breedable animals to Andhra Pradesh that were imported from Australia;

(b) if so, whether conditions prevailing by the said station are not congenial to keep the animals any longer;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government in improving the conditions and getting the animals released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes, sir. Since, the Australian authorities failed to satisfy health and quarantine requirements specified by the Department of Animal Husbandry, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India the animals have not been released from the Quarantine Station, Chennai.

(b) and (c) Andhra Pradesh Livestock Development Agency (APLDA) has made all the additional arrangements required for keeping the animals comfortable.

(d) The Government has taken up the matter with the Australian authorities for deportation of the animals.

Appointment of Professors in IASRI

4261. SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of criteria followed by Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute for appointment of Professors of Agricultural Statistics and Computer Applications;

(b) Whether the criteria followed in case of current incumbents are same as that followed in National Institutes like IARI; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute conducts Post Graduate Programmes of PG School, Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) for the disciplines of Agricultural Statistics and Computer Application. The appointments of Professors for the respective disciplines are made by PG School, IARI. The recommendations of IASRI are submitted to the Dean and the decision in this regard is taken by the PG School, IARI.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) N.A.

Pink-Slip Insurance

4662. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to implement a scheme called "Pink-slip insurance" for all employees losing their employment;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be implemented by the Provident Fund Commissioner?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, the proposal to introduce an Employees Multi-Benefit Insurance Scheme which envisages unemployment insurance to the subscribers under the Employees' Provident Funds and Misc. Provisions Act, 1952, has been approved by the Central Board of Trustees, (Employees Provident Fund) in principle. The proposed scheme would involve amendment to the Employees' Provident Funds and Misc. Provisions Act, 1952. The quantum of benefit and the period for which the payment is proposed to be made, would require to be actuarially evaluated. The proposal is yet to be evaluated by the Government.

Cracks in Dams

4263. SHRI J. S. BRAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether banks of many dams built to collect rain water in water scarce areas are washed off or develop cracks on first downpours thus failing to store water;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken to reconstruct them;

(c) whether many areas have submerged due to floods caused by heavy rains; and

(d) if so, the action taken to harness the flood water?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) The construction, maintenance and repairs of dams is being done by the State Governments themselves out of their resources. The reports of development of cracks or washing off the dams build to collect rain water have not been received in Central Water Commission.

(c) and (d) Some States namely Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal have experienced floods during the current year due to heavy rains. Flood Management being a State subject, the responsibility of planning, funding executing and operating flood control schemes including river erosion primarily rests with the State Governments. The assistance rendered by the Central Government is technical, catalytic and promotional in nature.

Requirement of Bullock Drawn Tractor

4264. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps proposed to be taken to popularise Bullock Drawn Tractors (Multi-Tool-Bar) which relieve farmers of their drudgery and save fuel also; and

(b) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Development of the Bullock-Drawn Multi-Tool-Bar has already been brought to the knowledge of all the State Governments. Moreover, there is a provision of subsidy to the farmers for the purchase of animal drawn implements including Multi-Tool-Bar. Under the scheme, State Governments have flexibility to prioritise the interventions and provide subsidy on agricultural equipment suitable for their farmers.

Preservation and Protection of 'Char-Minar'

4265. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to draw any action plan to preserve and protect 'Char-Minar' in Hyderabad; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) The Char Minar Hyderabad, a centrally protected is in good state of preservation. Besides maintenance, which is an ongoing process, conservation works as per archaeological norms are taken up as per the actual needs of the monument subject to the availability of resources.

Optimum Utilisation Programme for Airports

4266. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have finalized optimum utilization programme for National and International airports in India;

(b) if so, whether Mumbai Airport is on top priority;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the aircraft have to wait for 15-30 minutes for take off and landing at Mumbai Airport; and

(e) if so, the remedial steps contemplated by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) to (e) Airports Authority of India (AAI) has taken up a study with the help of International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) for optimum utilization of air traffic capacity at Mumbai and Delhi Airports. Modernized air traffic services have been commissioned at Mumbai airport, as a result of which the air traffic handling capacity has been enhanced to 30 flights per hour. This has improved the flight handling capacity, though at times certain present constraints of runway and taxiways, can lead to queuing up of aircraft.

Particulars	Banks	State KVI Board	Total
No. of projects sanctioned (Nos.)	695	742	1437
Margin Money utilised (Rs. in lakhs)	782.87	1006.23	1789.10
Employment generated (Persons in lakhs)	12520	15795	28325

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The KVIC had received one complaint against the procedure adopted for conducting prior spot verification of units under Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP). The matter was examined by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC). Since the credit decision lies with the banks for which they conduct technical and financial feasibility study of projects, the system of conducting prior spot verification of units has been discontinued, in order to avoid delay.

[Translation]

Pollution on Hills

4268. SHRI JAI PRAKASH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether environment in the mountains is getting polluted due to increasing number of national and international mountaineering expedition teams every year which throw huge quantity of waste materials there;

Implementation of KVIC's Schemes in Kerala

4267. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Khadi and Village Industries Board, Kerala has been successfully implementing Khadi and Village Industries Commission's scheme in the rural areas of the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received any complaints in this regard; and

(d) if so the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The performance of the Khadi and V.I. Board, Kerala during the year 2001-02 for implementing the KVI programmes is given below:

(b) if so, whether steps are being taken to save the hills from the pollution;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Studies have indicated that hills frequently visited by tourist/trekking groups are getting polluted due to inadequate infrastructure for management of solid wastes.

(b) to (d) G.B. Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment & Development, Almora has undertaken several research activities which inter-alia, focus on the issues relating to solid wastes management. Steps have also been taken to declare the hill stations as ecologically sensitive depending upon the prevailing environmental conditions in those hill stations. In this regard Mahableshwar-Panchgani has already been notified as an eco-sensitive region. A Committee has been constituted to identify parameters for

determining the environmental/ecological sensitivity of the hill stations.

[English]

Operation of Air Taxis

4269. SHRI S. MURUGESAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has reached an understanding with Tourism Ministry regarding operating of air taxis;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the destinations to be covered by the said flights?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) No, Sir. No such proposal has been received in the Ministry of Civil Aviation.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Relief Scheme for Fishermen

4270. SHRI V. VETRISELVAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any saving-cum-relief scheme is under implementation for fishermen;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of fishermen covered thereunder in each State particularly in Tamil Nadu during each of the last three years;

(d) the assistance provided to those fishermen during the said period;

(e) whether the Government have sent any proposal to State Governments for inclusion of fisherwomen in the scheme; and

(f) if so, the reaction of the State Governments thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Under the Centrally Sponsored National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen encompassing of saving-cum-relief is under implementation. The marine fishermen contribute at the rate of Rs.75/- per month for eight months and the inland fishermen at the Rs.50 per month for 9 months during active fishing months. Equivalent amount equally shared by the Central and State Government together with beneficiary contribution is distributed to the fishers during lean period at the rate of Rs.300 per month. In case of Union Territories, Central Government provides 100% matching share.

(c) and (d) The Statement giving state-wise details of number of fishermen covered and Central assistance sanctioned to the States/Union territories including Tamil Nadu under the component saving-cum-relief during the last 3 years is enclosed.

(e) and (f) The National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen implemented in the 9th Plan did not specifically indicate inclusion of fisherwomen or otherwise. Upon receipt of a demand from certain quarters to include fisherwomen in the scheme, the State/UTs were addressed to ascertain their response. However, it is proposed to extend the scheme to 'fishers' during the 10th Five Year Plan to avoid the gender bias.

Statement

State/UT-wise number of fishermen covered and Central Assistance sanctioned under Saving-cum-Relief component of the National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen during the last 3 years.

(Rupees in '000)

S.No.	State	1999-2000		2000-2001		2001-2002	
		No. of Beneficiary	Amount Sanctioned	No. of Beneficiary	Amount Sanctioned	No. of Beneficiary	Amount Sanctioned
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	614	294.0	375	445.6	374	224.4
2	Andhra Pradesh	Nil	Nil	2000	1440.0	Nil	Nil

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3	Himachal Pradesh	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	2139	481.3
4	Karnataka	13707	4613.4	1000	3000.0	13707	901.3
5	Kerala	90000	32400.0	100000	31947.0	105000	4995.0
6	Pondicherry	10100	14076.0	21289	451.5	27135	5799.2
7	Tamil Nadu	183799	26167.6	183500	32074.0	197604	70893.7
8	West Bengal	7000	2520.0	7000	2100.0	Nil	Nil
Total		305220	80071.0	315164	71458.1	345959	83294.9

[Translation]

National Highways in Jharkhand

4271. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the National Highways in Jharkhand where widening, extension and repairing works had been started since February 1997 till date and the time by which such works is likely to be started on the remaining National Highways passing through Jharkhand; and

(b) the estimated expenditure to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) and (b) Details of widening/extension/improvement works sanctioned in the State of Jharkhand since February 1997 are as under:

NH No.	No. of works	Sanctioned Amount (Rs. in crore)
6, 23, 31, 32, 33, 78, 99 & 100	86	171.90

Also improvement works are included in Annual Plan 2002-03 at a plan cost of Rs. 87.50 crore. Further widening/extension/improvement works will be taken in phased manner, based on traffic needs, inter-se priority and availability of funds. In addition to the above, work for widening to four-lane of NH-2 (km. 251.00 to km. 441.40) has been taken up by National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) under Golden Quadrilateral of National Highway

Development Programme (NHDP) at an estimated cost of Rs. 940.00 crore and is targeted to be substantially completed by December 2003.

Office Expenses

4272. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent by various departments and Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) under his ministry during each of the last three years on publicity, advertisements, receptions, refreshments, inaugurations, seminars, conferences, tours (including foreign), telephone bills including STD and ISD calls, electricity bills (especially airconditioner's and cooler's) and other office expenses separately under above heads;

(b) whether the Government propose to launch any drive for economy in expenditure under above heads;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) The Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries was created on 1st September, 2001. The budgetary requirement of this newly created Ministry continues to be met out of office expenses budget of the erstwhile Ministry of SSI & ARI. No separate budget on this account is earmarked for this Ministry. There is no Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) or Departments under the Ministry of ARI.

(b) to (d) In order to curb wasteful expenditure, instructions for austerity in Government expenditure are issued by the Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure to all the Ministries/Departments from time to time.

The austerity measures include ban on the creation of posts, reduction in the number of sanctioned posts, restrictions on the filling up of vacant posts, reduction in office expenses, restrictions on purchase of vehicles, restrictions on foreign travel and entertainment/hospitality expenses, reduction in per diem allowance for travel abroad etc.

The instructions are followed by the Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries also. Besides, major recommendations of the Expenditure Reform Commission (ERC) in this connection for the Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries have also been implemented in this regard.

[English]

Upper Krishna Project

4273. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:

SHRI AMBAREESHA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the date on which techno-economic clearance has been accorded to the second phase of Upper Krishna Project;

(b) the initial cost and the revised cost of the project due to delay in completion;

(c) the progress made so far on the project; and

(d) the time by which the project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) The Upper Krishna Project Stage-I was accorded investment clearance in 1963 with an estimated cost of Rs. 58.20 crore. The first and second revised estimates for Rs. 283.65 crore and Rs. 1214.97 crore was approved by the Planning Commission in 1978 and 1990 respectively. The latest estimated cost of the project is Rs. 5435.90 crore. The Upper Krishna Stage-II was accorded investment clearance on 13th December, 2000 with estimated cost of Rs. 2358.86 crore as per 1998-1999 price level.

(c) The Phase-I and II of Upper Krishna Stage-I has been completed. The Phase III of State-I and Stage-II of Upper Krishna Project are scheduled to be completed by 2003-2004.

(d) The time for completion of project is linked to the provision of adequate budgetary outlays by the State Government.

Improvement Plans for Cultural Spots

4274. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have decided to withhold funds for religious places;

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

(c) whether the Union Government have asked the State Governments to prepare time-bound improvement plans for cultural spots; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Government has taken up steps for improvements of some of the cultural spots in different states which include Ajanta & Ellora in Maharashtra, Hampi in Karnataka, Mahabalipuram in Tamil Nadu, Puri-Bhubaneswar in Orissa, Dholaveera in Gujarat, Kurukshetra in Haryana to mention a few.

[Translation]

Ban-Sagar Inter-State Irrigation Project

4275. SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH RAJUKHEDI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are monitoring the Ban-Sagar Inter-State Irrigation Projects;

(b) if so, whether Uttar Pradesh and Bihar are not giving their share for the completion of the said project,

(c) if so, whether the Union Government are making any efforts to get these funds released by the States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The States of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar have paid their respective share cost as due on 30.06.2002 as under:

States	Share due (Rs. in crores)	Share paid (Rs. in crores)
Uttar Pradesh	183.403	234.6629
Bihar	183.403	199.072

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

[English]

Medical Bills of AAI

4276. SHRI AMBAREESHA:

SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the medical reimbursement bills of the Airports Authority of India (National Airport Division) are rising;

(b) if so, the details of the bills paid by the Airports Authority of India to hospitals located in Delhi during the last three years, year-wise particularly Mahindra Hospital;

(c) whether the Medical Bills raised by Mahindra Hospital, New Delhi have been found to be on the higher side; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the AAI to regulate the medical facilities to its employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A sum of Rs. 145.38 lakhs in 1999-2000, Rs.142.94 lakhs in 2000-2001 and Rs. 124.22 lakhs in 2001-2002 was paid to Mahindra Hospital. As regards other hospitals, the payment made was Rs.177.38 lakhs in 1999-2000, Rs.236.44 lakhs in 2000-2001, Rs.286.39 lakhs in 2001-2002.

(c) No, Sir. The payment of bills is made as per approved rates.

(d) The bills are regularly scrutinized by the

Medical Consultant of Airports Authority of India. Checks are also carried out by Vigilance Department of AAI. In addition, the empanelment of hospitals for availing indoor treatment by AAI employees is critically looked into by a Committee of Officers to further streamline such facilities.

Reduction in Tax

4277. SHRI P. RAJENDRAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have proposed a reduction in the tax structure in the Hospitality Sector in respect of food and beverages; and

(b) if so, the specific advantage likely to be derived by the Hospitality Sector from such reduction?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) In the Union Budget 2002-03 food and beverages have been exempted from Expenditure Tax. Service Tax exemption of 5% in case of functions and banquets organised in hotels has been extended for one more year. Further, the customs duty on imported liquor has also been reduced.

(b) The reduction in taxes will help in India a less expensive and thereby a more competitive destination.

Renovation of Ban Theatre, Tezpur

4278. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have approved and sanctioned a project for reconstruction and renovation of the Ban Theatre in Tezpur (Assam);

(b) if so, the estimated cost of the project;

(c) whether the work on the project has been on a stand still for over a year due to delay in release of the second instalment of payment for the project by the Union Government;

(d) whether the project has undergone any cost escalation due to this delay;

(e) if so, the extent thereof; and

(f) the steps taken or proposed to be taken for timely completion of the project?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) Yes Sir. The Government had initially

approved an amount of Rs.1,00,000/- in the year 1992 out of which, the first instalment amount to Rs. 25,000/- was released to the NGO's in July 1994. Subsequently on the request of the NGO the Government enhanced the sanctioned amount to Rs. 9.00 lakhs as the Building Grant and Rs. 1.00 lakh as Equipment Grant in March 1997.

(b) The original estimate of the cost of the project given by the NGO in 1992 was Rs. 8,57,629/-. As per the revised figures received from the NGO in 1996, the estimated cost of construction was Rs. 35,28,703/- and cost of equipment was Rs. 11,56,400/-.

(c) to (e) Out of the amount of Rs. 9.00 lakhs sanctioned for construction, 3 instalments of grant detailed below have already been released.

No. of instalment	Month/ Year of Release	Amount
1st	July, 1994	Rs. 25,000/-
2nd	March, 1997	Rs. 4,40,000/-
3rd	Feb. 2000	Rs. 2,55,000/-

As per the latest information provided by the organisation, the cost of construction has gone upto Rs. 61,80,692/-. The processing of the NGO's request for enhanced grant after the release of the 2nd instalment as per prescribed, procedure took some time.

(f) The execution/ completion of the projects is the responsibility of the organisations concerned. In case of escalation of cost, the additional expenditure is required to be met by the organisations from their own sources.

Establishment of Rural Cooperatives for Marketing Fruits and Vegetables

4279. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Standing Committee on Agriculture in their Report No.25 of 2002 have recommended for establishment of rural cooperatives for marketing fruits and vegetables with the support of NAFED etc. on the lines of Milk Co-operative; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to implement the recommendations of the Standing Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Central Government has taken a number of steps to promote fruit and vegetable marketing and processing cooperatives in the country. National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) is providing financial assistance for creating infrastructure for marketing, processing and storage of agricultural and horticultural produce in the cooperative sector. NCDC has so far assisted 432 projects in the country to enable cooperatives to market fruits and vegetables. The assistance is provided to the fruits and vegetables cooperatives for strengthening their share capital base, margin money assistance for raising working capital, assistance for purpose of transport vehicles, construction of sheds and godowns, constructions of cold-storages, creating of marketing infrastructure etc. NCDC has also assisted 45 fruits and vegetables processing units as on 31.3.2002. Government will continue to promote fruits and vegetables cooperatives through the programmes of NCDC.

Agricultural Trade Reforms by US

4280. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the US commitment to agricultural trade reform is in jeopardy after the signing of New Farm Act by US Government;

(b) if so, whether the Indian Industry has expressed concern at this New Farm Act that would allow US Government to grant large subsidies to the farmers;

(c) if so, whether the Government have taken up this issue with the US Government; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the US Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) to (d) The proposed increase in support to Agriculture under the US Farm Security and Rural Investment Act, 2002, may have a price depressing effect on the world markets. This may also adversely affect the market access opportunities for developing countries. Concerns to this affect have been expressed in various quarters.

India in its negotiating proposals filed with the WTO has already demanded substantial reductions in domestic support and elimination of export subsidies by the developed countries within a limited period.

**Promotion of Marketing Infrastructure
of Agricultural Produce**

4281. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether NAFED propose to promote marketing infrastructure of agricultural produce by forming cooperatives;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) NAFED is functioning through the co-operative marketing federations of the States. It is not forming any separate co-operatives. Cooperation is state subject.

(b) and (c) Sufficient marketing cooperative infrastructure are already under existence in the country with NAFED at the apex level. NAFED endeavours to promote infrastructure effectively to handle agricultural produce for the benefit of farmers in the country.

**Destruction of Field due to Release
of Water from Nangal Dam**

4282. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether release of water from Nangal Dam has caused large scale destruction of fields in the area as reported in the *Dainik Bhaskar* (Faridabad Edition) dated July 1, 2002;

(b) if so, the fact of the matter reported therein;

(c) whether the farmers of the area were not informed in advance before opening of Gates of Nangal Dam for release of water;

(d) if so, whether the Government have appointed any expert Committee for on the spot inspection of damages and to pay compensation to the affected farmers whose agriculture land has been destroyed; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (e) The Ministry of Home Affairs is concerned with the work relating to management of floods in the country while the subject matter of release of water from Nangal Dam pertains to Ministry of Water Resources. The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Protection of Monuments by IOC

4283. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any financial assistance from the IOC for the conservation of the Heritage Monuments in the country in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding signed by both Culture Ministry and the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, last year;

(b) if so, the details of the funds allocated for each year as well as the funds spent;

(c) if not, the reasons for the non-disbursement of the funds as signed in the MoU;

(d) whether the Government propose to constitute a committee to select the heritage monuments for preservation under this MoU;

(e) if so, the details thereof, and

(f) the list of monuments selected, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (f) After extensive tours and after studying the condition of various monuments which have special significance from the point of view of preservation as well as from the point of view of cultural regeneration of India, the Ministry of Tourism and Culture have formulated certain proposals for the most economical, integrated and timely use of the aforesaid finances.

The details of the proposals are given in the statement enclosed. The entire matter is under discussions with the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.

Statement

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Name of monuments to be restored/conserved	Contribution of IOC/IOF	Contribution of ASI	Remarks
1.	Tamil Nadu	Mahabalipuram	Rs. 1 crore	Minimum of Rs. 1 crore	There are either World Heritage Sites or otherwise extremely significant from the point of view of our cultural and National regeneration. Presently, all these monuments are in bad conditions and require specialised treatment and restoration/conservation. At quite a few points, there are a number of squatters and encroachers.
2.	Maharashtra	1. Elephanta 2. Kanheri Caves	Rs. 50 lakh Rs. 1 crore	Minimum Rs. 50 lakh Minimum Rs. 1 crore	
3.	Rajasthan	Chittaurgarh Fort: - Panna Palace - Padmini Enclave	Rs. 1 crore	Minimum Rs. 1 crore	
4.	Karnataka	Hampi	Rs. 1 crore	Minimum Rs. 1 crore	
5.	Haryana	Kurukshetra	Rs. 1 crore	Minimum Rs. 1 crore	
6.	Delhi	1. Sufi Nizamuddin Dargah 2. Qutub Minar-Lal Kot	Rs. 50 lakh Rs. 50 lakh	Minimum Rs. 50 lakhs Minimum Rs. 50 lakh	
7.	Madhya Pradesh	Bhimbetka	Rs. 1 crore	Minimum Rs. 1 crore	
8.	Orissa	Konark	Rs. 1 crore	Minimum Rs. 1 crore	
9.	Himachal Pradesh	Tabo Monastrey and other Buddhist Monastery and Manali-Leh Road	Rs. 1 crore	Minimum Rs. 1 crore	
10.	Kerala	Kaladi Complex	Rs. 50 lakh	Minimum Rs. 50 lakh	
Total			Rs. 10 Crore	Minimum Rs. 10 Crore	

**Development of International Airport
during 11th Plan**

4284. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to develop some Airports in the country as International Airports during Eleventh Plan Period;

(b) if so, the Airports identified for the purpose;

(c) whether the proposal to develop Bhopal Airport as International Airport is likely to be considered; and

(d) if so, the steps initiated in that regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) to (d) At this stage it is not possible to indicate whether any airport in the country, including Bhopal Airport, is likely to be developed as international airport in the Eleventh Plan Period, as the Eleventh Plan proposals are yet to be formulated.

Use of Fertilizers/Pesticides

4285. SHRI SAIDUZZAMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a dramatic increase in pests population due to intensification programme following use of ferilisers and pesticides and HYV etc;

(b) if so, whether the Government are aware that against a few pest species in pulses in 1920 today there are over 250 in Pulses alone leading to decreased production;

(c) if so, the list of insect species in 1920/1940 and at present in respect of major crops;

(d) the plans/corrective steps taken by the Government including switch over to organic farming etc. to meet this grave situation;

(e) whether the Government propose to strengthen strongly the neglected area of biological control R and D in the country at the earliest and extend the knowledge through collaboration with NGOs involved in promotion of organic farming; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes, Sir. The use of fertilizers, pesticides and high-yielding varieties in crop intensification programme has had a role in increasing the pest population in a number of crops.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. It is a fact that Fletcher in 1920 listed a total of 35 insect pests on various Pulse crops in the country. During 1993, Dhaliwal and Arora and during 1995 Lal reported more than 250 insect pests on various pulse crops. Insects pests recorded in 1920/1940 and at present in respect of major crops are given below:

Crop	1920/1940		At present	
	Total insect pests recorded	No. of serious pests	Total insect pests recorded	No. of serious pests
Rice	35	10	240	17
Wheat	20	2	100	19
Sugarcane	28	2	240	43
Groundnut	10	4	100	12
Rapeseed/Mustard	10	4	38	12
Pulses	35	6	250	34
Cotton	34	9	162	15

(d) The Government is making all out efforts to reduce the use of chemical pesticides and is promoting bio-intensive pest management practices for major crop

pests through Project Directorate of Biological Control (PDBC), National Centre for Integrated Pest Management (NCIPM) and other crop based institutions of Indian Council

of Agricultural Research (ICAR), State Agricultural Universities (SAUs), Central Integrated Pest Management Centres (CIPMCs) and State Governments. Biocontrol agents and biopesticides are critical inputs in the Integrated Pest Management programmes and are important tools in the Integrated Pest Management Programmes of the country.

The Government is fully conscious of the importance of organic farming. A National Project on Organic Farming is proposed during Xth Plan to provide financial assistance to different agencies including Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) for the following components:

- (i) Setting up of commercial production units of fruit and vegetables waste compost units, bio-fertilizer production units and hatcheries for vermiculture as back ended capital subsidy through National Agricultural Bank for Rural Development (NABARD)/ National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC);
- (ii) Capacity building for promotion of organic farming as service providers;
- (iii) Training programmes;
- (iv) Creation of knowledge based data bank; and
- (v) Creating National awareness.

(e) and (f) The Government has adopted Integrated Pest Management (IPM) as a cardinal principle and the main plank of plant protection in the overall crop production programme. The Project Directorate of Biological Control including All India Coordinated Research Project on Crop pests and weeds is generating the desired know-how of effective biocontrol agents in the country on various crops. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research established the aforesaid Project Directorate of Biological Control during 1993 for generation of new technologies and promoting various biological control activities in the country. The Government of India/Indian Council of Agricultural Research is further thinking of strengthening the Project Directorate of Biological Control and related activities of biocontrol programmes under X Plan. Training programmes on production technologies of various biocontrol agents are being conducted for the personnel of Non Governmental Organizations, Government and Krishi Vigyan Kendras.

[Translation]

Minimum Wages to Construction Workers of MTNL Building

4286. DR. BALIRAM: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the labourers engaged in the construction work of the Building of Bharat Sanchar Nigam,

on the Janpath Road, New Delhi are not being paid even the minimum wages by the Government;

(b) if so, whether the matter is likely to be investigated by the Deputy Labour Commissioner;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) to (c) According to the investigations made by the officers of Central Industrial Relations Machinery on 8.8.2002 It is observed that on the date of Investigation ten workers were found engaged in the construction work and were being paid less than the minimum wages. Show-cause notices have been served upon the management for compliance of the irregularities detected which inter-alia contains cases of less payment of wages. The management has been given ten days' time for compliance.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

AI Flight from Mumbai Airport without Flight Plan

4287. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Air India flight took off from Mumbai without a flight plan recently;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether responsibility has since been fixed; and

(d) if so, the action proposed to be taken to avoid situations of this nature?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) No Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Expenditure on Purchase of Land

4288. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government incurred an extra expenditure of Rs. 36.72 on purchase of a plot of land in Cochin in 1998;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken against the officer responsible for the pecuniary loss?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRA-

VARTY): (a) and (b) No, Sir. No extra expenditure of Rs. 36.72 was incurred by the Government on purchase of a plot of land in Cochin in 1998. However, due to revision of cost of land from Rs. 80,000 to 1,00,000 (100 cent = 1 acre), by Greater Cochin Development Authority (a statutory authority of Government of Kerala) an additional amount of Rs. 36.72 lakhs (Rs. 36.00 lakhs paid to GCDA and Rs. 0.72 lakhs towards registration fee) was incurred by Government of India in October, 1995 for acquiring land of 1.8 acres at Cochin.

(c) Does not arise.

Clearance of Imported Consignments

4289. SHRI ARUN KUMAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether in Kolkata Airport Cargo Terminal, goods weighing 92075 kg. since July 2000 is lying without being disposed off beyond the stipulated period of 30 days;

(b) if so, the action taken against the guilty officers; and

(c) the amount realised from the sale of unclaimed leftover cargo from April 1998 to March 31, 2002?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Auctions could not be held in Kolkata Airport after July, 1999 as the valuers for valuation of pending cargo were not appointed. The delay in appointment of valuers was due to lack of response to the tenders published for the appointment. The valuers were appointed in February, 2002 and auction for 986 packages weighing 17 metric tonnes amounting to Rs.3.43 lakhs and 879 packages weighing 14 metric tonnes amounting to Rs.14.79 lakhs were held in May & July, 2002 respectively.

(c) Rs. 65,32,682 was realized from the auction of uncleared/left over cargo from April 1998 to 31.3.2002.

Archaeological Survey of India

4290. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has with the help of Indian Navy discovered and retrieved Eighteenth Century British Ship named the "Princess Royal";

(b) if so, the location from where the wreckage has been retrieved;

(c) whether the Government have evaluated the Ship; and

(d) if so, the valuation thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The joint expedition of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) and the Indian Navy (IN), undertaken in May 2002, neither discovered nor retrieved the Eighteenth Century British Ship. The present expedition aims to ascertain the condition of the wreck which was, in fact, discovered in 1990 off Bangaram Island in the Union Territory of Lakshadweep. However, the site of the wreck had earlier yielded a bell, inscribed with "Princes Royal, 1792". It is not yet certain whether it was a British ship as its flag still remains to be identified.

(c) and (d) Question does not arise.

Recognition to Narmada Project as Infrastructure Development Project

4291. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat had requested the Hon'ble Prime Minister to recognise Narmada project i.e. Sardar Sarovar Project as Infrastructure Development Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the Union Government are likely to give consent to the said recognition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) The Chief Minister of Gujarat has submitted a memorandum to the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 13th June, 2002 to declare the Sardar Sarovar Project as a 'National Infrastructure Project' and accord approval to the Sardar Sarovar Nirman Nigam Limited (SSNNL) proposal to issue Tax Free Bonds and also make necessary changes in Reserve Bank of India guidelines so that required funds are available for the project.

(c) Union Government has conveyed its approval for issue of tax free bonds to the extent of Rs. 500 crore by SSNNL during the year 2002-2003 for exclusive use for Sardar Sarovar Project. The declaration of Sardar Sarovar Project as "National Infrastructure Project" is dependent on the extant policies of Union Government.

[Translation]

Rehabilitation Policy

4292. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate

any Rehabilitation Policy for the persons displaced by the medium and major irrigation projects;

(b) the list of persons affected as a result thereof as on date, State-wise; and

(c) the time by which the said policy is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) Water being a State subject, all water resources projects including irrigation projects are planned and executed by the State Governments themselves. As such, various State Governments are undertaking resettlement and rehabilitation of persons affected/displaced by irrigation projects according to the State-wise/project-wise resettlement and rehabilitation policies/executive orders. Government of India does not maintain the list of such affected persons. The Ministry of Rural Development is in the process of finalising a draft Legislation on Resettlement and Rehabilitation of Project Affected Persons/Families for Projects displacing 1000 or more families which inter-alia includes resettlement and rehabilitation of persons/families adversely affected or displaced by irrigation projects.

[English]

Indian Road Construction Corporation

4293. SHRI DINSHA PATEL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the main functions of the Indian Road Construction Corporation;

(b) the total loss suffered by the Corporation till date;

(c) the investment made by the Government through various sources in the said Corporation during the last three years;

(d) whether the Government propose to close down or merge the corporation; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government to protect the interest of Employees as well as Government funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) The main functions of Indian Road Construction Corporation (IRCC) were to undertake construction of road and bridge projects and other civil engineering works in India and abroad.

(b) The total loss suffered by the Corporation till 31.3.2000 amounts to Rs.539.76 crore which was written off by Government of India on 31.3.2001.

(c) No investment was made by the Government during the last 3 years.

(d) and (e) During February 2000, Government took a decision to wind up the Corporation and the Corporation has gone into liquidation with effect from 28.6.2001. All the employees proceeded on Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) and have been paid the ex-gratia (VRS compensation) alongwith their terminal dues. No budgetary support was taken by the IRCC from Government during the last 10 years.

[Translation]

Policy Change in Regard to Rice Produced from Paddy

4294. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have made any policy change in regard to the rice produced from paddy;

(b) if so, whether any special sanction has been given to the Chhattisgarh Government in this regard;

(c) if so, whether the percentage of 'broken' in rice per quintal should not be more than 25 percent;

(d) if so, whether the Government are aware of any complaints regarding more than 25 percent 'broken' in rice per quintal in Chhattisgarh; and

(e) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir. An Uniform Out Turn ratio of 67% for Raw Rice and 68% for Parboiled Rice is applicable throughout the country.

(b) Does not arise. No special sanction regarding Out Turn ratio of Rice has been given.

(c) In the uniform specification of Raw Rice (Grade 'A' and Common) for Kharif Marketing Season 2001-02, the maximum limit of broken grain is 25% which also includes 1% small broken grain.

(d) No complaint has been received from Chhattisgarh, regarding more than 25% broken grains in Rice.

(e) In view of above, does not arise.

[English]

National Development Council

4295. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Development Council

(NDC) has suggested to the Planning Commission for scrapping of 108 labour welfare schemes;

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

(c) whether his Ministry has lodged a protest in this regard with the NDC and Planning Commission;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the response of the NDC and the Planning Commission thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Poultry Project

4296. SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the poultry project in Jawahar Lal Nehru Agricultural University, Jabalpur (Madhya Pradesh) has failed; and

(b) if so, the steps the Government propose to take to make the project successful and economically viable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

[English]

Flight from Kolkata to Beijing via Bangkok

4297. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India propose to introduce a flight from Kolkata to Beijing via Bangkok; and

(b) if so, by when the flight is likely to start?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Guidance/Assistance to Job Seekers

4298. DR. ASHOK PATEL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to provide guidance and financial assistance to jobs seekers abroad;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) to (c) There are eight offices of the Protectors of Emigrants located in Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Chandigarh, Hyderabad, Cochin and Thiruvananthapuram under the supervision of the Protector General of Emigrants in the Ministry of Labour. One of the duties of these Offices is to provide guidance to the intending emigrants about the jobs abroad. However, there is no scheme or proposal to provide financial assistance to job seekers abroad.

[English]

Pending Irrigation Projects of Andhra Pradesh and Uttaranchal

4299. SHRI A NARENDRA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of projects pending with the Union Government for augmentation of irrigation facility in Andhra Pradesh and Uttaranchal;

(b) the time by which the projects are likely to be approved; and

(c) the funds proposed to be allocated to the States under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) The details of irrigation project proposals of Andhra Pradesh and Uttaranchal received in Central Water Commission (CWC) for techno-economic appraisal are given in the Statement enclosed.

(b) Clearance of irrigation project proposals is linked to the promptness with which the State Governments comply with the outstanding observations of the various Central Appraising Agencies.

(c) As per Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) norms, the funds to be allocated to the State Governments are decided on year to year basis.

Statement

State-wise status of New Projects under Appraisal

Sl. No.	Name of Projects	Name of State	Major/ Medium	River/ Basin	District Benefited	Date of Receipt	Benc. (Th. ha.)	Estt. Cost (Cr.)	Category
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Nettampadu Lift Irrigation Scheme	Andhra Pradesh	Major	Krishna	Mahboob Nagar	11/2000	10.926	134.30	A
2.	Kahwa Kurthi Lift Irrigation Scheme	Andhra Pradesh	Major	Krishna	Mahboob Nagar	11/2000	20.234	380.00	A
3.	Tholapaly Barrage*	Andhra Pradesh	Major	Nagavali/Nagavali	Vizianagaram & Srikakulam	9/2001	120 *New 64 Existing	462.00	A
4.	Pulichintala Irrigation Project (Masonry Dam)	Andhra Pradesh	Major	Krishna	Guntur, Krishna Prakasham West Godavari	7/93	575	506.20	B
5.	Krishna Delta System Modernisation - ERIM	Andhra Pradesh	Major	Krishna	Guntur, West Godavari Krishna, Prakasham	1/96	575	659.16	B
6.	Bhima Lift Irrigation	Andhra Pradesh	Major	Bhima/Krishna	Mahboob Nagar	1/96	83.78	744.00	B
7.	Sriramsagar Stage-II	Andhra Pradesh	Major	Godavari	Warangal, Walgonda, Khammam, Adilabad	9/86	253.40	697.70	B
8.	Flood Flow Canal from SRSP	Andhra Pradesh	Major	Godavari	Karim Nagar, Warangal, Nalgonda	12/93	102.00	1331.00	B
9.	Jurala (Masonry Dam)	Andhra Pradesh	Major	Krishna	Mahboob Nagar	9/80	47.84	545.82	B
10.	Vamsadhara Project Stage-II* (Neradi Barrage)	Andhra Pradesh	Major	Vamsadhara	Srikakulam	5/83	50.958	275.74 (86-87 SOR)	B
11.	Gollavagu Reservoir*	Andhra Pradesh	Medium	Gollavagu/Godavari	Adilabad	9/2001	3.845	39.58	A
12.	Rallivagu Reservoir	Andhra Pradesh	Medium	Rallivagu/Godavari	Adilabad	9/2001	2.430	26.75	A

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
13.	Nilwari Reservoir	Andhra Pradesh	Medium	Peddavagu/Godavari	Adilabad	9/2001	5.260	48.90	A
14.	Peddagedda Reservoir Project*	Andhra Pradesh	Medium	Vegavati/Nagavali	Vizianagaram	01/2002	4.858	3.211	A
15.	Janjhavathi Project*	Andhra Pradesh	Medium	Janjhavathi/Nagavali	Vizianagaram	01/2002	-	121.00	A
16.	Mathadibagu	Andhra Pradesh	Medium	Mathadibadu/Godavari	Adilabad	5/5/2002	3.44	2.644	A
17.	Pedderu Reservoir	Andhra Pradesh	Medium	E. Flowing/Sarda	Vishakhapatnam	9/91	6.46	26.23	B
18.	Palemvagu* (Masonry Dam)	Andhra Pradesh	Medium	Palemvagu/Godavari	Khammam	5/88	6.23	29.13	B
19.	Valligallu Reservoir*	Andhra Pradesh	Medium	Papagni/Pennar	Cuddapah	12/96	9.60	131.82	B
20.	Yerravagu (Earthen Dam)	Andhra Pradesh	Medium	Yerravagu/Godavari	Adilabad	3/99	4.46	31.28	B
21.	Suddavagu (Earthen Dam)	Andhra Pradesh	Medium	Suddavagu/Godavari	Adilabad	3/99	5.66	56.48	B
22.	Peddavagu* (Earthen Dam)	Andhra Pradesh	Medium	Peddavagu/Godavari	Adilabad	8/99	9.915	202.60	B
23.	Surampalem Res. Scheme (Earthen Dam)	Andhra Pradesh	Medium	Burdakalva Godavary	East Godavari	10/99	4.88	46.70	B
24.	Surampalem Phase-II*	Andhra Pradesh	Medium	Burdakalva/Godavari	East Godavari	7/2000	5.12	49.50	B
25.	Bhupatipalem (Dam)*	Andhra Pradesh	Medium	Seethapalli/Godavari	East Godavari	7/2000	5.419	47.23	B
26.	Kovvadakalva	Andhra Pradesh	Medium	East Flowing Rivers	West Godavari	3/89	4.18	16.02	D
27.	Kishu Dam (Major)	Uttaranchal	Major	Tons/Ganga	-	7/97	Power (600 MW) WS to Delhi	4099.60	C
							617 MCM/Year		

Status

- A) Project under various stages of appraisal.
 B) Accepted by the Advisory Committee of MOWR Subject to certain observations.
 C) Deferred by Advisory Committee of MOWR.
 D) Recommended to Planning Commission for Investment Clearance.

[Translation]

Japanese Assistance for Buddhist Sites

4300. YOGI ADITYA NATH :

SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received financial assistance from the Government of Japan for the development of Buddhist Monasteries;

(b) if so, whether the funds have since been allocated for the purpose;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the Buddhist monasteries of the country particularly of Rajasthan proposed to be developed?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) The Government has not received any financial assistance from the Government of Japan for the development of Buddhist Monasteries in general but specifically for the Conservation of Ajanta and Ellora and its related development of Tourism Infrastructure.

(b) and (c) An allocation of 3745 million Japanese Yen was provided for Phase I of this project for:

- (i) Monument Conservation.
- (ii) Improvement of Aurangabad Airport.
- (iii) Afforestation.
- (iv) Improvement of Roads.
- (v) Improvement of Electricity.
- (vi) Improvement of Water Supply & Sewerage Disposal, and
- (vii) Tourism infrastructure at Ajanta.

(d) There is no such proposal under consideration.

Funds to Bihar for Flood Control

4301. SHRI SUBODH ROY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the funds provided to Bihar for undertaking flood relief measures during each of the last three years and till date; and

(b) the funds utilised/unutilised by the State Government during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) The Central share of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) released to the State of Bihar during the last three years in Rs. 33.79 crore during the year 1999-2000; Rs. 50.22 crore in 2000-2001 and Rs. 26.365 crore in 2001-2002. Additional central assistance of Rs. 38.18 crore during 1999-2000 and Rs. 29.67 crore during 2000-01 under National Fund for Calamity Relief (NFCR)/National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) was also released to the State Government.

On completion of the formalities by the Government of Bihar for release of the pending instalment of central share of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF), the Central Government in the year 2002-03 has released an amount of Rs. 54.05 crore to the State Government towards second instalment on central share of CRF for the year 2001-02 and first instalment of 2002-03.

Land Affected due to Floods

4302. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL:

SHRI JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA:

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state the area of cultivable land in the country affected due to floods during 2001?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): As per the information furnished by the State Revenue authorities, the total crop area of 1.911 million hectares in the country is estimated to have been affected due to floods during 2001.

Production of Fruits, Vegetables and Floriculture

4303. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL:

SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of production of fruits, vegetables and floriculture recorded during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the Government are aware of the problems being faced by the producers of these items;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the measures taken by the Government in this regard;

(e) whether the Government propose to make arrangements to provide scientific and technical facilities to the farmers for the production of fruits, flowers, vegetables; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) The available data on the quantity of production of fruits, vegetables and flowers are as under:

(Production in '000 tonnes)

Year	Fruits	Vegetable	Flowers	
			Loose	Cut (Lakh No)
1997-98	43263	72683	367	6222
1998-99	44042	87536	419	6428
1999-2000	45490	90830	509	6806

(b) and (c) The Government is aware about the difficulties being faced by the farmers both with regard to production and disposal of the produce. Inadequate availability of disease free quality planting material, slow dissemination and adaptability of improved high yielding cultivars/hybrids, inadequate facility for identification of nutrient deficiency and disorders, inadequate infrastructure for post harvest management, poor market intelligence, instability of price, and poor credit support are some of the serious problems being faced by the farmers.

(d) to (f) The Government has been implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Macro Management in Agriculture - Supplementation/Complementation of States Efforts through Work Plans under which the State Governments can prioritize their programmes according to their need and requirement. Under this scheme there is

provision to provide scientific and technical facilities such as seeds and planting material of improved varieties, creation of facilities like Tissue / Leaf Analysis Labs, Plant Health Clinics, Disease Forecasting Units, Model Floriculture Centres, support for drip irrigation and protected cultivation. Technology dissemination through demonstrations, training programmes and distribution of technical literature are also taken up for the benefit of the farmers. Besides, the following Schemes are being implemented to address the post harvest management issues;

(i) Development of Commercial Horticulture through Production and Post-harvest Management.

(ii) Capital Investment Subsidy for Construction/ Modernization/ Expansion of Cold Storages and Storages for Horticultural Produce.

(iii) Market Information service for Horticulture crops.

In order to protect the interest of the growers, Market Intervention Scheme is also being implemented wherein purchase operations are done on the request of the State Governments.

[English]

Tussle between AI and IA on Share from Gulf Earnings

4304. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the tussle between Air India and Indian Airlines on sharing of earnings from Gulf operations.;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the efforts being made to settle the issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, Indian Airlines and Air India entered into a Memorandum of Understanding in 1994 covering inter-alia, a revenue sharing arrangement on Gulf routes and Joint Venture Flights to Gulf. The Gulf revenue sharing arrangement involved pooling and sharing of the Gulf flights of the two airlines, based on a formula mutually agreed. Reconciliation of accounts of these operations is being done by Air India and Indian Airlines on a regular basis. The Joint Venture arrangement has since been terminated (in February, 2002) and the flights divided equally between the two airlines.

Cases Booked under Wildlife Protection Act

4305. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether CBI has booked more than 13 cases under Wildlife Protection Act since 1997;
- (b) if so, the number of cases in which it has secured a conviction;
- (c) whether a notorious skin smuggler involved in 9 cases under Wildlife Protection Act, since 1988 is still facing preliminary trial and is out on bail;
- (d) if so, the reason therefor;
- (e) whether the CBI Wildlife Cell is strapped of expert manpower and CBI Staff from Narcotics Cell are doubling up in the Wildlife Cell; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) The CBI has registered 13 cases under Wild Life (Protection) Act 1972 since 1996. After completing investigation complaints have been filed in 11 cases.

(c) and (d) No such person is involved in any of the wildlife offences detected by CBI.

(e) and (f) CBI is the most specialised investigating agency in the country. Wildlife offences are being dealt with by the SIU-XI Branch of CBI along with Narcotics cases. No separate staff has been sanctioned to them for dealing with wildlife offences.

[Translation]

Repairing of NH from Bharuch to Wapi

4306. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Highway from Bharuch to Wapi needs to be repaired in view of heavy rush of traffic on this route;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken in this regard; and
- (c) the details of the improvements made on

the National Highway between Ahmedabad to Mumbai during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) and (b) The National Highway from Bharuch to Wapi is being maintained in traffic worthy condition. Bharuch to Surat section has already been four-laned. Four laning work is in progress on Surat-Wapi section of National Highway-8 and is targeted to be substantially completed by December, 2003.

(c) On Ahmedabad to Mumbai section of NH-8, Ahmedabad bypass, Vadodara to Surat and Bassein Creek to Mumbai sections were already 4-laned and four laning of Manor to Bassein Creek Section of NH-8 has been completed in 2001-2002. Four-laning of Ahmedabad-Vadodara Expressway Project and Surat-Manor Tollway Project are under progress.

[English]

Kurukshetra as Heritage City

4307. SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to declare Kurukshetra as 'Heritage' city;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the State Government have sent any proposal for the development of this holy city; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (d) There is no formally sanctioned scheme under which a particular city is declared as Heritage City. However, the importance of Kurukshetra as a culturally significant city has been recognised and a number of redevelopment/improvement projects have been taken in hand.

The Department of Tourism, Government of India, has also identified the following projects for current financial year in consultation with the State Government:

1. Improvement/lighting of Purushottam Park, Kurukshetra;
2. Renovation of Jyotisar, Kurukshetra;
3. Greening of lawns at Jyotisar, Kurukshetra; and
4. Sound and Light Show at Kurukshetra.

Ban on Grazing

4308. SHRI SURESH KURUP: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether grazing has been banned in the area of 'Valley of Flowers' National Park;
- (b) if so, whether the Government have received any suggestions from many research organisations to allow grazing in a controlled manner;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the decision taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Scientific community has so far not reached at any firm conclusion regarding the impact of grazing on the flora of "Valley of Flowers" national park. There are research findings on both sides i.e. some are in favour of ban on grazing while others feel that the ban on grazing has adverse impact on the flora of the national park.

(d) Any decision can be taken only after a firm opinion on the subject has been formed.

[Translation]

Pricing of Items Sold at Airports

4309. DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Airports Authority of India have any guidelines for pricing of ordinary articles/items being sold at airports;
- (b) if so, whether the shop-keepers using Airport premises do not follow these guidelines and charge exorbitant price for beverages, snacks and other ordinary items;
- (c) if so, the reasons for the lack of proper monitoring of such unfair trade practices; and
- (d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to check such practices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir. The guidelines are:

- (i) In the Notice Inviting Tenders, it is clearly mentioned that the party is expected to maintain the tariff rates comparable to those prevailing in the town / city for such type of facility; and
- (ii) Sealed items are not to be sold above the printed Market Retail Price.

(b) to (d) No such complaints have been received so far. However, Airports Authority of India is regularly monitoring the prices.

[English]

Welfare Schemes for Workers of Salt Industry

4310. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI:

SHRI C. SREENIVASAN:

SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of workers in the Salt Industry in the country, State-wise particularly in Gujarat;
- (b) the welfare schemes formulated by the Government for them and the number of workers benefited from these schemes, so far, State-wise; and
- (c) the funds allocated under these schemes during each of the last three years, State-wise particularly in Saurashtra Kutch region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) The details as reported by the office of Salt Commissioner are given in enclosed statement-I.

(b) Welfare schemes (as given in enclosed statement-II) are formulated and implemented by the Office of the Salt Commissioner, under the Ministry of Commerce & Industry. These schemes are financed out of the cess levied on production of salt and collected by the Salt Commissioner.

The number of workers as reported by the office of Salt Commissioner benefited from these schemes during last three years are given in the enclosed statement-III.

(c) The details of funds allocated by Office of the Salt Commissioner, under Ministry of Commerce & Industry are given in the enclosed statement-IV.

Statement-I

Average Number of Labourers Employed per day in Salt Industry during the year 1999, 2000 & 2001

S.No	Name of State	Number of Labourers		
		1999	2000	2001
1.	Rajasthan	9,684	14,997	16,203
2.	Gujarat	56,470	54,933	47,886
3.	Maharashtra	2,798	4,290	7,276
4.	Karnataka	253	231	196
5.	Tamil Nadu	13,716	15,009	13,990
6.	Andhra Pradesh	8,714	9,781	10,460
7.	Goa	116	70	70
8.	Orissa	727	443	528
9.	West Bengal	240	230	235
10.	Himachal Pradesh	55	50	50
11.	Daman & Diu	*	*	*
Total		92,773	1,00,034	96,894

* included in Gujarat State.

Statement-II

List of Schemes Formulated by Office of the Salt Commissioner under Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Benefiting the Labourers;

- Water supply schemes including provision of water coolers, storage tanks, water tankers mounted on trailers etc.
- Construction of labour rest sheds, creches, toilets, etc.
- Provisions of augmentation of medical facilities, including conducting General Health-cum-Eye camps.
- Provision of Community centres and recrea-

tion facilities including organising sports meets, installation of TV sets, 16 m.m. Sound Projectors, etc.

- Provision of augmentation of educational facilities for the children of workers employed in the salt industry including grant of rewards to meritorious children of salt workers for purchase of books etc.
- Labour Housing, subject to the provisions of the scheme formulated in this regard.
- Provision of audio-visual aids in the Salt Department for improving skills in production of salt/Iodised salt/quality control etc.

Statement-III

The number of workers benefited from the Labour Welfare Schemes, of Salt Commissioner, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, during last three years (1999-2002)

Name of State	Number of Labourers benefited
Rajasthan	2810
Gujarat	14065
Tamil Nadu	2458
Orissa	420

Statement-IV

State-wise details of Funds Allocated by Office of the Salt Commissioner, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, for Labour Welfare Works during the last three years

(Figures in Rupees)

Sl. No.	Name of State	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Rajasthan	2,605	6,21,830	8,12,129
2.	Gujarat	11,82,102	16,69,066	13,38,837
3.	Maharashtra	-	-	-
4.	Karnataka	-	-	-
5.	Tamil Nadu	1,09,615	97,886	3,00,000
6.	Andhra Pradesh	11,046	-	-

1	2	3	4	5
7.	West Bengal	1,03,131	-	-
8.	Orissa	1,05,514	10,377	23,634
Total		15,14,013	23,99,159	24,74,600

Land Under Irrigation

4311. SHRI BHAN SINGH BHAURA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether some proposals are under active consideration in his Ministry to bring more land under irrigation in the water scare districts of Bthianda and Mausā of Punjab; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) 4 Project proposals for lining of channels, rehabilitation of channels with increase in capacity have been received in Central Water Commission for techno-economic appraisal from Punjab Government. The proposals which also benefit Bthianda and Mausā (Mansa) districts of Punjab are under correspondence with the State Government.

Acquisition of Land under Golden Quadrilateral Scheme

4312. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB:

SHRI JAI PRAKASH:

SHRI B.K. PARTHASARATHI:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether land acquisition for Golden Quadrilateral Scheme linking four metros with four-lane is running much behind the schedule;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the time by which land acquisition is likely to be completed;

(d) the total funds allotted under the above scheme for the portion passing through Orissa;

(e) the total length of the road linked with the

National Highways under the said scheme as on March 31, 2002;

(f) the major projects completed during 2000-01;

(g) the expenditure incurred thereon;

(h) whether the said projects are lagging behind the schedule;

(i) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(j) the remedial steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) to (c) Land acquisition for Golden Quadrilateral (GQ) has generally been made within scheduled time frame. However, in some stretches there has been some delays because of detailed procedural formalities which are required to be complied with. It is being ensured that enough land is available for the contractors to work without impediments.

(d) The total cost of the projects on GQ in the State of Orissa is Rs. 1960 crores.

(e) The question is presumably regarding the total length of Golden Quadrilateral completed as on 31.03.2002. The total length of completed 4-lane stretches of GQ as on 31.03.2002 was 1063 kms.

(f) and (g) The details of major projects completed on GQ during 2000-01 are given in the statement enclosed.

(h) to (j) All the contracts for GQ have been awarded, except for 84 km long Allahabad bypass, because of formalities to be fulfilled for external loan assistance for the project. These are in progress and are targeted for substantial completion by December, 2003.

Statement

Major Projects completed on Golden Quadrilateral during 2000-2001

Sl.No.	Stretch	NH No.	Length (in Km)	Expenditure (Rs. in crores)
1	2	3	4	5
1	Gurgaon-Kotputli	8	126	381

1	2	3	4	5
2	Barwa Adda-Barakar	2	43	202
3	Manor-Bassein Creek	8	58	297
4	Jagatpur-Bhubneshwar	5	28	268
5	Jaipur Bypass Phase-I	8	14	97
6	Mathura-Agra	2	54	143
7	Raniganj-Panagarh	2	42	239
8	Barakar-Raniganj	2	33	141

Rengali Multipurpose Irrigation Project

4313. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rengali multipurpose irrigation project in Orissa is running behind schedule;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the total amount allocated during 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 and the amount released so far;

(d) the progress made so far in this regard; and

(e) the area provided with irrigation so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) Irrigation being a State subject, irrigation projects, including flood control are planned, investigated, funded, executed, operated and maintained by the State Governments themselves as per their own priorities. The Stage-I envisaging construction of Rengali Dam for the purpose of flood control and Hydro Power generation was sanctioned in June, 1973 and completed in 1985. Phase-I of Stage-II envisaging development of irrigation of 2,35,500 ha. was accepted by Planning Commission in March, 1978 and is under construction.

(c) and (d) The project is getting funds from the external agencies as well as Central Loan Assistance (CLA) under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP). The funds allocated by the external agencies during the year 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 is Rs. 135.6 crore and Rs. 106.12 crore respectively. In addition to this, the project also received Rs. 5.48 crore CLA under AIBP

and Rs. 14.00 crore under Fast Track Programme during 2001-2002.

(e) The irrigation potential created upto end of IXth Plan is 3.25 th. ha.

Felling of Trees in South Delhi

4314. SHRI C. SREENIVASAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether atleast 68 Neem and Kikar trees in the Ridge area of Delhi were felled in gross violation of the Supreme Court's directives as reported in the "Indian Express" dated July 13, 2002;

(b) if so, the details of the matter reported therein; and

(c) the action taken against the guilty officers?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) No Sir,

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Marketing by I.T.D.C.

4315. SHRI Y.V. RAO: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken to make India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC) more aggressive in marketing as well as selling the concept of Indian Tourism abroad; and

(b) the targets fixed for the next two years?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) ITDC has taken the following steps:

1. Renewed thrust is being given by the corporation to Marketing.
2. Marketing division has been converted into a separate profit centre.
3. Regular interaction with various travel and tour associations both in India and overseas has been intensified.
4. This division has launched a new website for more aggressive overseas marketing of the ITDC hotels.

5. Mailers are being regularly sent to over 3000 travel agents worldwide.

[Translation]

6. Regular participation in international and domestic tourism fairs and events is being organised.

7. Special rates are being offered to foreign tour operators.

8. Familiarisation tours for foreign tour operators and travel agents are being organised.

9. New Collaterals including brochures, posters, CD's etc. have been introduced.

10. Executive-wise targets have been fixed for better accountability.

11. Modern marketing tools have been introduced for effective communication.

(b) In view of the uncertainty due to the prevailing disinvestment scenario, it is not feasible at present to clearly quantify targets.

Irregularity in Agriculture Sector

4316. SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any instance of committing irregularity by the officers of Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, NH-IV, Faridabad has come to light;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Details of the action taken in respect of disciplinary/complaint cases pertaining to (i) Directorate of Plant Protection, Quarantine and Storage, Faridabad, (ii) Directorate of Marketing and Inspection, Faridabad and (iii) Central Fertilizer Quality Control and Training Institute, Faridabad are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Present Position of Disciplinary and Complaint Cases in the Offices of the Department at National Highway 4, Faridabad

S.No.	Subject	Action Taken
1	2	3
1.	Major penalty proceedings against Shri J.P. Sharma, the then Section Officer, Directorate of Plant Protection Quarantine and Storage (PPQ&S) regarding corruption and nepotism in recruitment	Imposition of minor penalty of stoppage of one increment for three years without cumulative effect.
2.	Major penalty proceedings against S/Shri R. Kandir, N.C. Tuhen, R.S. Thareja and P.P. Sinha, Officers of Directorate of Plant Protection Quarantine and Storage (PPQ&S) regarding irregularities in purchase of furniture.	The Inquiry Officer (I.O.) is conducting the proceedings.
3.	Major penalty proceedings against S/Shri R.L. Rajak, A.D. Pawar and M. Das, Officers of Directorate of Plant Protection Quarantine and Storage (PPQ&S) regarding irregularities in purchase procedure.	The Inquiry Officer (I.O.) is conducting the proceedings.
4.	Major penalty proceedings against S/Shri R.L. Rajak, M. Das and Virender Singh, Officers of Directorate of Plant Protection Quarantine and Storage (PPQ&S) regarding appointment of Shri Singh on false ST certificate	The Inquiry Officer (I.O.) is conducting the proceedings.

1	2	3
5.	Major penalty proceedings against Shri P.J. Nikhare, Assistant Director, Directorate of Plant Protection Quarantine and Storage (PPQ&S)	The matter is subjudice.
6.	Major penalty proceedings against S/Shri R.L. Rajak, M. Das, Officers of Directorate of Plant Protection Quarantine and Storage (PPQ&S) regarding irregularities in purchases made during 1997-1998	The Inquiry Officer (I.O.) is conducting the proceedings.
7.	Major penalty proceedings against Shri Santri Prasad, Deputy Agricultural Marketing Adviser, Directorate of Marketing and Inspection, Faridabad regarding alleged irregularities in the matter of revocation of suspended license/certificate of authorization of M/s. B.P. Oil Company and Puri Oil Mills.	The matter was referred to the Central Vigilance Commission in June, 2002. The Commission have advised initiation of major penalty proceedings against the officer vide their letter dated 25th July, 2002.
8.	Complaint against Shri N. Tripathi, Director, Central Fertilizer Quality Control and Training Institute (CFQCT), Faridabad regarding irregularities with analysis of samples of imported urea.	Central Bureau of Investigation has ordered Preliminary Enquiry (PE) on 21st March, 2000.
9.	Complaints against (i) alleged irregularities, (ii) misuse of Government's Staff car/vehicle in the Directorate of Plant Protection Quarantine and Storage (PPQ&S), Faridabad, and (iii) entrusting additional charge of the statutory post of Secretary, Central Insecticides Board and Registration Committee to officer other than regular incumbent of the post.	Complaint of alleged irregularities in the Directorate of Plant Protection Quarantine and Storage (PPQ&S), Faridabad, was sent to the Plant Protection Division of the Department for investigation and furnishing of factual report. The report submitted by Plant Protection Division denies irregularities in the functioning of Directorate of Plant Protection Quarantine and Storage (PPQ&S), Faridabad. The other complaints have been sent to the Plant Protection Division for investigation and furnishing of factual report.
10.	Complaint against irregularities by Central Insecticides Board, Faridabad.	Complaint has been sent to the Plant Protection Division of the Department of investigation and furnishing of factual report.
11.	Reference for disciplinary action against Shri K.C. Taneja, Cashier, Directorate of Marketing and Inspection, Faridabad for loss of cash.	Comments sought from Marketing Division.

[English]

Breeding of Royal Bengal Tiger

4317. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of wild life sanctuaries exist in India, State-wise;

(b) whether breeding of Royal Bengal Tiger in the tiger project of Sundarbans is taking place; and

(c) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) There are 497 number of Wildlife Sanctuaries in the country, and State-wise details are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The State Government has reported sighting of 23 cubs during the tiger estimation conducted in 2002.

Statement

State/Union Territories wise number of National Parks and Sanctuaries.

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	National Parks	Sanctuaries	Total
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	9	96	105
2.	Andhra Pradesh	4	21	25
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	2	11	13
4.	Assam	5	15	20
5.	Bihar	1	11	12
6.	Chandigarh	0	2	2
7.	Chhattisgarh	3	10	13
8.	Dadra & N Haveli	0	1	1
9.	Daman & Diu	0	1	1
10.	Delhi	0	2	2
11.	Goa	1	6	7
12.	Gujarat	4	21	25
13.	Haryana	1	9	10
14.	Himachal Pradesh	2	32	34
15.	Jammu & Kashmir	4	16	20
16.	Jharkhand	1	10	11
17.	Karnataka	5	21	26
18.	Kerala	3	12	15
19.	Lakshadweep	0	1	1
20.	Madhya Pradesh	9	25	34
21.	Maharashtra	5	33	38
22.	Manipur	1	5	6

1	2	3	4	5
23.	Meghalaya	2	3	5
24.	Mizoram	2	5	7
25.	Nagaland	1	3	4
26.	Orissa	2	18	20
27.	Punjab	0	10	10
28.	Rajasthan	4	24	28
29.	Sikkim	1	5	3
30.	Tamil Nadu	5	20	25
31.	Tripura	0	4	4
32.	Uttar Pradesh	1	23	24
33.	Uttaranchal	6	6	12
34.	West Bengal	5	15	20
Total		89	497	586

Performance of ESI Hospitals

4318. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:

SHRI RAMSHAKAL:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Employees State Insurance Hospitals at present in Maharashtra;

(b) whether the Union Government have received any complaints regarding shortage of life saving drugs and unsatisfactory services in ESI Hospitals;

(c) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon;

(d) whether the number of employees covered under ESI scheme is declining day by day due to shortage of doctors and medicines; and

(e) if so, the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) At present there are 14 ESI Hospitals in Maharashtra.

(b) and (c) A few complaints have been received regarding non-availability of some drugs in ESI Hospitals/ Dispensaries in the State of Maharashtra. No complaints have however been received regarding non-availability of life saving drugs. As confirmed by the State Government 78 types of drugs are being provided through the ESI dispensaries/clinics of Insurance Medical Practitioners. About 350 types of drugs are available in ESI Hospitals and sufficient quantity of drugs are available with them for meeting the requirements.

(d) and (e) The State Government has also taken action for immediate redressal of genuine complaints of the beneficiaries regarding unsatisfactory services.

The number of employees covered under the ESI Scheme has marginally declined due to workers crossing of the wage ceiling of Rs.6500/- per month prescribed under the ESI Act, closure of some factories in the State of Maharashtra etc., and not due to shortage of Doctors and Medicines. The ESI Corporation is constantly endeavouring to alleviate the problems being faced by its beneficiaries and has taken the following steps to improve services:

- (i) Rs. 50 per I.P. Family Unit has been placed in the revolving fund maintained by the Regional Director to ensure easy availability and smooth flow of funds for Super-speciality/Speciality treatments and reimbursements to Insured Persons.
- (ii) Action plans for improving equipment availability and other services in Hospitals have been prepared. State Government of Maharashtra has been sanctioned equipments worth more than Rs.7 crore.
- (iii) Funds have been given to the State Government to clear the past pending reimbursement bills.
- (iv) Grievance redressal machinery has been geared up for prompt relief.
- (v) The State Government has been advised to operate the Central Rate Contracts for procurement of medicines to avoid delays in getting supplies of good quality.

Rehabilitation of Freed Bonded Labourers

4319. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh have requested to enhance the unit cost for rehabilitation

of freed bonded labourers from Rs.10,000 to Rs.50,000; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) and (b) Requests for enhancement of the rehabilitation assistance to freed bonded labourers had been received from various State Governments including the Government of Andhra Pradesh. Based on the consultations held with the representatives of the State Governments, rehabilitation assistance has been enhanced from Rs.10,000/- to Rs.20,000/- per freed bonded labourer with effect from May, 2000.

[Translation]

Disposal of Solid Waste

4320. SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have signed a contract with a Canadian Firm to formulate a project for the disposal of the solid waste of industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the expenditure likely to be incurred on this project?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Entry of New Pests

4321. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government to prevent entry of New Pests in the country;

(b) whether several pests have already got through the barriers set up for the purpose due to inadequate testing and detection facilities; and

(c) if so, the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) In order to prevent entry of any dangerous pest into the country, all import of the plants/plant material, fruits are regulated as per the provisions of Plant, Fruits and Seeds (Regulation of Import into India) Order, 1989 issued under Destructive Insects and Pests Act, 1914. The Directorate of Plant Protection, Quarantine & Storage has established 29 Plant Quarantine Stations all over the country to deal with bulk import of plants and plant materials. Also, National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (NBPGR) of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has been authorized to undertake quarantine inspection of germ plasm materials.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise.

[Translation]

Pollution by Textiles Industry

4322. SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to check pollution being spread by the textiles industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which pollution is likely to abate after implementing the said scheme?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) Minimum National Standards for liquid effluent and gaseous emission for textile industries have been developed. The standards are implemented through the concerned State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs). A Central Action Programme for industrial pollution control along the rivers and lakes in the country was started in 1997. The overall objective of this programme is to ensure compliance to the standards in respect of the grossly polluting industries which are discharging their effluents along the rivers and lakes. A total of 851 defaulting industries were identified for priority action under this programme, which includes 348 textile industries. Out of these 348 industries, 245 have provided the requisite effluents treatment facilities and the remaining 103 are closed.

[English]

Forest Cover

4323. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country's forest cover has drastically declined during the past few years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the factors responsible therefor, State-wise;

(c) whether the study conducted by UNFPA in this regard has revealed sharp decline in forest cover in the country; and

(d) if so, the plans formulated by the Government to save the forests?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) No, Sir. As per the last State of Forest Report 1999, forest cover in the country has increased by 3896 Sq. Km. during the period 1996 to 1998.

(c) In the report of UNFPA, the forest cover assessed by Forest Survey of India in the period 1987 to 1997 has been compared with the figures of recorded forest area of 1951 and 1969, which are not comparable.

(d) Various plans formulated by the Government to save and increase forest are:

- i) Afforestation programmes are undertaken by State Governments from their own resources as well as with financial assistance from Government of India.
- (ii) Externally Aided Projects are being implemented for the development and preservation of forests.
- (iii) Guidelines have been issued to all States/UTs to involve village communities in protection and regeneration of degraded forests.
- (iv) Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 has been enacted to regulate the diversion of forest land for non-forestry purposes.
- (v) A net work of protected areas has been established.
- (vi) Ministry of Environment and Forests has prepared a National Forestry Action Programme to enhance

the contribution of forestry and tree resources for ecological stability and people centered development through increased investments in conservation and development of forest resources.

Development of Golden Rice

4324. DR. V. SAROJA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether scientists at the Directorate of Rice Research at A.P. Agricultural University, Hyderabad are working on a project to develop Indian Variety of Vitamin A enriched Golden Rice;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether more strains of such rice are being developed in research centres of other Agricultural Universities including Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI);

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the project of A.P. Agricultural University for development of golden rice is being financed/ funded by IARI, Pusa; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) and (b) Directorate of Rice Research, Hyderabad a unit of Indian Council of Agricultural Research has submitted a research project proposal to Department of Biotechnology for developing vitamin 'A' enriched Golden rice indica varieties. The likely project at the Directorate of Rice Research, Hyderabad will be basically using the transgenic Taipei-309 line as donor to transfer the beta carotene biosynthetic genes into the Indica rice varieties like Swarna, Tellahamsa, Vijetha and Sarjoo 52 using molecular markers. However, no such project is being carried out at Acharya NG Ranga Agricultural University, Hyderabad.

(c) and (d) Besides Directorate of Rice Research, Hyderabad; Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi; Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore and University of Delhi, South Campus, have contemplated to work for transfer of beta carotene genes to other indica rice varieties such as Pusa Basmati 1, Mahasuri and ASD-16.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Question does not arise, Sir.

Construction of Rushikulya Barrage

4325. SHRIMATI KUMUDINI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide any assistance to the Government of Orissa to construct Rushikulya Barrage for irrigation and flood control in its basin; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) No proposal has been received from Government of Orissa for Central Loan Assistance for construction of Rushikulya Barrage.

Premium for Cotton Crop in Gujarat

4326. SHRI SAVSHIBHAI MAKWANA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the premium for cotton crop in Gujarat has been doubled in Kharif 2002 season as compared to Kharif 2001;

(b) if so, whether there is need to avoid such sharp increase in premium which will adversely affect the interest of cotton farmers;

(c) if so, whether the Government are considering any remedial measures to reduce the burden on the farmers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes Sir. The premium for cotton crop in Kharif 2001 was 5.05% which has been increased to 9.80% in Kharif 2002 season.

(b) Yes Sir. However, this sharp increase or decrease in the premium rates is due to increase or decrease in the variability of the past yield data of the insured crop based on which actuarial rates are worked out.

(c) and (d) As the actuarial rates are worked out by the General Insurance Corporation of India based on the set methodology, therefore, they may come down in due course of time with the reduction in the variability of yield. However, the small and marginal farmers are provided premium subsidy to the extent of 50% on sunset basis.

[Translation]

Survey on Unorganised Labourers

4327. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have ever conducted a category-wise survey for the social and economic upliftment of unorganized labourers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of unorganized and unskilled labourers and the industries in which they are engaged; and

(d) the economic, legal and other measures taken by the Government for the welfare of unorganized and unskilled labourers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Industry-wise distribution of unorganized sector workers is given in the enclosed statement.

(d) The Government has taken several steps for the welfare of labourers in the unorganized sector. A large number of existing labour laws like the Employees Provident Fund & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952, the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, the Payment of Wages Act, 1936, the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948, the Maternity benefit Act, 1961, the Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972, the Equal Remuneration Act, 1976, the Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970, the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976 and Inter-State Migrant Workmen (RE&CS) Act, 1979, the Building and other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996 and Building and other Construction Workers' Welfare Cess Act, 1996 are applicable to the workers in unorganized sector. These Acts look after the interests of the workers in terms of wages, working hours, social security, etc. The Government has launched "Krishi Shramik Samajik Suraksha Yojana-2001", a social security scheme for the agricultural workers which is being implemented by the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) in 50 identified Districts in the country to cover ten lakhs agricultural workers during its first phase of three years.

The Government is also implementing a number of

Plan Schemes through various Ministries/Departments like Swarna Jayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, Sampoorna Grameen Rojgar Yojana, Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rojgar Yojana, National Slum Development Programme etc. for the workers including the unorganized workers.

Statement

Employment in unorganized sector by Industry (in Crores)

Industry	Employment in Unorganised Sector
Agriculture	23.6
Mining and Quarrying	0.13
Manufacturing	4.14
Electricity, gas and water supply	0.03
Construction	1.65
Trade	3.68
Transport, Storage and Communication	1.15
Financial Services	0.34
Community Social and Pers. Services	2.17
Total Employment	36.90

Note: Total may not tally due to rounding.

[English]

Sewerage Treatment Plants

4328. SHRI CHANDRA VIJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that out of the 58 towns situated by the side of the rivers Ganga, Yamuna and Gomti in Uttar Pradesh, only 17 towns have been provided with sewerage treatment plants;

(b) if so, the steps being taken for provision of sewerage treatment plants to the rest of the towns;

(c) the time by which the said facility is likely to be provided; and

(d) the quantum of Central Funding provided or likely to be provided for the same?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) River pollution abatement works in the following 23 towns of Uttar Pradesh situated on the banks of river Ganga, Yamuna and Gomti have been taken up and are under implementation. The selection of towns has been done on the basis of pollution surveys and investigations carried by the State Government. Sewage treatment plants are to be set up in 22 towns except in Garmukteshwar where no sewage is reported to be reaching the river Ganga. No proposals for the remaining 35 towns, have been received from the State Government.

Allahabad	Anupshaher	Bijnour	Chunar	Farrukhabad
Garmukteshwar	Ghazipur	Kanpur	Mirzapur	Mugal Sarai
Saidpur	Varanasi	Jaunpur	Lucknow	Sultanpur
Agra	Etawah	Ghaziabad	Mathura	Muzzaffar Nagar
Noida	Saharanpur	Varindavan		

(d) The approved cost of all pollution abatement works including the sewage treatment plants in the above referred 23 towns is Rs.537.04 crore. Of this, projects amounting to Rs. 421.12 crore have been sanctioned against which Central grants of Rs.323 crore have been released.

Induction of Mini Planes in IA

4329. DR. B.B. RAMAIAH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Airlines propose to induct mini-planes;

(b) if so, the number of planes to be added; and

(c) the method of raising equity for investment on the proposed plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) to (c) The proposal of Indian Airlines for purchase of six 50 seater ATR 42-500 aircraft was considered by the Government in June, 1999. However, the proposal was not found viable. Therefore, the Government advised Indian Airlines to explore the possibility of acquiring these aircraft on lease basis. Currently, Indian Airlines is in the process of finalising dry-lease of ATR 42-320 aircraft.

Golden Quadrilateral Scheme

4330. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any prioritisation study has been done about the construction of roads on the east-west corridor (National Highway No.7) under the Golden Quadrilateral Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the work on this corridor is proceeding as per the schedule;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the revised dates fixed for the completion of roads on the sectors falling in the east-west corridor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Prioritisation study has been completed for North-South and East-West Corridors of National Highways Development Project (NHDP). The study has prioritised the stretches to be taken up, based on the traffic and available Right of Way for the National Highway sections.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The North-South & East-West corridors were originally scheduled for completion by December, 2009. We have ourselves pre-poned the target for completion of the corridors to December, 2007.

[Translation]

Protection of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants

4331. SHRI MANJAY LAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Central scheme for development and protection of medicinal and aromatic plants is being implemented in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have provided interest free loans to the poor farmers for the said purpose;

(d) if so, the details of the procedure to be followed by the farmers to avail the benefit of the scheme;

(e) whether the Government have provided this facility at the district level; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture is implementing a Central Sector Scheme on Development of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Macro Management in Agriculture Supplementation/ Complementation of State Efforts through Work Plan.

(c) and (d) There is no provision of interest free loans to the poor farmers in the said scheme.

(e) and (f) The scheme of Macro Management in Agriculture provides flexibility to the States to prioritize as per the need.

[English]

Assistance for Development of Tourist Sites

4332. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to provide financial assistance for the creation of infrastructure and development of several tourist sites in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the States identified for providing such assistance, State-wise; and

(c) the extent to which it would help to boost the tourism sector?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) Department of Tourism, Government of India has proposed new schemes namely Integrated Development of Tourist Circuits and Product/Infrastructure and Destination Development for financial assistance to the State Government/UT Administrations for the year 2002-03.

(b) State Governments/UT Administrations have been requested to send project proposals for the year 2002-03.

(c) Financial assistance under these schemes will improve the infrastructural facilities in the States and thereby help boost the tourism sector.

Affairs of Sahitya Academy

4333. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether CBI conducted a raid on premises of Sahitya Academy, Bangalore;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore;

(c) whether several irregularities have been reported in appointments, transfers, publishing of books, maintenance of records and stock position of the Academy;

(d) if so, whether loss in stock position was caused by sale of books to Raja Ram Mohan Roy scheme through a middleman; and

(e) if so, the details of the losses and the action proposed to be taken by the Government to set the matter right?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (e) The CBI conducted a raid in the Regional Office of the Sahitya Akademi at Bangalore on 16th November, 2001. The copy of the FIR, filed by the CBI, submitted to the Hon'ble XXI Additional City Civil and Sessions (Special) Judge, Bangalore, reveals that the raid was based on credible information received by CBI from a reliable source to the effect that while functioning as public servant in their respective capacities, the Regional Secretary and Assistant Editor of the Sahitya Akademi, Bangalore during the period 1998-1999 entered into a criminal conspiracy amongst themselves and with a private party. The FIR states that there were irregularities in the purchase of paper in 1998 in the Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi. Since all the relevant records relating to this raid are still with the CBI, the Akademi has not yet taken any action in the matter.

Reduction in Tariffs of ITDC Hotels

4334. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has asked the Five-Star ITDC hotels to reduce the tariffs to attract more tourists;

(b) if so, the extent to which each ITDC hotel has reduced its tariff and from which date; and

(c) the other concessions that are being given by ITDC hotels to the Tourists?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) ITDC hotels provide concessions to the

tourists by offering attractive packages and offering special rates to tour operators.

Hostel Accommodation for ICAR Officials

4335. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Panse Hostel at Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute and various IARI hostels provide accommodation for short periods to senior ICAR officials during the last three years; and

(b) if so, the designation of officials stayed in above hostels from January, 1998 till date alongwith the duration of stay, room rent charged and boarding charges recovered, indicating HRA paid or otherwise, official-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

*Details of Council H.Q. Officials stayed in Panse Hostel, IASRI, New Delhi
(From January, 1998 to till date)*

Sl.No.	Official	Duration of stay		Room rent charges	Boarding charges recovered	Whether HRA paid for the period of stay
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Dy. D.G. (Engg.)	2.2.98	4.2.98	80/-	-	No
		6.2.98	13.2.98	280/-	-	
		13.2.98	20.2.98	280/-	-	
		26.2.98	6.3.98	320/-	-	
		16.3.98	26.3.98	400/-	-	
		27.3.98	7.4.98	440/-	-	
		13.4.98	22.4.98	360/-	-	
		22.5.98	22.5.98	20/-	-	
2.	ADG (D & APT)	29.11.99	30.11.99	20/-	-	No
		2.12.99	12.12.99	200/-	-	
		16.12.99	27.12.99	220/-	-	
		27.12.99	31.12.99	80/-	-	
		4.1.2000	14.1.2000	200/-	-	
		17.1.2000	18.1.2000	20/-	-	
		21.1.2000	3.2.2000	280/-	-	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		6.2.2000	11.2.2000	100/-	-	
		14.2.2000	15.2.2000	20/-	-	
		16.2.2000	17.2.2000	40/-	-	
		20.2.2000	2.3.2000	220/-	-	
		6.3.2000	16.3.2000	200/-	-	
3.	Dir. (Fin.)	18.9.2000	29.9.2000	240/-	-	No
		20.10.2000	21.10.2000	30/-	-	
		19.10.2000	11.11.2000	390/-	-	
		11.11.2000	22.11.2000	330/-	-	
		22.11.2000	24.11.2000	60/-	-	
		28.11.2000	8.12.2000	300/-	-	
		8.12.2000	14.12.2000	180/-	-	
		14.12.2000	17.12.2000	90/-	-	
4.	ADG (Agronomy)	21.11.2001	22.11.2001	120/-	-	Yes
5.	ADG (HRD)	17.3.2002	23.3.2002	360/-	-	No
		23.5.2002	31.5.2002	240/-	-	Yes

Details of council H.Q. Officials stayed in IARI Hostels, New Delhi (From January, 1998 to till date)

Completion of Bridge over Mahanadi

4336. DR. PRASANNA KUMAR PATASANI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the inordinate delay in the completion of the bridge over Mahanadi;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the funds allocated for the purpose; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) to (d) Presumably the information has been sought regarding the bridge on Mahanadi near Boudh on Boudh-Kiakata-Rairkhol State Road which was

approved in 1993 by the Ministry under the Scheme of Economic Importance & Inter-State Connectivity (E&I) with 50% share of the original estimated cost. The work is being executed by the State Government.

According to the information received from the State Government, the main reasons for the delay in completion of the work are rescinding of the contract of the original agency due to slow progress and re-awarding of the work to another agency, and constraints of funds faced by the State Government. The revised estimated cost of completion of the project is Rs.34.64 crore and the revised target date of completion is December 2002.

[Translation]

Ecological Development Projects

4337. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government in association with the Uttar Pradesh Government have made any efforts towards identification of important ecological development projects in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the domestic and foreign financial assistance provided to launch such projects in the State, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) Areas within 5 kms of the national parks and sanctuaries have been identified as important areas for eco-development under the World Bank assisted Forestry Project in Uttar Pradesh. Central government also provides assistance for ecological development of these areas under the centrally sponsored schemes, "Development of national parks and sanctuaries" and "Project Tiger". As the funds are released by the World Bank directly to the Uttar Pradesh government, component-wise details are not compiled and collated in the ministry. The assistance provided for ecological development around national parks and sanctuaries in Uttar Pradesh during last three years is as follows:

(Rs in lakhs)

Year	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002
Uttar Pradesh	66.51	113.74	118.99

[English]

Sardar Sarovar Dam

4338. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to raise the height of Sardar Sarovar Dam; and

(b) if so, the basis on which the height is being raised and its likely implications thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) As per the directions of Supreme Court, Action Plan finalised by the Narmada Control Authority (NCA), envisages the construction of the dam height upto EL 138.68 by June, 2005.

(b) N.C.A. is to give permission from time to time for raising the Dam height beyond EL 90 m. keeping

in view the Rehabilitation & Resettlement (R&R) and Environment safeguard measures. For this purpose the necessary clearances are given by the R&R Sub-group & Environment Sub-Group. The Dam on completion will provide Drinking Water Supply, Irrigation & Power benefits to the party States.

Implementation of Recommendations in the Approach Paper to Tenth Plan

4339. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of recommendations made by Planning Commission in its "Approach Paper" to the Tenth Five Year Plan; and

(b) the recommendations which have been implemented so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The recommendations contemplated in the Approach Paper to the Tenth Five Year Plan inter-alia focuses on raising crop intensity, stepping up public investment in irrigation capacity and water management, development of rural infrastructure, development and dissemination of agricultural technologies, watershed development programme, diversification of agriculture in favour of oilseeds, pulses and horticultural crops, exploiting the highest potential area in eastern and central region.

The recommendations made in the Tenth Plan Approach Paper have been considered while formulating the plan schemes for the Tenth Five Year Plan for all-round development of agriculture.

Agricultural Census

4340. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA:

SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the last agricultural census conducted in the country;

(b) whether the Government propose to conduct another census in the near future;

(c) if so, the time by which the census is likely to be conducted;

- (d) if not the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether comprehensive land records are not available with various States; and
- (f) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) The last quinquennial agricultural census was conducted in the country with reference to agricultural year 1995-96 (July-June). Through agricultural census data on number and area of Operational Holdings according to size-class, category (marginal, small, semi-medium, medium and large), type (individual, joint and institutional), social groups (SC, ST & Others), gender, tenancy status and terms of leasing, cropping pattern and irrigation status, are collected using the administrative machinery of State Governments. Data of Agricultural Census 1995-96 have been finalized for most of the States/UTs. The all India results would be released as soon as the data are finalized for the remaining States/UTs.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The States/UTs have already been requested to undertake the Seventh Agricultural Census with reference year 2000-01.

(e) and (f) Land and its management is under the exclusive legislative and administrative jurisdiction of the States. The system of land records is prevalent in most of the States of the Country, except some North Eastern States where Cadastral Survey, has not been done and no land record exists.

Procurement Policy

4341. SHRI GUNIPATI RAMAIAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have again increased the procurement price of wheat;
- (b) if so, whether the Government have raised the Minimum Support Price of wheat inspite of CACP's suggestion to keep the procurement price at last year's level; and
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) to (c) The Government has fixed the minimum support

price of wheat at Rs.620 per quintal as against Rs.610 per quintal recommended by the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) for the 2001-2002 crop to be marketed in 2002-2003. The marginal increase has been given keeping in view the rise in cost of production and the need to provide the incentives to the farmers to increase production and productivity of wheat.

Command Area Development Programme

4342. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Command Area Development Programme is being restricted in the Tenth Plan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the States have been consulted on the issue;
- (d) if so, the response thereto; and
- (e) the follow-up action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (e) Keeping in view the recommendations of the Working Groups of the Planning Commission, the suggestions of the Ministry of Finance and the views expressed at the Conference of State Secretaries held at New Delhi in the month of June, 2002, the Command Area Development Programme has been restructured to include some new components and delete a few of the ongoing items. The components of the programme proposed to be deleted during the X Plan are land levelling and shaping, sprinkler and drip irrigation, conjunctive use of surface and ground water, crop compensation and introduction of suitable cropping patterns as these are primarily subsidy oriented and the Ministries of Agriculture and Rural Development have provision for such activities under their existing schemes. Some new components aimed at correction of deficiencies in the irrigation systems, renovation of Minor Irrigation tanks, and intermediate/link drains for facilitating drainage have, however, been added to the programme to make it more beneficial to the farmers. In the Conference most of the States agreed for revision in the Programme during the X Plan. The proposal for Tenth Plan has been submitted to the Planning Commission.

[Translation]

Flight between Jodhpur-Ahmedabad-Chennai-Bangalore

4343. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for starting a direct air service from Jodhpur city in Rajasthan to Ahmedabad, Chennai and Bangalore;

(b) if so, the time by which the proposal is likely to be approved;

(c) if not, the reasons thereof;

(d) whether the Government propose to start more air services from Jodhpur; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) to (e) No, Sir. Indian Airlines has no plans to start new services from Jodhpur due to commitment of its aircraft capacity in the operation of services on the existing network.

[English]

National Highway-4

4344. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of upgradation of Tumkur-Haveri section of National Highway (NH)-4 into four lane;

(b) whether the assured Asian Development Bank loan assistance amounting to \$ 240 million is being released;

(c) the quantum of funds allocated for the current year out of Indian Government's share of \$ 145 million for this project; and

(d) the time by which the project is likely to be operational?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) The contracts have been awarded and the work is in progress.

(b) Yes, Sir. The loan amounting to US \$ 240 million has become effective in February, 2002. Amounts are reimbursed by Asian Development Bank as per expenditure incurred on the project.

(c) The share of Government of India for this project is US\$ 138 million and not US\$ 145 million. An amount of Rs. 79.92 crores is allocated for the current year for share of the Government.

(d) The project is targeted for substantial completion by December, 2003.

[Translation]

Bansagar Dam

4345. SHRI RAMANAND SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of meetings of Ban Sagar Central Board held during 2001-02 and 2002-03;

(b) the cost escalation due to delay in completion of the work on the said dam;

(c) the time by which the work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) No meeting of Banasagar Control Board was held during 2001-02 and 2002-03 (till date).

(b) Banasagar Dam was scheduled for completion by 1987. Compared to estimated cost of Rs. 448.03 crores at 1987 price level, the latest estimated cost of the Project is Rs. 1054.96 crores.

(c) As per the present planning, the dam, upto its full height, including crest gates is scheduled for completion by 2004.

[English]

State of Affairs in National Library, Kolkata

4346. DR. NITISH SENGUPTA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the steady deterioration of the State of Affairs of the National Library in Kolkata;

(b) if so, the factors responsible thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to tone up the administration of this historical institution and to restore its former glory?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (c) The National Library Kolkata is a subordinate office of the Department of Culture. Government is of the view that there is room for improvement in the functioning of the National Library. A number of steps have

been taken to revamp and strengthen the National Library. An Advisory Board under the chairmanship of Minister (Tourism and Culture) has been reconstituted to provide policy advice and guidance for development of the National Library. A Board of Management has been formed to draw up and monitor the annual action plan for the Library. An Expert Committee has been appointed to consider ways and means to improve its functioning. To overcome the shortage of space, a new building costing Rs.77 crores is under construction and is expected to be functional by January 2003. Vigorous efforts are being made in consultation with UPSC to identify a suitable Director for the National Library.

Training Programme under Revolving Fund Project

4347. SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute is conducting a training programme under a Revolving Fund Project on Information Technology;

(b) if so, the profits generated therefrom during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether there was any deviation from the proposed training programme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This project was started in 1998. The table below shows the profits generated during last three years.

Year	Profit Generated
1999-2000	Rs. 3,34,574
2000-2001	Rs.3,43,448
2001-2002	Rs. 4,04,078

(c) No, Sir. There was no deviation from the proposed training programme.

(d) N.A..

Funds to States under CADP

4348. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to

state the total amount released, during 2002-2003 under Command Area Development Programme to various States, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): The Ministry releases Central Assistance to the States after reviewing their physical and financial performance as per prescribed norms, financing pattern and after following requisite formalities. Utilisation Certificate and audited figures of expenditure are also proper requisite for releasing the Central Assistance to the States. These requirements are under process and upon their compliance funds would be released to the concerned States. The funds allocated for Central Assistance under the Command Area Development Programme during the year 2002-2003 is Rs. 198 crores.

Delhi Milk Scheme

4349. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether sale of Delhi Milk Scheme (DMS) milk and its products has fallen drastically in comparison to the milk products of Mother Dairy;

(b) if so, the details and comparative figures during the last three years;

(c) whether the Government are aware that the DMS booths Manager in South Delhi particularly booth Nos.871-872 are misusing the booths for residential purposes;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to transfer the booth ownership annually and place complaint book displaying the name, address and telephone number of Area Manager; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and the other measures being taken to boost the sale of DMS milk and its products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) and (b) Yes Sir. The sale of Delhi Milk Scheme and its products have reduced considerably owing to hike in the sale price of milk from Rs.7/- to Rs.14/- w.e.f. 1.3.2000. A statement showing the sale of milk and milk products marketed by DMS and Mother Dairy during the last three years is enclosed.

(c) and (d) No Sir. DMS booth no.871-872 located in

'M' Block Kailash Colony, South Delhi is being used by the concessionaire only for the sale of milk and milk products. Whenever any complaint is received against any DMS depot concessionaire, the same is investigated and if found true, action like warning, transfer/termination of agency is taken.

(e) The steps taken to boost the sale of DMS milk include better consumer service, increased marketing

activities like conversion of booths into All Day Milk Stall, upgradation of booth infrastructure. The Delhi Milk Scheme is also adopting professional approaches in different areas of operation such as marketing, transportation to augment the sale of milk.

It is also proposed to launch certain sale promotional schemes, i.e. Special Discount Schemes for new consumers, home delivery agents and dealers to boost sale of DMS milk.

Statement

The Sale of Milk & Milk Products Marketed by Delhi Milk Scheme during the year 1999-2000, 2000-01 and 2001-2002

Sl.No.	Item of Products		1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02
1.	Milk (Lakh litres per day)	-	3.82	2.15	2.06
2	Milk Products				
i)	Ghee (In M.T.)	-	857.43	760.83	666.94
ii)	Table Butter (In M.T.)	-	52.10	70.84	86.96
iii)	Yoghurt (In 100 ml. Kullars/Cups) - Nos.	-	7,13,183	10,30,419	9,61,835
iv)	Flavoured Milk (In Nos.) (200 ml. pouches)	-	81,162	4,99,963	8,79,432
v)	Dahi (200 Gm. Kullars)	-	-	49,736*	1,69,261
vi)	Paneer (In Kgs)	-	-	-	16,530**

Note: * The production/sale of Delhi in 200 Gm. Kullars was introduced w.e.f. 20.10.2000.

** The production/sale of Paneer in 200 Gm. pack was introduced w.e.f. 1.11.2001.

Sale Figures of Mother Dairy Milk and its Products for the last three years:

	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02
Milk Sale in 000 litres/day	1214	1309	1336
Ice cream sale in litres/per day	16462	18923	20188

Market Share of IA

4350. SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL:

DR. PRASANNA KUMAR PATASANI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Jet Airways carried more

passengers with fewer Aircraft as compared to Indian Airlines with a large fleet;

(b) if so, the details of fleet of Indian Airlines and Jet Airways;

(c) the reasons for decline in traffic on Indian Airlines as compared to the Jet Airways;

(d) whether more than 60 per cent of Indian Airlines traffic is from Government departments; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) Jet Airways and Indian Airlines differ in their type of aircraft, seat capacity of each aircraft, executive/ economy class configuration, network, operating crew flight and duty time

limitations etc. Hence, the two airlines cannot be compared. In addition to domestic routes, Indian Airlines also operates services on international routes with their present fleet.

(b) Present fleet of Indian Airlines and Jet Airways are as follows:

Aircraft Type	No. of aircraft with Indian Airlines	No. of aircraft with Jet Airways
B737	11	30
A 320	36	-
A 300	07	-
DO 228	03	-
ATR 72	-	08
Total	57	38

(c) The decline in traffic on the whole is due to depressed demand and negative growth in aviation sector. It affected Indian Airlines more because of its bigger network, capacity constraints and social obligation to provide links to remote areas.

(d) and (e) The source of funding of ticketing is not maintained by Indian Airlines.

Utilisation of Funds

4351. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Standing Committee on Labour in its Report 11 of 2001 has asked the Ministry to monitor the Central as well as the Centrally Sponsored Schemes to ensure that the funds allocated are fully utilised during the financial year itself;

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard so far;

(c) whether the Ministry has not been able to bring any Central legislation for 76.4 million odd agricultural works;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether a National Policy for Home Based Workers was to be formulated to provide social security and to regulate their service conditions; and

(f) if so, the reasons for not formulating the policy and the time by which it is likely to be formulated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is a three-tier monitoring mechanism already under operation in the Ministry to review the pace and progress of expenditure. Under this mechanism, Secretary reviews the pace of expenditure in periodical meetings with the Divisional Heads and Financial Adviser and identifies the main bottlenecks and steps to overcome them. This is followed by meetings taken by the Additional Secretary to examine the actual implementation of the decisions taken at the level of Secretary. Also, the Divisional Heads and Financial Adviser separately review individual cases. This practice of reviewing the pace and progress of plan expenditure at close and regular intervals at various levels has yielded good results and is being continued.

(c) and (d) A proposal to enact a comprehensive legislation for the welfare of agricultural workers had been under consideration of the Government for a long time. However, due to lack of consensus amongst the States, the matter could not be processed further.

(e) and (f) The formulation of National Policy on Home Based Workers has been under consideration of the Government and inter-Ministerial consultations are in progress. Home Based Workers belong to different occupational groups. No single legislation and administrative measures would suffice to meet their requirements. Further, these groups come under the purview of different Ministries and Departments. In order to formulate a workable and functional policy framework, a lot of consultation is required with various agencies and departments. Due to divergent views among various agencies involved, it is difficult to indicate the time frame by which the National Policy would be finalized.

Drip Irrigation

4352. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of steps proposed for involving extension staff for popularization of Drip Irrigation;

(b) whether the Government propose to increase the subsidy on Drip Irrigation; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Drip irrigation is being promoted under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Macro Management in Agriculture - Supplementation/Complementation of State Efforts through Work Plans. The programme is implemented with the involvement of the extension staff of the State Departments of Horticulture/Agriculture.

(b) and (c), There is no proposal of the Government to increase the subsidy on drip irrigation.

Purchase of Rare Manuscripts

4353. SHRI S. MURUGESAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has proposed to purchase 28 rare manuscripts;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps initiated in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (c) A number of organizations fully funded by the Department of Culture, such as Khuda Bakhsh Oriental Public Library, Patna; Rampur Raza Library, Rampur; National Library, Kolkata; Asiatic Society, Kolkata; Salarjung Museum, Hyderabad and Indian Museum, Kolkata acquire manuscripts through purchase/gifts. In the absence of specific details about the 28 manuscripts referred to in part (a) of the question, the Department of Culture is not in a position to provide any further details.

[Translation]

Conversion of Yamuna into Canal

4354. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY:

SHRI MANSINH PATEL:

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

(a) whether any agency/department has formulated a plan to convert Yamuna river into a Canal by reducing its width/span;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether environmental/ecological effects of the same have been assessed;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the final decision taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) According to the Delhi Development Authority which is the nodal agency for land development in Delhi, there is no plan to convert the Yamuna river into a canal by reducing its width/span.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Funds for Fisheries Training and Extension Units

4355. SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH RAJUKHEDI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have approved a project worth Rs.14.55 lakh under Fisheries Training and Extension Units in Madhya Pradesh during 2000-2001;

(b) if so, whether the share of the Union Government in the said project is Rs.11.64 lakhs; and

(c) if so, the time by which Rs.0.50 lakhs out of it which have not been released as yet are likely to be provided to the Government of Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The State Government was informed that the balance amount of Rs.0.50 lakh out of the Centre's share shall be released only after receipt of progress of utilisation of funds already released under the Scheme. The same has been received recently and the case shall be processed after issue of administrative approval for this Scheme during the Tenth Plan Period.

[English]

Non-Availability of Medical Gas Pipeline

4356. SHRI AMBAREESHA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Cardio-Thoracic unit of the ESI Hospital Indiranagar, Bangalore has become totally defunct due to non-availability of the Medical Gas Pipeline;

(b) if so, whether a request has been made for the installation of Medical Gas Pipeline to start this unit at a cost of Rs. 25 lakhs; and

(c) if so, the action taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) No, Sir. Neither has a Cardio-Thoracic Unit been set up at ESI Hospital Indiranagar, Bangalore nor has any proposal been received for equipping the said unit. However, a proposal was received to accord concurrence for installing a Medical Gas Pipeline for commissioning a Cardio-thoracic unit.

(b) and (c) A revised proposal for installing a Medical Gas Pipeline for ESI Hospital, Indiranagar, Bangalore and not for the Cardio-Thoracic unit costing Rs.25 lakh has been received. The Karnataka Public Works Department, the construction agency in consultation with Medical Superintendent prepared the estimates. The offer received from a single company for Rs.45 lakh could not be accepted being a single offer. The construction agency has been advised to review the specifications for better functioning of the system and furnish the revised estimates which are awaited.

Office of DGRs

4357. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the office of Director General of Roads (DGRs) gives advice to the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) on technical matters;

(b) if not, the manner in which this office is presently useful in roads development;

(c) whether the DGRs has its regional offices; and

(d) if so, the locations and purposes of such offices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, when asked for.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The DG (RD) is assisted by 19 Regional Officers, including 5 offices of Mechanical Wing, located at Chandigarh, Kolkata, Chennai, Guwahati, Gandhi Nagar, Bangalore, Thiruvananthapuram, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Lucknow, Mumbai, Patna, Bhopal and Bhubneshwar and Engineer Liaison Offices located at Raipur, Ranchi and Dehradun. The Regional Offices/ELO's liaise and coordinate with the State Governments on all matters pertaining to National Highways works and also centrally sponsored schemes.

[Translation]

Population of Animals and above Bovine Animal Development Centres

4358. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL:

SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of animals per thousand of human population in the country at present and at the time of independence;

(b) whether there has been a heavy decline in the number of animals;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether a large increase in the slaughter houses in the main reasons for the said decline;

(e) if so, whether the said imbalance would have an adverse effect on agriculture, environment and health;

(f) if so, the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(g) whether the Government propose to launch any campaign for the increase in the population of bovine animals;

(h) if so, the details thereof; and

(i) the number of Bovine Animal Development Centres in the country alongwith the annual financial assistance provided to the said centres in each States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) The number of animals per thousand of human population in the country at present and at the time of independence are as given below:

Year	Human Population (million)	Livestock Population (million)	Animals per thousand of Human Population
1951	361	293	811
1997*	955	480	502

* Provisional

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (h) Question does not arise.

(i) The Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying is implementing schemes for bovine development through their genetic upgradation. For this purpose number of artificial insemination centres functioning in the country are 54468 at present.

Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme "National Project for Cattle & Buffalo Breeding", State-wise grants released are as given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

*Grants released to the States under the scheme
"National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding"
during 2000-01 and 2001-02.*

(Rs. in lakhs)

State	2000-01	2001-02	Total Released
Andhra Pradesh	339.00	741.75	1080.75
Arunachal Pradesh	140.00	0.00	140.00
Chhattisgarh	0.00	274.00	274.00
Haryana	523.00	323.00	846.00
Kerala	0.00	209.75	209.75
Madhya Pradesh	0.00	829.47	829.47
Manipur	67.75	0.00	67.75
Mizoram	0.00	18.93	18.93
Nagaland	0.00	97.30	97.30
Orissa	0.00	40.00	40.00
Punjab	501.00	0.00	501.00
Rajasthan	0.00	559.30	559.30
Sikkim	0.00	168.93	168.93
Uttaranchal	0.00	248.00	248.00
West Bengal	0.00	677.02	677.02
Total	1570.75	4187.45	5758.20

[English]

Joint Flights by IA and AI

4359. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Airlines and Air India have jointly operated some flights from various airports;

(b) if so, the details of such flights alongwith their routes;

(c) whether the flights were profitable for both the carriers;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to encourage such joint flights; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) to (e) Under the Memorandum of Understanding signed on 01 January 1994, Indian Airlines and Air India were earlier operating 12 joint venture flights per week from India to Gulf – four each from Calicut to Dubai, Abu Dhabi & Muscat. This Joint venture agreement has since been terminated keeping in view their operational patterns, respective fleet resources and other relevant factors. The twelve joint venture frequencies have been equally distributed between Air India and Indian Airlines. Whereas Air India have taken over four frequencies to Abu Dhabi, four frequencies to Muscat have been given to Indian Airlines. Four services to Dubai have been equally shared between the two airlines.

Trade between Agriculture and Non-Agricultural Sectors

4360. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted any study in terms of trade between agricultural and non-agricultural sectors;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is a wide gap between prices of industrial and agricultural products leading to poor condition of farmers in the country;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether despite various crop production programme and remunerative prices, the conditions of farmers in the country have not improved during the last decade; and

(f) if so, the further steps taken or being taken by the Government to improve the conditions of the farmers and reduce the gap between industrial and agriculture products price?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) On the basis of methodology recommended by the Task Force set up under the Chairmanship of Prof. A.S. Kahlon in 1993, Ministry of Agriculture is constructing the Index Numbers of Terms of Trade (ITT) between Agricultural and Non-Agricultural Sectors on annual basis to gauge the relative movement of prices received and paid by the farmers. The Index of Terms of Trade during the last decade with Base triennium ending 1990-91 is as follows:

Year	ITT	Year	ITT
1991-92	105.6	1996-97	103.1
1992-93	103.9	1997-98	105.6
1993-94	103.6	1998-99	105.2
1994-95	106.6	1999-2000	102.7
1995-96	105.3	2000-01 (P)	101.2

P - Provisional

(c) and (d) The Index of Terms of Trade is measured in terms of the ratio of the indices of prices received and paid by the farmers. It is evident from above that the Terms of Trade remained higher than 100 during the last decade. This implies that the Terms of Trade have been favourable to the farmers.

(e) and (f) The Government is providing continuous thrust on implementation of various programmes for enhancing the output in the agricultural sector besides providing market and price support. The Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices, while recommending the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs), takes into account a number of factors including the Terms of Trade between Agricultural and Non-Agricultural sectors in order to make the MSPs more remunerative to the farmers.

[Translation]

Cotton Crop Wasted by Virus

4361. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether farmers in the cotton growing States of the country are facing crisis due to Cotton Crop being wasted by virus;

(b) if so, the details and facts thereof; and

(c) the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The farmers in the cotton growing States of Punjab, Rajasthan and Haryana face the problem of Cotton Leaf Curl Virus affecting the cotton crop. The incidence varies from 0-15% in Haryana and Punjab. In other states of Central and Southern India, no leaf curl incidence has been noticed and normally it does not occur. In Rajasthan, only mild incidence of the disease has been reported.

(b) Cotton Leaf Curl Virus disease is caused by Gemini virus and is transmitted by Whitefly (*Bemisia tabaci*) an insect. Its first appearance in Rajasthan occurred in 1993-94. Subsequently, the disease spread to Punjab and Haryana.

(c) Government is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on intensive Cotton Development Programme (ICDP) in 13 cotton growing States, under the Technology Mission on Cotton which includes a component of Promotion of Integrated Pest Management to minimize the damages caused by diseases and pests. The funding pattern of the scheme is mostly 75:25 sharing basis between the Government of India and the States. For the Year 2002-2003, the share of the Government of India is Rs.2000.00 lakh.

State Governments have been advised to follow the strategies developed by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) in this regard which include the following:

- (i) Creation of Buffer Zone with resistant desi cotton varieties along the international border in the North Western parts of the country.
- (ii) Cultivation of resistant G. hirsutum varieties/hybrids like RS 875, Anjali (LRK 516), LHH 144, F 1861, Omshankar, H 117, HHH 223 in areas adjoining zones.

- (iii) Avoiding the growing of cotton in citrus orchards.
- (iv) Elimination of alternate hosts/weeds such as Bhandi, Kangi Buti, Pell Buti etc.
- (v) Integrated management of vector whitefly through seed treatment with systematic insecticides, neem products, biopesticides.
- (vi) In addition, varieties/hybrids possessing in built resistance to cotton Leaf Curl Virus are alone recommended for commercial cultivation by Government of India. Because of the effective implementation of the strategies and constant monitoring, the disease spread has been contained.

[English]

Audit of NDDB

4362. SHRI SAIDUZZAMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the accounts of NDDB are audited by CAG;
- (b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years;
- (c) whether any shortcomings were detected by the CAG; and
- (d) if so, the remedial action taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):
(a) to (d) As per Section 28(1) of the National Dairy Development Board Act, 1987, the accounts of the National Dairy Development Board shall be audited by auditors duly qualified to act as auditors of companies under the Companies Act. The matter regarding – audit of accounts of NDDB by CAG is subjudice.

Minor Irrigation Scheme to Andaman and Nicobar

4363. SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are proposals of Minor Irrigation Scheme at Panchawati Nallah, Korand Nallah, Khudirampur Nallah and Prem Bahadur Nallah in Andaman and Nicobar Islands;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether relevant clearance from various Departments have been obtained for implementation of the said projects; and

(d) if so, by when the projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Panchawati Nallah: The proposal is for construction of 20 mtr. High, 220 mtr. long dam to irrigate about 600 ha. in Middle Andaman.

Korang Nallah: The proposal is for construction of 15 mtr. high diversion cum storage structure for irrigating 500 ha. in Middle Andaman.

Khudirampur Nallah: The proposal is for construction of 9 mtr. high storage cum diversion dam for irrigating gross command area of 2300 ha. of Diglipur.

Prem Bahadur Nallah: The proposal is for construction of 10 mtr. High composite cum storage structure for irrigating about 408 ha. in Great Nicobar Island.

(c) As informed by the Union Territory Administration first stage clearance for Korang Nallah and Prem Bahadur Nallah schemes has been received from the Ministry of Environment & Forest, New Delhi during December, 2001 subject to certain conditions. After fulfilling these conditions final environment clearance will be again sought.

Central Water Commission has advised the Union Territory Administration for submission of the modified report after complying with certain observations.

Remaining two projects are in the preliminary stage only

(d) Korang Nallah and Prem Bahadur Nallah M.I. schemes are proposed to be taken up and completed by the end of 10th Five Year Plan.

Other two projects are proposed to be taken up during 11th Five Year Plan.

Pending Case in Court of Registrar of Multi-State Cooperative Societies

4364. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any case relating to Delhi Federation (NCCF) is pending in the Court of Central Registrar Multi-State Cooperative Societies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for the delay in taking a final view in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) There is no multi-State co-operative society by the name of Delhi Federation (NCCF). However, there is one multi-State co-operative society by the name of national Co-operative Consumers' Federation of India Ltd. (NCCF). Six cases of NCCF are pending.

(b) and (c) The disputes are to be settled as per the provisions of the Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 1984 and Rules made thereunder. Such proceedings are quasi-judicial in nature. The pending cases are at various stages of arbitration.

Hyderabad-Kuwait Flight by Kuwait Airlines

4365. SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested the Civil Aviation Ministry to allow Kuwait Airlines to operate direct flights from Hyderabad to Kuwait;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are considering the request of the Andhra Pradesh Government favourably; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) to (d) The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh has written to this Ministry regarding operation of Kuwait Airways' flight from Hyderabad. Hyderabad is not presently available as a point of call to Kuwait Airways. However, Indian Airlines is connecting Hyderabad with Kuwait through their twice weekly services on the sector Hyderabad-Ahmedabad-Kuwait.

Kamsarat Nallah Water Supply Scheme in Andaman and Nicobar

4366. SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sub-soil/Investigation Report furnished by Geological Survey of India has been forwarded

to the Director CWC, New Delhi for implementation of Kamsarat Nallah Water Supply Scheme in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the work of this dam is likely to commence; and

(d) the amount distributed as compensation for acquisition of land for this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) As stated by Union Territory Administration the first report of the Geological Survey of India was submitted to CWC in January, 2000. The second report of Geological Survey of India with further detailed investigations was submitted in September, 2001. Further details as required by Central Water Commission are under process of submission by the Union Territory Administration for taking up detailed design for construction of the scheme.

(d) As stated by the Union Territory Administration the compensation amount of Rs. 21,98,688/- (Rupees Twenty one lakhs eight thousand six hundred eighty eight only) has been sanctioned by the Andaman & Nicobar Administration and released for payment to the affected persons through Collector, Land Acquisition, Andamans, who is in process of making the payment.

11.03 hrs.

VALEDICTORY REFERENCE

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members may recall that in my opening remarks at the commencement of the current Session, I had stressed upon the need for self-restraint and strict observance of and adherence to rules to ensure smooth and orderly conduct of the business of the House. I had also assured that it would be my earnest endeavour to make available to hon. Members sufficient opportunities to raise important issues on the floor of the House.

It is with some satisfaction that I can say that from 15th July to 2nd August, 2002, only seven hours and 22 minutes of the time of the House were lost due to

interruptions which is mere 6.10 per cent of the total time as compared to 30.04 per cent during the previous Session.

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members would appreciate that it is a marked improvement over the previous Session. We, more than, made up for this loss by sitting late on nine days.

... (*Interruptions*)

SARDAR BUTA SINGH (JALORE): Who is responsible? ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I will find out who is responsible.

During this period, the House passed 12 Bills and the Supplementary and Excess Demands for Grants (General) and held Short Duration Discussion on four important matters.

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

As many as four subjects were raised through Calling Attention in just 15 sittings because this was the demand of the Members that Calling Attention notices should be taken up.

The percentage of Starred Questions answered on the floor of the House also increased from 8.68 per cent during the previous Session to 11.50 per cent during this Session.

Unfortunately, the House was rocked on 5th August, 2002 by the issue of allotment of petrol pumps etc. in the country.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI A.C. JOS (TRICHUR): It is not our fault. ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I am mentioning the issue.

The House has been unable to transact any business in an orderly manner since then.

... (*Interruptions*)

SARDAR BUTA SINGH: The Government is responsible for that. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (RAIGANJ): Sir, we are not responsible for this; the Government is responsible. ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I have tried to resolve the deadlock by holding meetings with Leaders of Parties and the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs.

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I also requested the Leaders of the ruling and the Opposition Parties to sit together and find a mutually agreeable solution to the impasse. Any solution, however, seems to have eluded the leaders.

As the House is aware, I have repeatedly expressed my willingness to allow a discussion on this issue on the floor of the House under any parliamentary device. However, the major Opposition Parties have taken a stand that unless the Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas resigns, it would not be possible for them to extend their co-operation in the smooth functioning of the House.

I am in no position to comment upon the merit of this stand. I am, however, concerned at the national waste caused by the adjournment of the House day after day without transacting any business.

I am left with only two alternatives under these circumstances.

... (*Interruptions*)

11.05 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri Kantilal Bhuria and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.)

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Either, I continue with the ritual of all of us meeting here for two more days up to 14th of August and adjourn the House on both these days without transacting any business.

... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: I am not blaming anybody.

...(Interruptions)

11.06 hrs.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Alternatively, I can adjourn the House *sine die* today to enable the hon. Members to, at least, go back to their respective constituencies and do some constructive work for their constituents.

When it has become almost impossible to run the House in this manner, I am inclined to adjourn the House *sine die* in the sanguine hope that the interregnum would provide all of us an opportunity to ponder over the matter dispassionately so that this issue would not spill over to the next session and we would all come back for the Winter Session in a more constructive frame of mind.

...(Interruptions)

11.05 ½ hrs.

(At this stage, Shri Kantilal Bhuria and some other hon. Members went back to their seats.)

NATIONAL SONG

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: May I request all of you to stand since the National Song is going to be played now?

(The National Song was played.)

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned *sine die*.

11.07 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned *sine die*.

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