

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Ninth Session
(Thirteenth Lok Sabha)



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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Monday, March 04, 2002/Phalgun 13, 1923 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at one minute past
Eleven of the Clock*

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

OBITUARY REFERENCE

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Hon. Members, it is with a very heavy heart that I rise today to inform the House that Shri G.M.C. Balayogi, our Hon. Speaker, is no longer amongst us. The cruel hands of death have snatched him away from amongst us at about 7.45 a.m. on 3rd March, 2002 at Kaikalur in Krishna District of Andhra Pradesh.

Shri Balayogi was born in Yedurlanka, District East Godavari, Andhra Pradesh, on the 1st October in 1951. He had his higher education in the Andhra University and took his Masters in Arts and Bachelors degree in Law.

A steady and dedicated political worker, he came to hold the position of Chairman, Zilla Praja Parishad, District East Godavari, from 1987 to 1991. In 1991, he was elected to the 10th Lok Sabha from Amalapuram constituency. Later, he became a Member of the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly and was Minister for Higher Education in the State from 1996 to 1998. He was elected to the 12th Lok Sabha in 1998 and was also unanimously elected as Speaker of the House. He was re-elected to the present 13th Lok Sabha in 1999 and was again elected as Speaker for the second term.

He was immensely popular in his constituency. His mass support is reflected in his success in election to the 13th Lok Sabha with a poll percentage of over 75.

A very self effacing and humble person of enormous dignity and charm, access to the high office of the Speaker of the Lok Sabha made him humbler still.

His functional style in the management of the business of the House was moulded by common sense approach, demonstrable fairness, equality of treatment of all parties within and outside the House and an unfailing and bold urge to uphold not merely the letter but the spirit of our Constitution. He obsessively refused to be distracted by fractious and competitive politics.

He was immensely sensitive to the need for maintaining the dignity of the House. He took the initiative of establishing a Code of Conduct for the parliamentarians and legislators which even provides for automatic punitive action for infraction of the Code. In this effort, he galvanised all India support from all concerned including the Presiding Officers of the State Legislative bodies as well as Heads of Government.

He was a staunch advocate too of probity and standards amongst the holders of public offices and took steps for activating the Ethics Committee.

Right through his political career, he concentrated on issues of human development such as provision of safe drinking water, delivery of health and educational services and employment to the people. He believed in the multiplier effect of provision of rural infrastructure. His dream was to construct two major bridges at Yanam and Kotipalli over the vast chasm of the Godavari river so as to bring succour to thousands of rural folk and improve their economy.

Even in the midst of his high level interactions as part of the process of parliamentary diplomacy, he remembered the problems of the weak and the downtrodden and intervened on their behalf. In 1988, when he visited Iraq, in his one-to-one interaction with President Saddam Hussain, by his personal intervention, he got the release of two fishermen from Kerala and working in Kuwait who had been detained by the Government of Iraq for inadvertently straying into the territorial waters of that country.

The untimely demise of Shri Balayogi is a deep bereavement not merely for his family but for the people of Amalapuram of Andhra Pradesh and the entire people of the country. Shri Balayogi is survived by three daughters and a son.

The tragic accident has also claimed other lives namely, those of Shri K.S. Raju, Additional Private Secretary to the Speaker, and Shri G.V. Menon, pilot of the ill-fated helicopter.

We deeply mourn the loss of this esteemed friend and colleague of ours and the two other persons who lost their lives in the accident.

As decided at the Leaders' Meeting held today, this reference made from the Chair is also on behalf of Leaders of all Parties and Groups and the whole House. The House may now join me in conveying our heart-felt condolences to the bereaved families.

The House may now stand in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the memory of the departed souls.

11.08 hrs.

The Members then stood in silence for a short while.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Performance of Pollution Control Boards

*41. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the CAG report for 2000 wherein the Pollution Control Boards are stated to be not up to their task as reported in the *Hindustan Times* dated December 12, 2001;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Central Pollution Control Board and State Pollution Control Boards have not achieved the desired results in controlling the pollution; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefore and if not, the extent of success achieved in this regards ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) The Government is aware of the report of the CAG for the year ended March 2000 as also the press report. The Comptroller and Auditor General's Report indicated gaps in implementation of programmes relating to pollution prevention, control and abatement of water pollution including the performance of Pollution Control Boards.

(c) and (d) The Pollution Control Boards have been able to control pollution through various preventive, promotional and mitigative measures. The initiatives taken by the Pollution Control Boards have resulted in reduction of pollution from different sources.

Revival of CCL and ECL

*42. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK :
SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB :

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken a final decision to revive Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) and Eastern Coalfield Limited (ECL);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which these are likely to be revived ?

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of the answer given to part (a) above.

Mashelkar Panel Report on Emission Norms

*43. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received the Mashelkar Panel Report on emission norms;

(b) if so, the details of the main recommendations thereof;

(c) whether the Government have accepted the Panel report *in toto*;

(d) if not, the details of the recommendations accepted by the Government for implementation;

(e) the extent to which the Panel report is likely to satisfy the directions issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court with regard to Vehicular traffic on Delhi roads; and

(f) the steps taken to implement and enforce the same indicating the time schedule laid down for achieving the targets fixed for various vehicular emission eco-norms in Delhi and other cities/towns ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main recommendations made in the interim report of the Committee are :

1. The Auto Fuel Policy should be based on targeted vehicular emission standards for various categories of vehicles, allowing use of different technologies and fuels, which can meet the emission standards.
2. In the developed world and elsewhere, vehicular emission standards and auto fuel quality necessary to meet the standards alone are prescribed, giving choice to the public, manufacturers, owners and operators of motor vehicles to choose the vehicle type and the fuel. The same policy be adopted for India.

3. The following roadmap for implementation of vehicular emission norms and auto fuel quality be followed :

- (i) Bharat Stage-II norms which are in place in four mega cities of Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai should be introduced in the other three mega cities of Bangalore, Hyderabad and Ahmedabad as early as possible but not later than the end of 2003.
- (ii) Bharat Stage-II norms should be introduced in the entire country from 1st April, 2005.
- (iii) Euro-III equivalent emission norms for all categories for vehicles (excluding two and three wheelers), detailed by the Committee, should be introduced in seven mega cities from 1st April 2005.

4. Low emission vehicles and the compatible fuels are not the only factors which would have a bearing on air quality. Other cost effective measures such as comprehensive inspection and certification system for in use vehicles with private sector participation, fitment of emission reduction devices in the existing vehicles, traffic management, construction of bye passes etc. should also be put in place.

5. Upgraded and additional emission testing facilities and establishment of surveillance and checking of emission warranty systems for new vehicles be set up.

6. To put in place the new emissions norms, substantial investments need to be made to produce appropriate quality fuel and the vehicles. Preferential treatment to the oil and auto industry in matters relating to custom duty, excise duty, depreciation, soft loans etc. need to be provided.

7. In addition to petrol and diesel, Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) and Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) are permitted to be used as auto fuels. The Government has further decided to blend ethanol with petrol. CNG, LPG and other alternative fuels need to be encouraged, giving the choice of fuel and vehicle technology to the customers. Any combination of fuel and vehicle technology, which meet the prescribed emission norms should be acceptable.

8. The fiscal regime applicable to the auto fuels should be directed towards achieving the economic pricing of various fuels, instead of

presently prevailing distorted pricing. This would help in long term planning and supply of quality products.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The Mashelkar Committee was constituted to recommend an Auto Fuel Policy and devise a road map for its implementation for the country and not exclusively for National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi. The Supreme Court has given certain directions to reduce vehicular pollution in the NCT and National Capital Region (NCR) of Delhi. Thus, the scope of the Committee's recommendations and the Supreme Court's directions is different.

(f) The recommendations of the Committee have been communicated to the concerned Ministries and the oil companies for implementation.

Moreover the final report of the Committee is due before the end of March, 2002. Further action would be taken after its receipt.

Constitution of Tur Board

*44. SHRI KOLUR BASAVANAGOUD : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up the Tur Board on the lines of the Coffee Board;

(b) if so, whether any request has been received from the Government of Karnataka in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) No, Sir. There is no proposal with the Government to set up Tur Board on the lines of the Coffee Board.

(b) and (c) A request in this regard was made by the State Government of Karnataka last year. It was proposed to undertake the activities like supply of inputs, supply of production credit, fixation of MSP and procurement of all produce at this price, processing of the produce procured and research and development in redgram production under the proposed Tur Board. After examining the proposal, it was not considered appropriate to set up a separate Tur Board as all the activities proposed under the Tur Board were already covered under different Mini-Missions (MM-I, MM-II, MM-III & MM-IV) of Technology Mission on Oilseeds & Pulses (TMOP). Under Mini Mission-I, ICAR has released several varieties of pulses

including Tur. The processing aspects of Tur is covered under Mini Mission-II while the supply of inputs is covered under Mini Mission-III. In order to provide remunerative prices to the pulse growers including Tur (Arhar), the Government of India declares Minimum Support Price (MSP) before every season. For the year 2001-2002, the Minimum Support Price for Tur (Arhar) has been fixed at Rs. 1320 per quintal. The National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (Nafed) being the Central Nodal Agency for Market Support Operation of pulses enters into procurement operation if the prices fall below MSP. Besides this, the Government of India has already established Directorate of Pulses Development at Bhopal which is monitoring the progress of implementation of Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Pulses Development Project (NPDP) being implemented in 30 States/UTs including the State of Karnataka.

For increasing the production of pulses including Tur, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Pulses Development Project (NPDP) is under implementation in different States including Karnataka. Under the scheme, assistance is provided to the pulse growers including Tur through State Governments for different components like production and distribution of seed, distribution of seed minikits, distribution of improved farm implements, sprinkler sets, Rhizobium culture/PSB, Micro-nutrients etc. Besides this, Front line demonstrations by ICAR and Block demonstrations and IPM demonstrations by the State Deptt. of Agriculture are conducted in order to transfer the improved production and protection technology to the farmers' field.

Social Security for Workforce of Unorganised Sector

*45. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI :
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether only eight per cent of the country's total workforce of 40 crores, are covered by the social security provisions;

(b) if so, whether there is a proposal to evolve a programme to bring all the workers in the unorganised sector under the social security net and ESI scheme;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which all the workers in unorganised sector are likely to be covered under the said schemes ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (d) Approximately 8 per cent of the

country's total workforce of around 40 crores are covered by Social Security provisions like Old-age Pension, Family Pension, lump sum benefit at the time of death, medical benefits, disability benefits. These workers are mostly in the organized sector.

However, a large number of workers in the unorganized sector are eligible to get Social Security benefits like those available under Workmen's Compensation Act, Maternity Benefit Act, and Payment of Gratuity Act. A Social Security Group Insurance Scheme for identified groups is being operated through Life Insurance Corporation. Some State Governments have also introduced schemes which provide some social security cover for the workers in the unorganized sector. The Krishi Shramik Samajik Suraksha Yojana - 2001 has been launched by the Government from July, 2001 to cover around 10 lakh agriculture workers in 50 selected districts in the country over a span of 3 years. A National Social Assistance Programme covering old-age Pension, family and maternity benefits for select groups is also in operation.

The number of workers in the unorganized sector being huge and widely dispersed, the extension of a comprehensive social security cover to such workers is a gigantic task and would be a time consuming effort requiring massive resources. Possibilities are being explored by the Government for extending social security cover through Employees Provident Fund Organisation and E.S.I. Corporation to identifiable groups which are presently not covered.

The Second National Commission on Labour set up by the Government to suggest rationalization of the labour laws has also been asked to suggest an umbrella legislation for ensuring minimum level of protection to the workers in the unorganized sector. While developing the framework of its recommendations, the Commission has been asked to take into account *inter alia* the question of improving the effectiveness of measures relating to Social Security.

[Translation]

Potential of Tourism Industry

*46. SHRI RAMESHWAR DUDI : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether tourism industry has the potential to become the biggest industry in India as per the report of the World Travel and Tourism Council; and

(b) if so, the measures taken by the Government to achieve the goal ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) The World Travel & Tourism Council (WTTC) in its India Initiative Status Paper released in August 2001 has underlined the enormous opportunity and prosperity for India through Travel and Tourism because of its outstanding wealth of natural reserves, rich cultural heritage, thriving business community and high levels of entrepreneurship.

(b) Several measures are in hand including the following :

1. Positioning and maintaining tourism development as a national priority activity;
2. Enhancing and maintaining the competitiveness of India as a tourism destination;
3. Improving India's existing tourism products and expanding these to meet new market requirements;
4. Creation of world class infrastructure;
5. Developing sustained and effective marketing plans and programmes;
6. Special thrust to rural and small segment tourism; and
7. Attention to civilisational issues and issues pertaining to civic administration and good governance and also of social and cultural values.

Development of Tourist Spots

*47. SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN :
SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA :

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

(a) the details of funds allocated for development of tourist spots in the country during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the State Governments including Gujarat and Rajasthan have sought special financial assistance for development of tourist spots in the States; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the assistance provided by the Union Government to these States ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) The Department of Tourism, Government of India in consultation with the State

Governments/UT Administrations sanctioned 1110 projects amounting to Rs. 262.19 crores for development and promotion of tourism in the country during last three years. Year-wise details of funds sanctioned is as given below :

(Rs. in crores)		
Year	No. of Projects	Amount sanctioned
1998-99	345	85.65
1999-2000	422	97.94
2000-2001	343	78.60

(b) The Department of Tourism, Government of India extends financial assistance every year for prioritised projects in consultation with State Governments/UT Administrations. During 2001-2002, 551 projects amounting to Rs. 159.51 crores have been prioritised for all the States/UTs including Gujarat and Rajasthan.

(c) During the year 2000-2001 an amount of Rs. 4.55 crores for 22 projects in Rajasthan and Rs. 5.11 crores for 19 projects in Gujarat was sanctioned for development and promotion of tourism.

Labour Reforms

*48. SHRI MANSINH PATEL :
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to review the existing Labour Laws to link our economy with the emerging economy of the World;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are contemplating to implement labour reforms to attract foreign investment in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Group of Ministers on Labour reforms have cleared a number of changes in the Labour Laws;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether there is strong protest from various sectors of the Society on this issue;

(h) if so, the details thereof; and action taken in this regard;

(i) whether the 2nd Labour Commission has since submitted its report to the Government;

(j) if so, the details thereof; and

(k) the time by which the labour reforms are likely to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (d) Review/updation of labour laws is a continuous process in order to bring them in tune with the prevailing situation and emerging needs of the economy. Taking into consideration the requirement of productivity, competitiveness, foreign investments and employment generation and to update the provisions especially since the introduction of economic reforms beginning 1991, a need has been felt to make amendments in labour legislations and steps initiated accordingly.

(e) and (f) A Group of Ministers (GOM) on Labour Reforms has approved amendment proposals in respect of Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 and the Payment of Wages Act, 1936. The Bills to this effect after final decision of Government are likely to be introduced in the current Budget Session of Parliament.

(g) and (h) The Central Trade Union Organisations have been generally opposing amendments in labour laws unless these are perceived as beneficial to the working class. In carrying out these amendments, the Government is, therefore, taking all necessary steps to safeguard the legitimate interests of workers.

(i) No, Sir.

(j) Does not arise.

(k) Amendment of labour laws is an ongoing process and therefore, no time limit can be fixed for implementing the labour reforms.

[English]

Import of Hazardous Waste

*49 SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :
SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI :

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

(a) whether despite directives of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, shipments of toxic PVC, zinc ash, zinc waste/scrap,

lead waste, lead ash/scrap batteries have imported during the last five years and current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof and justification behind import of such material indicating the steps taken to ban such import;

(c) whether any officials have been found responsible for that; and

(d) is so, the action taken against the erring officials?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) Import of hazardous waste is regulated under rules 11 to 13 of the Hazardous Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 1989 and amendments of 2000 notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 as well as under the Foreign Trade (Development & Regulation) Act 1992. Under Hazardous Wastes Rules 1989 and amendments of 2000, hazardous wastes can not be imported for dumping the disposal. However wastes such as zinc ash, zinc waste and scrap are allowed to be imported for recycling and reprocessing in an environmentally sound manner. The Ministry has not permitted imports of lead waste, lead ash and scrap batteries in the last five years. Metal and metal alloy wastes in metallic non-dispersible form and metal scrap are not banned for import/export under the Basel Convention and are not in violation of Supreme Court Order of 1997. The Ministry of Environment and Forests has set up an Expert Committee to examine cases of import received by the Ministry for recycling/reprocessing. Imports recommended so far by the Ministry are given in the enclosed Statement. The Ministry has also banned wastes containing or contaminated with hazardous constituents namely, arsenic, asbestos, cyanide, mercury, polychlorinated bi-phenyls (PCB), pesticides and the like, under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. As regards Poly Vinyl Chloride (PVC), no licence has been granted for import of PVC waste by Directorate General Foreign Trade (DGFT), Ministry of Commerce in the last one year.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement*Import applications recommended to DGFT for Licence between April 1998 and January 2002*

S. No.	Name of the Firm	Material and Quantity per year (MT)	Date of Issue
1.	M/s Tirupati Chemicals, New Delhi	Zinc Ash/Skimmings-3600MT	6 August, 1998
2.	M/s Sirosmet (T) Ltd., Udaipur	Brass Dross-11425MT	6 August, 1998
3.	M/s Rose Zinc Ltd., Mumbai	Zinc ash & Skimmings-14000MT	6 August, 1998
4.	M/s Mahindra Sintered Ltd., Pune	Copper Oxide Mill-scale-100MT Copper Oxide Mill-scale-200MT	26 June, 1998
5.	M/s Indo-Dutsche Metallo Chimigue Ltd., Mumbai	Steel Mill Dust-20000MT	2 November, 1998
6.	M/s Sunrise Zinc Ltd., Goa	Zinc Ash & Skimmings-3000MT	7 December, 1998
7.	M/s Swil Ltd., Calcutta Plant Jhagadia & Nashik	Residues containing mainly Copper-10,000MT Copper Cable Scrap-10,000MT Copper Cable Scrap 'DRUID'- 1,500MT	24 February, 1999
8.	M/s Bhoomi Sudhar Chemical Industries, Haryana	Zinc Ash & Skimmings-4000MT	14 May, 1999
9.	M/s Fertichem (India) Ltd., Chandigarh	Zinc Ash & Skimmings-3000MT	14 May, 1999
10.	M/s Northern India Chemical Industries, Chandigarh	Zinc Ash & Skimmings 3000MT	14 May, 1999
11.	M/s Sunrise Zinc Ltd., Goa	Zinc Ash & Skimmings-7500MT	17 August, 1999
12.	M/s Hydromet Ltd., Chennai	Brass Dross-4800MT Cu Dross-6300MT	17 August, 1999
13.	M/s Hingiri Metal Pvt. Ltd., Muzaffar Nagar	Zinc Ash-1800 MT	17 August, 1999
14.	Golkonda Engineering Enterprise Ltd., Secunderabad	Jelly filled copper cable-2750MT	17 August, 1999
15.	N.D. Metals, Daman	Copper Druid-5000MT Copper Dross-3000MT Zinc die cast scrap-Scroll-3500MT	3 April, 2001

M.S. Swaminathan Committee on Agriculture

up any 'Committee on Agriculture' headed by Shri M.S. Swaminathan in recent years.

*50. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the M.S. Swaminathan Committee on Agriculture has submitted its report to the Government ;

(b) if so, the main recommendations of the said Committee ; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to implement these recommendations ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) to (c) The Ministry of Agriculture has not set

Accidents in Coal Mines

*51. DR. JAYANTA RONGPI :
SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR :

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of workers died and injured, separately, in the underground coal mines due to accidents during the last three years and the current year;

(b) the details of compensation, relief etc. provided to the injured miners and families of deceased in such cases;

(c) the rate of such accidents reported in India and other countries;

(d) whether his Ministry has made any appraisal of safety of the said miners; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) The numbers are as follows :

Year	Fatalities			Serious Injuries		
	CIL	SCCL	Total	CIL	SCCL	Total
1999	69	18	87	300	81	381
2000	58	21	79	414	69	483
2001	78	21	99	361	92	453
2002*	9	1	-	10	6	-

*CIL figures are for January, 2002 and SCCL figures are up to 20.2.2002.

(b) Compensation paid under the Workmen's Compensation Act to dependents of persons who lost their lives in accidents in underground mines of CIL and SCCL during the last three years and current year are given below :

Year	Compensation (In Rupees)		
	CIL	SCCL	Total
1999	1,07,76,480	31,05,208	1,38,81,688
2000	92,94,314	34,10,388	1,27,04,702
2001	1,21,68,630	30,33,383	1,52,02,013
2002 (up to January)	9,64,523	-	9,64,523

In addition, the following reliefs are provided to the dependent of the deceased worker :

- One dependent of the deceased worker is provided employment in the company or monthly monetary compensation is given in case there is no eligible person for employment.
- Funeral expenses

- Ex-gratia as per company's rule.
- Benefits as per life cover scheme.
- Benefits of benevolent fund.

Compensations paid under the Workmen's Compensation Act in case of serious injuries due to accidents in the mines of CIL in the last three years are given below :

Year	Total compensation for serious injuries in CIL (In Rupees)
1999	42,70,461
2000	38,85,328
2001	18,23,914

(c) The fatality rate per 3,00,000 manshift deployed in coal mines of India and other countries are given below:

Year	Australia	France	India	CIL	Japan	USA	Germany	Czech Republic
1996	0.39	0.51	0.28	0.24	0.00	0.41	0.31	0.26
1997	0.24	0.20	0.31	0.25	0.63	0.31	0.25	0.47
1998	0.39	NA	0.29	0.24	0.00	0.31	0.05	0.27
1999	0.31	0.00	0.27	0.25	NA	0.40	NA	0.27
2000	NA	0.32	0.29	0.25	NA	NA	NA	0.30

(d) and (e) The issue of safety of coal mine workers is examined regularly by the following bodies:

- Standing Committee on Safety in Coal Mines Chaired by the Minister of Coal and Mines where Trade Union representatives, representatives of the Mine Managements, the Ministry of Coal and Mines, representative of Ministry of Labour and DGMS participate. These meetings are held bi-annually.
- Conferences on safety in mines held by the Ministry of Labour/DGMS where Trade Union Representatives, representatives of Mine Managements, representatives of Educational Institutions/Research Institutes and Ministry of Coal and Mines participate. These meetings are held every three or four years.

In addition, within Coal India Limited the issue is reviewed bi-annually by the Coal India Safety Board where Trade Union Representatives, representatives of the Mine Managements, the Ministry of Coal and Mines and representatives of Ministry of Labour (DGMS) participate.

Interest Rate on EPF

*52. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :
SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Board of Trustees of the Employees Provident Fund (EPF) have recommended to the Union Government an interest rate of 9.5 percent on EPF for the year 2002-2003;

(b) if so, the response of the Government thereto ;

(c) whether the interest rate on EPF has been reduced year after year from 12% to 9.5%; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (d) The Central Board of Trustees, Employees' Provident Fund in its meeting held in 22.1.2002 considered the issue of declaration of rate of interest in respect of EPF subscribers for the year 2002-03 and has recommended continuation of 9.5% rate of interest pending further consideration of the matter. The CBT, EPF is scheduled to meet again during the month of March, 2002 in which the views of the Government on rate of interest will be placed before them. The rate of interest in 1999-2000 was 12% which came down to 11% in 2000-2001 and 9.5% during 2001-2002.

Ganja Cultivation on Reserve Forests

*53. SHRI SURESH KURUP : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that a large area of reserve forests is being used for Ganja cultivation in the country ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to prevent the same ;

(d) whether there is any proposal to have an inter-State combined action plan to curb this menace; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) According to the information available with the Narcotics Control Bureau the States where major seizures of ganja have been made during last three years include Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Maharashtra, Manipur, Nagaland, Orissa, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh. Narcotics Control Bureau does not maintain specific data regarding the extent and seizures made in respect of illegally cultivated

ganja crop within reserved forests. According to the information provided by State Governments of Tamil Nadu and Kerala, the extent of ganja cultivation within forest area during the year 2001 was as follows :

Tamil Nadu 19.127 ha.

Kerala 50 ha.

The remaining States have reported that no ganja cultivation was detected in the reserve forests during the said period.

(c) Forest Department, Kerala has set up an Anti Ganja Squad under the charge of Assistant Conservator of forests to curb the illegal cultivation and take action against offenders. Forests officers have been empowered under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 for taking action against such offenders. The State Governments take action to destroy the ganja plants raised in forest areas. In Tamil Nadu regular patrolling of forest areas is done by Mobile Squads and action is taken against the persons indulging in illegal cultivation of Ganja within forest areas as and when detected. Liaison is also maintained in this regard with Revenue Department, Police Department and State Police Narcotic Bureau Wing.

(d) and (e) The Committee of Chief Wildlife Wardens of the Southern States have been entrusted with the responsibilities of implementing inter-state combined action plan to curb this menace.

Production of Cereals

*54. SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the cereals being produced in the country are sufficient to meet the needs of the country;

(b) if so, the details of its production during the last two years, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government have taken any steps to increase the production of the cereals in the country ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir. As against the normative requirement of cereals of 187.74 million tonnes, the production of cereals is provisionally estimated to be 196.02 million tonnes during 2001-02.

(b) A Statement showing the production estimates of cereals during the last two years, State-wise is enclosed.

(c) and (d) In order to improve the performance of the agriculture sector, the Government have launched various new initiatives such as promotion of watershed development programmes, emphasis on developing and promoting new technologies, measures for increasing availability of agricultural credit, credit linked subsidy scheme for augmenting storage/cold storage capacity, Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in North-Eastern States, Market Information Network and National Agriculture Insurance Scheme etc. Besides, the Government also encourages farmers to increase production through price policy, which include implementation of Minimum Support Price (MSP) and Market Intervention Scheme (MIS), procurement by public agencies and by using instruments of trade. Apart from these, the Government have also switched over from the conventional schematic approach to macro-management mode from November, 2000 for providing assistance to the States. The Macro-Management Scheme integrates 27 schemes into one for supplementing and complementing the efforts of State Governments through work plans. This gives flexibility to States to address specific problems faced by them depending on local requirements, avoid overlapping in the contents of different schemes and aim at all-round development of agriculture.

Statement

State-wise final estimates of production of Total Cereals during the last two years

('000 Tonnes)		
State	1999-2000	2000-01 (Final)
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	12896.0	13675.4
Arunachal Pradesh	205.3	196.5
Assam	3978	4104.2
Bihar	13640.7	11428.4
Jharkhand	—	1915.0
Goa	210.8	146.5
Gujarat	3646.2	3490.2
Haryana	12987.0	13178.0
Himachal Pradesh	1429.5	1441.1
Jammu & Kashmir	1314.4	1100.4
Karnataka	9010.6	9979.0
Kerala	774.2	754.7

1	2	3
Madhya Pradesh	17491.6	6846.6
Chhattisgarh	—	3432.0
Maharashtra	10494.8	8440.7
Manipur	375.7	377.6
Meghalaya	204.1	199.5
Mizoram	98.3	120.1
Nagaland	197.0	263.6
Orissa	5357.7	4772.1
Punjab	25156.0	25280.0
Rajasthan	9793.2	9308.0
Sikkim	97	98.0
Tamil Nadu	8598.0	8577.8
Tripura	509.1	517.2
Uttar Pradesh	43050.8	40151.2
Uttaranchal	—	1704.6
West Bengal	14704.1	13595.7
A & N Islands	28.4	30.0
D & N Haveli	25.9	21.9
Daman & Diu	5.6	3.2
Delhi	42.8	39.8
Pondicherry	60.4	61.6
All India	196383.2	185250.6

Impact of Liberalised Import of Agricultural Products

*55. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have conducted any study on the impact of liberalised import of Agricultural products on Indian Agriculture ;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to safeguard the interests of Indian farmers and increase their competitiveness in facing the challenges of agricultural imports effectively ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) and (b) There has been no comprehensive

study on the impact of liberalized import of agricultural products on Indian Agriculture. However, some quick sectoral studies have been conducted to analyse the likely impact of liberalized imports on edible oils. The studies suggest linking the findings with calibration of import duties, application of new technology to increase production and provision of marketing support to farmers to avail better prices for their products and in formulating policies and proposals in the WTO agricultural negotiations.

(c) In order to ensure that the farmers of the country are not put to any hardship, the Government has put in place a suitable mechanism for monitoring the import of sensitive items and is committed to providing adequate protection to the domestic producers by resorting to various WTO compatible measures which include appropriate calibration of applied tariffs within the bound levels, imposition of anti-dumping, countervailing duties and safeguard action under certain specified circumstances.

As a sequel to these measures, during the year 2001-02, the import duty on edible oils (both crude and refined), tea, coffee, copra and coconut and certain other agricultural commodities has been increased. Presently, milk powder and poultry meat and chicken legs attract an enhanced import duty @ 60% and 100% respectively.

Aquaculture Industry

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

(a) whether the Government have evolved any scheme to promote aquaculture industry in the country ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the number of such industries functioning at present; and

(d) the number of applications received for setting up such industries during the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) to (c) There is no Aquaculture Industry in the country. Aquaculture is a farming activity which the Government is supporting through a technical, financial and extension package to fish/shrimp farmers through Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Development of Freshwater Aquaculture and Integrated Coastal Aquaculture. A network of 428 Fish Farmers Development Agencies (FFDAs) and 39 Brackishwater Fish Farmers Development Agencies (BFDAs) have been established for this purpose. The State-wise details of such agencies are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(d) No applications were received for setting up of Aquaculture Industry. However, the applications received by the Aquaculture Authority from the State Level Committees of Coastal States/ Union Territory till January, 2002 for setting up of shrimp farms in coastal areas is given in the enclosed Statement-II.

Statement - I

State-wise details of Fish Farmers Development Agencies (FFDAs) and Brackishwater Fish Farmers Development Agencies (BFDAs)

S.No.	State/UT	No. of FFDAs	No. of BFDAs
1.	Andhra Pradesh	22	6
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2	-
3.	Assam	23	-
4.	Bihar	49	-
5.	Goa	1	1
6.	Gujarat	21	3
7.	Haryana	18	-
8.	Himachal Pradesh	2	-
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	2	-
10.	Karnataka	18	2
11.	Kerala	14	7
12.	Madhya Pradesh	45	-
13.	Maharashtra	29	4
14.	Manipur	8	-
15.	Meghalaya	2	-
16.	Mizoram	5	-
17.	Nagaland	8	-
18.	Orissa	30	7
19.	Punjab	17	-
20.	Rajasthan	15	-
21.	Sikkim	1	-
22.	Tamil Nadu	17	5
23.	Tripura	4	-
24.	Uttar Pradesh	56	-
25.	West Bengal	18	3
26.	Pondicherry	1	-
27.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	-	1
Total		428	39

Statement-II

Number of Applications received from State Level Committees for approval of the Aquaculture authority

S. No.	States/Union Territory	Total No. of applications received
1	West Bengal	644
2	Orissa	1609
3	Kerala	410
4	Gujarat	193
5	Karnataka	191
6	Maharashtra	107
7	Andhra Pradesh	264
8	Tamil Nadu	234
9	Goa	49
10	Pondicherry	15
Total		3716

Employment Promotion Programme

*57. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ :
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the International Labour Organisation (ILO) has decided to focus on an employment promotion programme in India during the next two years at the specific request of the Government of India ;

(b) if so, whether any concrete steps in this regard have been initiated by the ILO ;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the extent to which the Government of India has agreed to help the ILO in initiating the employment promotion programme in India ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (d) At the request of Government of India an Employment Sector Mission from ILO visited India during 30.07.2001 to 03.08.2001 to have a bird's eye view

on the activities being undertaken in India with regard to skill development and management of various employment generation programmes. During discussion it was suggested to ILO that they should concentrate in a few regions and provide assistance in development of suitable training and employment service infrastructure and provide technical assistance for developing it as a model for replication in other regions. ILO has initiated studies on skill development already taking place, employment potentials in various sectors, skill requirements and Employment Service Operations in the Districts of Muktsar in Punjab and Jabalpur in Madhya Pradesh. After the completion of the studies, ILO experts will decide on the future course of action in consultation with Ministry of Labour.

[Translation]

Ban on Import of Coal

*58. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI :
SHRI AMBAREESHA :

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any new technique is being adopted for coal mining in the country ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the quantum of coal in tonnes imported during the last three years ;

(d) the details of various coal grades which are being imported ;

(e) whether these coal grades are available in abundance in the country ;

(f) if so, the reasons for its import ;

(g) whether the Government propose to impose ban on import of coal ;

(h) if so, the details thereof ; and

(i) the steps being taken by the Government to protect and promote indigenous coal industry ?

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details of new techniques being adopted are -

(i) Deployment of surface miner for selective mining of coal in opencast mines.

- (ii) In-pit crushing and conveying technology.
- (iii) Deployment of continuous miner and shuttle car for coal cutting, loading and transportation at the face in underground.
- (iv) In-pit crushing and conveying technology both for coal and overburden.

(c) and (d) Coal imports are under Open General Licence. As per available information, details of coal imported in the last three years are indicated below :

(In million tonnes)			
Year	Coking coal	Non-coking coal	Coke
1998-99	10.02	6.51	1.57
1999-00	10.99	8.71	2.41
2000-01	11.06	9.87	2.42

(e) and (f) Import of coal and coke is being resorted to by consumers due to :

- (i) Non-availability/inadequate availability of required quantity and quality indigenously.

- (ii) For blending with indigenous coal.

- (iii) Cost considerations including commercial terms.

(g) No, Sir.

(h) Does not arise.

(i) Bulk of imports of coal are coking coal and non-coking coal of low ash content. Since such coals are not adequately produced indigenously, there is no significant threat to the domestic coal industry from imports.

[English]

Privatisation of Duty Free Business at Indian Airports

*59. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC) had invited proposals for private participation in the duty free business at the Indian airports ;

(b) if so, the name of the airports where the duty free business is to be given to the private parties ;

(c) the proposals received by the ITDC in response to its tenders ;

(d) whether the Government have examined these proposals ;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the extent to which these business proposals are likely to benefit the Government ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. ITDC had invited Technical bids through a global tender for logistics and retail support by associating leading international Duty Free Operators for its all Duty Free Shops divided in three regions i.e. Delhi, Mumbai & Chennai.

(c) No proposals were received in response to the tender.

(d) to (f) Do not arise in view of (c) above.

[Translation]

Funds for UWEP and USEP

*60. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of funds allocated under the Urban Workers Employment Programme (UWEP) and Urban Self Employment Programme (USEP) in the country during 2001-2002, State-wise ; and

(b) the number of persons benefited therefrom during the said period State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) State-wise details of funds allocated under the Urban Self Employment Programme (USEP) and Urban Wage Employment Programme (UWEP) under Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) during the year 2001-2002 is enclosed as Statement - I.

(b) State-wise details of achievements made under USEP and UWEP components of SJSRY during the year 2001-2002 (upto 31.01.2002) is annexed as Statement - II.

Statement - I

Allocation of Central Funds Under Urban Self Employment Programme (USEP) and Urban Wage Employment Programme (UWEP) of Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) during the year 2001-2002 (Rs. in Lakhs)

S No.	Name of State/UT	USEP	UWEP
1.	Andhra Pradesh	250.30	81.21
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—
3.	Assam	—	—
4.	Bihar	—	—
5.	Chhattisgarh	29.68	37.26
6.	Goa	—	—
7.	Gujarat	119.75	46.92
8.	Haryana	18.93	7.97
9.	Himachal Pradesh	3.48	0.50
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	12.81	—
11.	Jharkhand	13.29	34.27
12.	Karnataka	144.49	166.27
13.	Kerala	198.83	—
14.	Madhya Pradesh	159.24	77.28
15.	Maharashtra	—	—
16.	Manipur	—	—
17.	Meghalaya	—	—
18.	Mizoram	5.62	39.90
19.	Nagaland	10.78	0.22
20.	Orissa	—	300.00
21.	Punjab	—	—
22.	Rajasthan	32.64	—
23.	Sikkim	2.82	4.04
24.	Tamil Nadu	111.64	87.68
25.	Tripura	16.39	30.98
26.	Uttaranchal	5.95	11.93
27.	Uttar Pradesh	490.54	242.53
28.	West Bengal	192.82	101.04
29.	A & N Island	—	—
30.	Chandigarh	—	—
31.	D & N Haveli	—	629.00
32.	Daman & Diu	—	—
33.	Delhi	—	—
34.	Pondicherry	191.00	—
Total		2011.00	1899.00

Statement - II

Physical Achievements under Urban Self Employment Programme (USEP) and Urban Wage Employment Programme (UWEP) of Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) During the year 2001-2002 (up to 31.01.2002)

S. No.	Name of State/UT	No. of beneficiaries assisted to set up micro-enterprises under USEP	No. of mandays of work generated under UWEP (in lakhs)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2542	—
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—
3.	Assam	1443	0.130
4.	Bihar	—	—
5.	Chhattisgarh	—	0.850
6.	Goa	154	—
7.	Gujarat	3303	—
8.	Haryana	2766	0.320
9.	Himachal Pradesh	285	0.330
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	2229	—
11.	Jharkhand	—	—
12.	Karnataka	6826	2.380
13.	Kerala	8742	0.250
14.	Madhya Pradesh	14256	0.900
15.	Maharashtra	8286	—
16.	Manipur	—	—
17.	Meghalaya	—	—
18.	Mizoram	10	—
19.	Nagaland	459	—
20.	Orissa	9671	0.190
21.	Punjab	1271	0.300
22.	Rajasthan	5303	0.560
23.	Sikkim	72	0.190
24.	Tamil Nadu	1093	3.200
25.	Tripura	2778	0.410
26.	Uttaranchal	—	—
27.	Uttar Pradesh	25398	1.780
28.	West Bengal	—	0.400
29.	A&N Island	19	—
30.	Chandigarh	46	—
31.	D&N Haveli	—	—
32.	Daman & Diu	23	—
33.	Delhi	277	—
34.	Pondicherry	290	—
Total		97542	12.190

[English]

Increase in Cotton Yield

389. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken or being taken by the Government to increase cotton yield per hectare ; and

(b) the outcome thereof ?

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

(a) and (b) To increase the yield of cotton in the country, the Government of India launched Technology Mission on Cotton in the country with 4 Mini Missions. Mini Mission-I being implemented by ICAR has the mandate to develop promising varieties/hybrids, crop production and protection technologies with emphasis on research while Mini Mission-II which is implemented by the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation aims to increase the production & productivity of cotton by providing assistance for transfer of technology through demonstrations on production technology, Integrated Pest Management and training of farmers/extension workers. Besides, inputs at concessional rates are also made available to the farmers.

With these efforts, various improved varieties/hybrids have been developed and released for commercial cultivation. Besides, Integrated Pest Management (IPM) module has also been developed to manage cotton pests. Central Institute for Cotton Research (CICR), Nagpur has also developed package of practices for cotton cultivation for different zones of the country which are being disseminated to the farming community through Technology Mission on Cotton. However, due to attack of pests and diseases in some States, the yield has still remained average.

Cheating by Recruitment Agents

390. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that about 1000 Indians are stranded in Kuwait due to cheating of Indian recruiting agents ; and

(b) if so, the remedial steps taken, if any, in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) and (b) The Embassy of India in Kuwait reported that about one thousand persons were sent to Kuwait on 'visit visa' by a number of

Indian Recruiting Agents. On receipt of this information, all the concerned agents were asked to immediately arrange for repatriation of these persons. In case of unregistered recruiting agents the matter was taken up with the concerned Police authorities. As some of the registered recruiting agents were not co-operating in the matter, their Licenses were initially suspended and then cancelled and the amount of bank guarantees deposited by them amounting to Rs. Twenty Six Lakh were forfeited. The Embassy of India in Kuwait was also requested to purchase return air tickets for these persons and the amount involved would be re-imburseable from the forfeited bank guarantees. As per the information received from the Embassy of India, Kuwait, only 168 persons are left to be repatriated as on 17.02.2002 for which appropriate action is being taken by the Embassy.

[Translation]

Idols Stolen from Jain Temple in West Bengal

391. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Jain idols have been stolen from Jain Temples having historical and archaeological importance in Purulia Parliamentary Constituency of West Bengal ;

(b) if so, the details in this regard during the last three years ;

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon alongwith outcome thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for adequate safety of the idols in these temples?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) to (d) As per the information furnished by the State Government authorities, no incidence of theft of Jain idols has taken place within the Purulia Parliamentary Constituency during the last three years.

[English]

Ecological Parks

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

(a) whether the Government have set up any ecological parks in the country particularly in Assam ;

(b) if so, the details and main features thereof ;

(c) the details of Central aid and contribution made therefor ;

(d) whether there is any proposal to set up more ecological parks in the country ; and

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

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Mining Surveys by Private Investors

393. **SHRI SUBODH MOHITE :** Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have refused permission to private investors to carry out airborne geophysical surveys with aircraft flying at a height less than 120 meters;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor ;

(c) whether the Government have considered its impact on Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in mining sector;

(d) if so, the details thereof ; and

(e) the measures undertaken for helping private sector on mining surveys ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) No, Sir. As per the information furnished by Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), permission for low flying is granted subject to necessary conditions such as minimum flying experience of the pilot and co-pilot, weight restriction etc. DGCA has granted permission to several private investors in the recent past to carry out airborne geophysical surveys at a flying height of less than 120 metres.

(b) to (e) Does not arise.

Management of Non-Wood Forests Produce

394. **SHRI A.C. JOS :** Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Kerala regarding a

project for sustainable management of non-wood forests produce through tribal forests protection committee ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the action taken by the Government so far in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) No project proposal for sustainable management of non-wood forests produce through tribal forests protection committee has been received from the Government of Kerala.

(b) and (c) Do not arise. .

[Translation]

Development of Fishery in J & K and U.P.

395. **SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN :**
SHRIMATI RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have launched any scheme for development of fishery in the States of Jammu & Kashmir and Uttar Pradesh ;

(b) if so, the amount spent for the purpose during the last two years, district-wise ; and

(c) the progress made in regard to the development of fisheries in those States, district-wise ?

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

(b) and (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Operation of Airfields at Leh

396. **SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO :** Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the world's highest airfield at Leh has been made operational ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether it is proposed to be used by Air Force also ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) to (c) The Airport at Leh belongs to Indian Air Force. Airports Authority of India (AAI) maintains a Civil Enclave. This airport has been operational for many years.

(d) Does not arise.

Shortage of Fodder and Drugs for Animals

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

(a) the name of States which suffer from shortage of fodder and drugs for animals; and

(b) the remedial steps taken by the Government ?

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

(a) The name of the States which suffer from shortage of fodder are Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, J & K, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Orissa, Punjab, Sikkim, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. There is no report regarding shortage of drugs in the States.

(b) Government of India implements the following schemes for development of feed and fodder in the country as a whole.

1. Central Fodder Development Organisation comprises seven Regional Stations for Forage Production and Demonstration located in different agro-climatic conditions in the country, one Central Fodder Seed Production Farm, Hesserghatta, Bangalore, these farms are engaged in multiplication of fodder seeds and Central Minikit Testing Programme under which fodder kits are supplied to the farmers through State Governments free of cost for fodder and fodder seed production.
2. Centrally sponsored scheme - "Assistance to States for Feed and Fodder Development", Government of India releases the funds to the State Governments 25% to 100% for fodder and fodder seed production.

[Translation]

Revival of Madgalla Airport, Surat

398. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA :
SHRI MANSINH PATEL :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to revive and develop the Madgalla airport in Surat by handing over the same to private sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) As per the record, no airport exists at Madgalla in Surat. However, there is an airport at Dumas in Surat, which belongs to State Government of Gujarat.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Labourers covered under ESI Scheme in Jharkhand

399. SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA :
DR. M.P. JAISWAL :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of labourers covered under the ESI Schemes and their percentage to the total labour force in Jharkhand;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to bring more labourers under this scheme; and

(c) the reasons for which all the labourers have not been covered under the said scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) As on 31.03.2001, there are 74,650 employees covered under the ESI Scheme in Jharkhand.

(b) and (c) The implementation of ESI Scheme in new areas is a continuous process. However, the administration of medical care under the ESI Scheme is the statutory responsibility of the State Government. Therefore, progress of implementation of ESI Scheme in new areas is dependent on the pace of creation of comprehensive medical arrangement by the State Government to provide medical care under the Scheme to the insured persons and the members of their families.

[English]

Awarding works to Unregistered Contractors by DMR

400. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Directorate of Maize Research, Delhi has awarded work contract to certain unregistered contractors in violation of the prescribed norms;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the action taken thereon;

(c) if not, the particulars of the contractors alongwith their registration number given work contracts during the last three years;

(d) whether the Government are aware that these contractors have been deducting certain amounts from the wages/salaries of the contractual workers engaged by them in connivance with the officials of the DMR arbitrarily and such workers are not given their monthly pay slips, and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the remedial action taken thereon ?

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

(b) Not applicable.

(c) The Directorate have been awarding the work contract during the last three years after following the prescribed procedure. The particulars of the licence granted to the contractor namely Sh. Laxmi Prasad, Delhi by Ministry of Labour from time to time are given below :

Licence No. & date

(i) ALC-1/46(20)198 dated 4.12.1998

(ii) ALC-1/46(22)2000 dated 5.10.2000

(iii) ALC-1/46(1)/2002 dated 15.1.2002

(d) The Directorate makes payment to the contractor on the basis of the bill furnished by them for wages of contractual workers. No complaints have been received from the contractual workers so far.

(e) Not applicable.

Production of Fruits

401. SHRI ABUL HASNAT KHAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the production of fruits recorded during the last three years;

(b) the per capita availability of fruits in the country vis-a-vis in other developing countries; and

(c) the amount of fruits exported and imported during the last three years ?

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

(a) The available information on the production of fruits during the last three years is as follows :

Year	Production (Million tonnes)
1997-98	43.26
1998-99	44.04
1999-2000	45.50

(b) The per capita availability of fruits in India is estimated to be about 85 grams per day during 1999-2000. The per capita availability of fruits in other developing countries are, however, not available.

(c) The details of fruits and nuts exported and imported during the last three years is as follows :

(Quantity in 000 tonnes, Rs. in crore)

Year	Export		Import	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
1998-99	107.08	257.67	NA	670.39
1999-2000	122.68	300.37	NA	590.84
2000-01	146.74	377.03	NA	803.99

Setting up of Indian Institute on Bio-Diversity in Arunachal Pradesh

402. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to establish an Indian Institute of Bio-diversity in Arunachal Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the time by which the institute is likely to be set up ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) No such decision has been taken as yet.

Jobs to Dependents of Employees

403. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC) provides job to dependents of its deceased employees on compassionate grounds;

(b) if so, the number of such cases provided employment during the last five years;

(c) whether any employee suffering from cancer has approached the authorities to consider his/her request to provide job to his/her dependent; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. ITDC had earlier been providing compassionate appointments to the dependent family members of the employees as per its policy. The details of such employment provided during the last five years are given as under :

Year	No. of Cases
1997	13
1998	27
1999	20
2000	01
2001	Nil

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. A husband of an employee working as Room Attendant in Hotel Kanishka, New Delhi approached the Management for providing employment to his son in lieu of his wife who has been suffering from Cancer. The request, however, could not be agreed to, as it did not fall within the ambit of compassionate employment policy of the Corporation.

Subsidy on Agriculture

404. SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether according to directives of WTO, Government subsidy on Agriculture has to be reduced gradually to 10 per cent ;

(b) whether subsidy provided by EU, USA and Japan to their agriculture sector is between 40 per cent 66 per

cent ;

(c) whether as a result thereof, the developed nations will be able to flood the indian market with their agricultural products ; and

(d) 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) The provisions of the WTO Agreement on Agriculture provide for 2 categories of domestic support, i.e., support with no or minimal distortive effect on trade on the one hand and trade distorting support on the other hand. All non-exempt domestic support is subject to reduction commitments. However, in accordance with the de minimis provisions of the agreement, there is no requirement to reduce trade-distorting support (i.e. market price support, direct production subsidies or input subsidies) in any year in which the aggregate value of the product specific support does not exceed 10% of the value of production of the agricultural product in question for developing countries. In addition, non-product specific support, which is less than 10% of the value of total agricultural production, is also exempt from reduction for developing countries. For developed countries, this percentage is 5%.

(b) As per the notifications filed by EU, USA and Japan in WTO, the total domestic support provided by them to their agriculture sector as a percentage of their value of production and their export subsidies as a percentage of their total agricultural exports is at the Statement enclosed.

(c) and (d) Government have put in place a suitable mechanism for monitoring the import of sensitive items and are committed to provide adequate protection to the domestic producers by resorting to various WTO compatible measure, which include appropriate calibration of applied tariffs within the bound tariffs, anti-dumping and safeguard actions as well as imposition of countervailing duties under specified circumstances as provided in various WTO agreements.

Statement

S. No.	Country/Group of countries	Marketing/Fiscal Year	Domestic support as a percentage of value of agricultural production	Export subsidy as a percentage of total agricultural exports
1.	European Union	1997-98	48.03%	8.6%
2.	Japan	1998	39.15%	0
3.	USA	1997	28.59%	0.179

[Translation]

Construction of Yatri Niwas in Jharkhand

405. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the places in Jharkhand where 'Yatri Niwas' are located at present ;

(b) the details of proposals received from the Government of Jharkhand for construction of Yatri Niwas in the State ;

(c) the financial assistance provided to the State Government for the purpose ; and

(d) the time by which the proposals are likely to be accorded approval ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) No Yatri Niwas has been constructed in Jharkhand with Central financial assistance. However, a Yatrika has been constructed with Central financial assistance at Deoghar which now falls in Jharkhand. Financial assistance for construction of Tourist Complexes at Jamshedpur, Rajrappa and Rikhia have also been sanctioned.

(b) to (d) Financial assistance is extended to State Governments for projects prioritised in consultation with them every year. During the current financial year construction of Tourist Complexes at five places in Jharkhand with estimated Central financial component of Rs. 299.00 lakhs have been prioritised. However, detailed project proposals have not yet been received from the State Government.

[English]

States with Surplus Water

406. SHRI B.K. PARTHASARATHI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have identified States which have surplus water ;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to share the surplus water with States which face scarcity of water ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) to (c) In 1980, the Ministry of Water Resources, then known as the Ministry of Irrigation, formulated a National Perspective Plan for integrated

water resources development through inter-linkages of several southern based Peninsular rivers and the Himalayan rivers. Through this programme it is intended to assess the surplus basins as of now possible transfer of water from surplus to deficit basins in order to optimally utilise the water resources of the country. With this purpose the Government of India has established the National Water Development Agency (NWDA) in 1982 as an autonomous society to carryout water balance and feasibility studies of the Peninsular and Himalayan rivers. NWDA has identified the river basins like Mahanadi, Godavari, Ken, Parbati & Kalisindh and some west flowing rivers like Tapi, Par, Auranga, Ambica, Purna, Damanganga, Pamba, Achankovil, Netravati & Bedti under the Peninsular Component and rivers like Kosi, Sarda, Ghagra, Gandak, Ganga (at Chunar) and Manas, Aie, Sankosh, Raidak, Torsa & Jaldhaka (tributaries of Brahmaputra) under the Himalayan Component as surplus river basins. 30 inter - links have been planned to transfer waters of these surplus basins to deficit basins like Krishna, Pennar, Cauvery, Vaigai, Vaippar, Yamuna and Sone.

[Translation]

Cattle Research Centres

407. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the locations of Cattle Research Centres functioning in the country to develop high breed of various species of cattle, State-wise ;

(b) the details of the various programme being run to encourage and to train the cattle-breeders, State-wise ;

(c) whether these programmes are inadequate keeping in view the number of cattle breeders of various species in Rajasthan ;

(d) if so, whether the Union Government propose to increase the number of such programmes ; and

(e) the details of the schemes and proposals submitted by the Government of Rajasthan to the Union Government during the last three years and as on December, 2001 and the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) The locations of the Cattle Research Centres functioning in the country to develop superior breeds of cattle under Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) are given in the Statement enclosed.

(b) The above research centres are functioning to develop research techniques for the improvement of various breeds of cattle. This research is of benefit to private breeders also. At Indian Veterinary Research Institute,

Izatnagar, National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal and Project Directorate on Cattle, Meerut, under ICAR training in artificial insemination and management of cattle is given to train and encourage the cattle breeders.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) There is no proposal at present to increase the cattle improvement research programmes so far ICAR is concerned.

(e) No research scheme and proposal for improvement of cattle has been received from the Government of Rajasthan for the last three years and as on December, 2001 in ICAR.

Statement

State-Wise Location of Cattle Research Centres

Uttar Pradesh :

Project Directorate on Cattle, Meerut

Military Farm, Meerut

Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar

Punjab :

Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana

Haryana :

National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal

Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar

Rajasthan :

Rajasthan Agricultural University, Chandan,
Jaisalmer

Andhra Pradesh :

Andhra Pradesh Agricultural University, Lam

Gujarat :

Gujarat Agricultural University, Junagadh

Maharashtra :

Bhartiya Agro Industries Foundation, Urlikanchan

Kerala :

Kerala Agricultural University, Mannuthy

Karnataka :

Southern Regional Station of National Dairy
Research Institute, Bangalore

West Bengal :

Eastern Regional Station of National Dairy
Research Institute, Kalyani.

Guest House Facility to Employees in States

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

(a) the details of guest house facility made available to the employees of the Central Government, Autonomous Bodies and Public Sector Undertakings, State-wise ;

(b) whether the said facility is available in all the States including hilly/non-hilly tourist spots ;

(c) if so, the details thereof ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) to (d) The Department of Tourism, Government of India is not having any Guest House facility for the use of employees of the Central Government, Autonomous Bodies and Public Sector Undertakings.

[English]

Misappropriation of Funds in Disinvestment of Hotels

409. SHRIMATI MINATI SEN : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether his ministry has received any representation from the All India ITDC Employees Union regarding misappropriation of funds in disinvesting ITDC's hotels ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, a communication was received in the Tourism Ministry about alleged gross misappropriation of funds in disinvesting ITDC's Hotels as pointed out by the all India ITDC Employees Union.

(c) A suitable reply has been sent by the Minister in-charge of Disinvestment since all disinvestment matters are being dealt with by the Ministry of Disinvestment.

Technology Mission on Oilseeds and Pulses

410. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have set up a technology mission of oilseeds and pulses ;

(b) if so, the salient features of the activities of technology mission since its inception ; and

(c) the details of the various works undertaken by the technology mission for the development of oilseeds and pulses, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government had constituted a Technology Mission on Oilseeds in 1986 in order to make the country self sufficient in the production of oilseeds/edible oils. Subsequently, in 1990 Pulses were added to the Mission. Oil Palm was brought under the Mission in 1992-93 and Maize in 1995-96.

The Technology Mission consists of 4 Mini Missions and the activities of these Mini Missions are as under:

Mini Mission I – deals with the crop production technology.

Mini Mission II – deals with the Post Harvest Technology.

Mini Mission III – deals with Inputs & Services Supports to the farmers.

Mini Mission IV – deals with Price Support, Storage and Processing.

(c) Under Mini Mission II, ICAR have developed and released about 90 high yielding varieties in oilseeds and about 60 in pulses during Ninth Plan Period.

Under Mini Mission II, CSIR have developed processing Technology for oil palm, expellers for pungent mustard oil, refining technology for good quality rice bran oil, Mini Dal Mill for Pulses processing and value addition and undertaken upgradation of hullar rice mills to shellar rice mills.

Under Mini Mission III for increasing the production of oilseeds and pulses in the country, the Technology Mission has launched two Centrally Sponsored Schemes, viz. Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) and National Pulses Development Project (NPDP). OPP is being implemented in 28 States viz. Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Goa, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal and West Bengal. Similarly, NPDP is being implemented in 30 States/UTs. viz. Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Goa, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal, West Bengal, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Delhi. Under these programmes incentives are being provided for the production and distribution of seed, distribution of seed minikits, distribution of improved farm implements, and

sprinkler sets, rhizobium culture, PSB and micro nutrients etc. In order to disseminate the production technology amongst farmers, frontline demonstrations are organized by the I.C.A.R. Besides, block and integrated pest management demonstrations are organized through State Department of Agriculture.

Under Oil Palm Development Programme assistance is given to the farmers for planting material, cultivation cost, drip irrigation, training, extension and publicity, demonstrations, diesel pump set and development of waste land.

Under Mini Mission IV, NAFED have procured more than 16 lakh tonnes of oilseeds during last two years and the current year under Price Support Operation.

Plan to Boost Farm Sector

411. SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have devised concrete plans to boost farm sector during the Tenth Five Year Plan period ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the expenditure expected to be incurred during the period, State-wise and year-wise ; and

(d) the estimated increase in production as a result thereof, State-wise and year-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (d) The Approach Paper to the Tenth Plan aims at an indicative target of 8 percent GDP growth for the period 2002-07. Sector-wise growth rates as well as allocation of funds for agriculture and other sectors for the Tenth Plan, have not been finalised.

Mother Dairy and its Fruit and Vegetables Project

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

(a) the details of the aims and objectives behind setting up of Mother Dairy and its fruits and vegetables booths in Delhi ;

(b) whether MCD and NDMC have provided land for the construction and operation of booths all over the city at throw away prices ;

(c) if so, the details thereof ;

(d) whether Mother Dairy has achieved its aims and objects to help cooperatives to produce the products which were to be marketed at fair prices both to the producers and consumers ;

(e) if so, the details thereof ;

(f) whether the Mother Dairy are launching new Namkeen packaged products to compete with other brands ;

(g) if so, whether the Government propose to look into the new trends and advise Mother Dairy accordingly to observe the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) Act in letter and spirit including the WFP sponsored Operation Flood objectives ; and

(h) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(a) Main aim and purpose of setting up of Mother Dairy and Fruit & Vegetable Project was to provide a link between rural producers with the urban consumers.

(b) Land is provided to Mother Dairy by the local authorities on lease basis. Mother Dairy constructs booths at its own cost.

(c) The Mother Dairy has 268 Fruit and Vegetable Shops and 645 milk shops in and around Delhi.

(d) Mother Dairy has achieved its main aim and purpose as stated at (a) above.

(e) Mother Dairy procures its entire milk requirement from Cooperatives and Fruit and Vegetables mainly from producers and Producers' Organizations and sells at reasonable price from its booths in and around Delhi.

(f) Mother Dairy has launched namkeen packaged products.

(g) Mother Dairy business activities conform to the objectives of NDDB.

(h) Does not arise in view of the reply to (g) above.

[Translation]

National Agriculture Insurance Scheme

413. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the payment to farmers under the National Agriculture Insurance Scheme is due in all the districts of Gujarat for the last two years ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(c) the payment made against insurance claims in the State during the Eighth Five Year Plan, year-wise ;

(d) the details of the outstanding dues ; and

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

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

(a) No, Sir. The payment to farmers under National Agriculture Insurance Scheme is not due in all the districts of Gujarat for the last two years. Only the claims of Rabi 2000-01 and small amount of additional claims of Kharif 2000 are due for payment.

(b) The State share for the claims of Rabi 2000-2001 and for the additional claims of Kharif 2000 is yet to be released to the farmers by the Implementing Agency.

(c) Year-wise payment of insurance claims in Gujarat during Eighth Five Year Plan are given as under:

S.No.	Year	Claim amount (Rs. Lakhs)
1.	1992-93	87.50
2.	1993-94	16253.08
3.	1994-95	450.87
4.	1995-96	8422.01
5.	1996-97	389.40

(d) No admissible claims are pending for the Eighth Five Year Plan.

(e) The pending claims will be paid as soon as the funds are released to the Implementing Agency.

Setting up of Agriculture Service Centres

414. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of Agriculture Service Centres (ASC) set up in the country particularly in Bihar alongwith the functions of these centres ; and

(b) the details of performance of these centres recorded during 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 ?

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

(a) No such Centres have been set up in the country/Bihar under any programme of this Ministry. However, 14 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) have been set up by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) Bihar at Koshi (Saharsa), Banka, Madhubani, Begusarai, Bhabhau, Munger, Shekhpura, Nalanda, Nawada, Bhojpur, Jamui, Vaishali, Patna and Muzaffarpur.

(b) Performance of these KVKs for last two years is given in the Statement enclosed.

Statement**Performance of KVKs in Bihar for 2000-2001 & 2001-2002****Training Programmes**

Year	No. of Farmers trained	No. of Extension Functionaries trained	No. of Frontline Demonstrations
2000-2001	15584	1448	1389
2001-2002	20916	3329	1304
Total	36500	4777	2693

Extension Activities

Year	Extension Literature produced	Field Days/ Kisan Goshti	Kisan Melas Organized	TV/Radio Talk/Video	Newspaper coverage	Seed production (quintals)
2000-01	80	35	7	69	18	1994
2001-02	57	90	14	86	30	1385
Total	137	125	21	155	48	3379

*[English]***Clearance to Athirappally Hydro Electric Power Project in Kerala**

415. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has submitted a counter affidavit for getting early environmental clearance to Athirappally Hydro-electric Power Project ;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for delay in approval of the project ; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be approved ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) Environmental clearance was accorded to Athirappally Hydro-electric Power Project on 20th January, 1998. The High Court of Kerala in its order dated 17.10.2001 directed the Kerala State Electricity Board to conduct the Public Hearing and the Central Government to reconsider the matter of granting environmental

clearance based on the report of Public Hearing. The public hearing report is yet to be received.

Mechanised Mining in CIL

416. SHRI GUNIPATI RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of mines under Coal India Limited (CIL) and its subsidiary companies which have adopted mechanised mining operations as on date subsidiary-wise ;

(b) whether the Government propose to extend mechanised mining in all mines of CIL within a time-frame ;

(c) if so, the details thereof ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) The company wise number of underground mines in Coal India Ltd. where mechanised mining

operations are being undertaken are give below :

Company	Intermediate Technology (SDL/LHD)	Conventional Mechanised Long Wall	Powered Support Long Wall	Total No. of mechanized UG mine in CIL
ECL	25	1	1	27
BCCL	32	1	1	34
CCL	8	—	—	8
NCL(All OC mine)	—	—	—	—
WCL	37	—	—	37
SECL	60	—	3	63
MCL	6	—	—	6
NEC	—	—	—	—
Total CIL	168	2	5	175

Opencast mines of CIL (179 in Nos. including those operating in mixed mines) are all mechanised.

(b) to (d) Mechanisation has been envisaged in all new projects - both underground and opencast being taken up in CIL.

Mechanisation has also been proposed in the following on-going underground mines during the Xth plan period.

Mechanisation	Mines	Likely timeframe
Longwall Powered	Churcha(SECL)	By 2003-04
Support	Morpar(WCL)	By 2004-05
Continuous Miner	Chirmiri(SECL)	By 2001-02
	Vindhya(SEC)	By 2002-03
	Pinoura(SECL)	
	Tandsi(WCL)	
Shortwall mining under S&T	Balarampur(SECL)	By 2002-03
Intermediate Technology (SDH/LHD)	Proposed to be extended in existing underground mines in a phased manner replacing manual loading to increase production from this technology to 31.3 million tonnes by 2006-07 from the present level of about 24 million tonnes.	

Mechanisation in all the existing underground mines is not feasible because of prevailing unfavourable geo-mining conditions like steep inclination, thickness variation, cavability etc.

Production of Rice, Wheat and Coarse Cereals

417. SHRI ARUN KUMAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the detailed measures

to boost the production of rice, wheat and coarse cereals in the Tenth Plan period in comparison to the Ninth Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : A number of Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Rice/Wheat/Coarse Cereals Based Cropping Systems Areas are being implemented during the Ninth Plan under the Macro

Management Mode Scheme. It is proposed to continue these during the Tenth Plan period also. Besides, a new Scheme of "On-Farm Water Management" in Eastern India is being launched to improve the productivity of Rice and other crops. This scheme will also be continued during the Tenth Plan period. Special emphasis on hybrid rice production will also be given during the Tenth Plan period.

Wasteful Expenditure in Government Departments

418. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has taken steps to minimise wasteful expenditures and have already identified certain sectors in which wasteful expenditure is maximum in its various Departments ;

(b) if so, the details of such sectors and the quantum of wasteful expenditure identified therein during each of the last three years ; and

(c) the corrective steps taken so far to curtail/stop such wasteful expenditure ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. This Ministry has taken the following steps to minimize and control expenditure that can be curtailed :

- (i) All instructions regarding austerity/economy measures issued by the Ministry of Finance/Cabinet Secretariat are being enforced.
- (ii) All continuing schemes are being examined in the Ministry from the zero-based budget point of view before continuation into the Tenth Plan.
- (iii) Use of funds as released to States for implementation of various water resources projects is being regularly monitored and subsequent releases are being made on the basis of monitoring reports.

Compulsory use of Agro Produce

419. SHRI C.N. SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had made use of jute bags for foodgrains and sugar packaging in 1987 compulsory ;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to make compulsory use of other agro produce like cotton, sugarcane etc. on similar lines ;

(c) if so, the details thereof ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

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

(b) to (d) The Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory use in Packing Commodities Act, 1987 (JPM Act) was enacted, when jute packaging material started losing its market share to cheaper substitutes like synthetics, thereby affecting jute farming and industry. The Act provides for the compulsory use of jute packaging material in the supply and distribution of certain commodities in the interests of production of raw jute and jute packaging material and of persons engaged in the production thereof and for matters connected therewith. Under the JPM Act, the Government issues notifications from time to time providing for packaging of various commodities with jute packaging material. The latest order was issued vide S.O. No.853 (E) dated 01.09.2001 making 100% packaging of foodgrains and sugar compulsory in jute bags. This order is valid up to 30.6.2002. At present, there is no such proposal to make compulsory use of jute packaging material for other agro produce like cotton, sugarcane etc. on similar lines.

Private Airlines Operating on Domestic Routes

420. SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of private airlines which are currently operating on domestic routes in the country ;

(b) the proportion of commercial business transacted by these airlines as well as Indian Airlines ;

(c) whether the Government have worked out the projected figures of increase in air traffic due to introduction of private airlines ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) Presently two private scheduled Airlines and 38 private non-scheduled Airlines are operating on domestic routes.

(b) As per data available, the proportion of passengers carried by Indian Airlines and by private airlines during the years 2000 and 2001 are as follows :

		Indian Airlines	Private Airlines
Year	2000	49%	51%
Year	2001	49%	51%

(c) and (d) A Committee under the Chairmanship of Director General of Civil Aviation has projected 5-7% growth in domestic passenger carriage.

Pension for 'Men of Arts'

Maharashtra were asked to recommend names of eminent artistes requiring assistance under the Scheme.

421. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the names and addresses of persons in Delhi and Maharashtra receiving Central and State Pension at present for 'Men of Arts', district-wise ;

(b) the criteria fixed for award of such pension alongwith formalities required to get such pension ; and

(c) the steps taken to award such pension to more persons in Delhi and Maharashtra during the current year ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) A Statement as on date, giving the names of beneficiaries in Delhi and Maharashtra under the Scheme of Financial Assistance to Persons Distinguished in Letters, Arts and such other Walks of life in indigent circumstances and their dependents is attached.

(b) The criteria fixed are :

I. To be eligible for assistance under the Scheme, a person's contribution to art and letters, etc. must be of significance. Traditional scholars who have made significant contribution in their fields would also be eligible notwithstanding the absence of any published works.

II. Personal income of the applicant (including that of his/her spouse) must not exceed Rs. 2000/- per month.

III. The applicant should not be less than 58 years of age. (This does not apply in case of dependents).

The procedural requirement are :

I. The applicants are expected to apply in the prescribed form and send the same to the Department of Culture through respective State Government/UT Administration.

II. In the light of the recommendations of the State Government/UT Administration, financial means and eminence if the applicants, the assistance to be granted and the awardees are decided by the Expert Committee nominated by the Department of Culture, Ministry of Tourism and Culture, Government of India subject to the availability of funds.

III. The decisions/recommendations of the Expert Committee are placed before the Minister In-charge of the Department of Culture for approval.

(c) In the past two years the scheme has been publicised through insertion of advertisements in leading newspapers of all States/UTs of the country. This year all the State Governments and Union Territories including Delhi and

Statement**MAHARASHTRA****Central Quota**

S.No	Name & Address
1.	Akbar Ahmed Siddiqui Tuljapur (Vasudev Galli), At & PO Taljapur, Distt Osmanabad - 413 601.
2.	Anant Bapurao Bhorkar Near Sant Nagaji Math, Old Gadi Khana, Behind Tahna Hospital, Nagpur - 440 022.
3.	Bhanjibhai L. Patabkar Plot No. F-9, Laxmi Nagar, Nagpur -440 022.
4.	Bhaskar Tukaram Swant At Post Dariste, Tal. Kankarli Dist-Sindhudurg, Maharashtra.
5.	Dada Ghatod Ragthatate Bhavan, Sitabuldi, Modi No.3, Nagpur.
6.	Gariab Kale, Mohgaon [Zilpi], Hingna Tehsil, Nagpur.
7.	Manikaro Govinda Dupare, Plot No-386, Chandan Nagar, Nagpur - 440 009.
8.	Karosao Anandrao Bokde, Tandapeth Lal Darwaja, Nagpur - 440 017
9.	Maharudra Dhumal. Mumbai Garden, E/12, Sankalpa Liberty, Malad West - 400 064.

S.No	Name & Address
10.	Madhukar R. Khadilkar, 24, Budhwar Peth Panse Wada, Pune - 411 002.
11.	Mahadeo Atmaram Bhange, A/P - Tulas, Tal Vengural, Distt - Sindhudurg - 416 516.
12.	Manikrao Motiram Khobragade Plot No - 535, Chandarnagar, Umrer Road Nagpur - 400 009.
13.	Manikraj Jadhav B.A., 2136, A - Ward, Dhotri Galli, Kolhapur - Maharashtra.
14.	Maruti Tukaram Shinde, 211-C, Siddheshwari, II-floor, Dilip Gupte Road, Mahim, Mumbai - 400 016.
15.	Mohan Janbaji Kalyankar, Near Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh School Gadgenagar Distt - Yavatmal - 445 001
16.	Manaji Laxman Palav, At/Post - Adeli, Tal - Vengula, Distt - Sindhudurg - 416 516
17.	Ramchandra Kisan Kumbhare, Chandrabhaga Nagar, Nai Basti, Tandapeth, Nagpur - 440 017.
18.	Nagnath Reddy Balanna, Shahapur Post Shahapur Taluka, Degloor Distt, Nanded - 431 72
19.	Naresh Haribhau Nimje, Itwari City Post Office, Khaparipura, ward no. 115, Nagpur - 440 002.
20.	Pandurang Narayan Wadhai, At - Wagdara, Post - Gumgaon Tah - Hingna, Distt - Nagpur 114.

S.No	Name & Address
21.	Pintoji Hullaji Ravanpalle, Khanapur Tq Degloor, Distt - Nanded - 431 717
22.	Pramila M. Dagar, 6/20, Rukmini, R.C. Marg, Chembur, Mumbai - 400 071.
23.	Shridhar Arjun Mulik, Malewad, Talu - Sawantwadi, Sindhudurg, Maharashtra.
24.	Shriram K. Ingle, 149, Old Subhedar-Lay-out, Nagpur - 440 024.
25.	Sonkamble Vishwanath Vithal At/Post - Kasgi, The - Omorga, Distt - Osmanabad - 413 606.
26.	Suryabhan Raoji Lanjwar, New Sukharwari, Funtain Chowk, Gujarpura, Nagpur - 400 002.
27.	Saraswatibai Sunderrao Rane, C/o Meena Faterpekar, Rahul Nagar, Flat No. 13, Block 'B', 1st Floor, Kothrud, Pune - 411 029.
28.	Shantabai Bapurao Talle, Near Ram Mandir, Dahisath, Amravati, Maharashtra - 444 601.
29.	Shanker Ramahji Yewale, Satranjipura Aoze Building, Ward No. - 95, Post Lakkadganj, Nagpur - 440 008.
30.	Ustad Sher Khan Kutubee Khan, Behind Urdu School, Bada Tajbag, Umred Road, Nagpur.
31.	Uttamrao Opp Advocate Khan Urdu Master Plot, Ward No. 122, Model Mill Chow, Nagpur - 400 002.

S.No.	Name & Address
32.	Vaikunth Shamrao Salodkar, 237, Prakash Nagar, Bhande Plot, Umrer Road, Nagar - 400 024.
33.	Vinayak Deoral Ambhaikar, 108/3, Vijaynagar Bldg, Dader (West), Mumbai - 400 028.
34.	Mahadev Bansi Dongra Behind P.W.S. College Shendenagar, Takanaka, Kamithi Road, Nagpur - 440 026.
35.	Nan Nandev Laxman Kalmegh Nea Near Samta High School, Shendenagar, Teknaka, Kamithi Road, Nagpur - 440 026.
36.	Nagappa Dattatraya Adam 187/6969, Kannamwar Nagar - 2, Vikhorli (East), Mumbai - 400 083.
37.	Sattar Mahabub Shaikh Takli Post Yeoti Via Ter Tq & Distt-Osmanabad.
38.	Tippanna Sadashiv Mule Sangli Ves Kaiakdi Galli Miraj - 416410, Distt - Sangli Maharashtra.
39.	Bhaskar Keshav Samant At/ P.O. - Tarandale, Taluka- Kankavati, Distt - Sindhudurg, Maharashtra - 416 601.
40.	Baburo Laxman Rane At- Twale, PO/Belene-Gosaviwadi, Taluka - Kankavli, Distt - Sindhudurg, Maharashtra - 416 601.

S.No.	Name & Address
41.	Digambar Bliram Jadhav R/o Sujlegaon, Tq-Naigaon, Ditt Nanded - 431 709.
42.	Podhye Shoshanna Bld. No. 35, Room No. 1895, Kher Nagar, Bandra (East), Mumbai - 400 051.
43.	Ankush Ramchandra Gothankar At/Post Kalmath- Kambharwadi, Taluka - Kankavali - 416 602.
44.	Govindrao Narayon Gathibandh Kalmeshwar Ward No. 10, Distt Nagpur, Maharashtra.
45.	Janardhanji Bhonde, C/o Sanjay Bhonde, Near Hou Anil Deshmukh, Near Bus Stop Katol, Distt - Nagpur - 441 302.

MAHARASHTRA

State Quota

S. No.	Name & Address
1.	Bapurao Veruparksh Vibute Tal-Miraj, Distt- Sangli, Budhgano - 416 304
2.	Chandrakant Ramchandra Hadkar 1072, Bldg. No-27, SAI Krupa Society 1st Floor, D.N. Nagar, Andheri (W) Mumbai - 53
3.	Amodekar Rustumboa Ababua Vazirgaon Post Kahala Tk Naigaon Distt - Nanded Maharashtra.
4.	Marutirao A. Karande Room No-3, Bldg. No.- 31 Bharat Nagar Transit Camp, Near Tata Colony, (E) Bandra - Kurla Complex, Mumbai - 51

S. No.	Name & Address
5.	Shahir Anandrao Keshav Suryawanshi A/p Ankalkhop, Taluka Palus Distt Sangli - 416 316
6.	Suman G. Dharmadhikari, 1-Tejas Plot No-8, Sahavas Society Karve Nagar, Pune-411 052
7.	Shalini Narvekar 305, Shangrili Building Yari Road Sat Bangla, Yarsova Andheri (W) Mumbai - 61.
8.	Shivarm Hayram Parab AT Post Osargaon, Tal - Kankavli, Distt-Sindudurg, Maharashtra.

DELHI

Central Quota

S. No.	Name & Address
1.	Shri Amar Singh 80-H, Block Nanak Pyau Gop Nagar Mitoon Road, Najafgarh Delhi - 110 043.
2.	Shri Anil Sen Gupta, Harijan Sewak Sangh, R/o 8/2, Gandhi Ashram, Kingsway Camp, Delhi - 110 009.
3.	Smt. Ansari Begum, H.No. 2/1 Joga Bai Jmia Nagar, Okhla, New Delhi - 110 025
4.	Shri. Chhote Lal Gaur H.No.502, Nangloi, Delhi - 110 041
5.	Shri. Dinesh Sharma, S-11, C/2, South Pandav Nagar, Delhi - 110 092.
6.	Shri. Jai Govind Sahay 'Unmukt' C/o Kanwar Singh Sahrawat, RZ-A/30, Mahavir Vihar (Palam) New Delhi - 110 045.

S.No.	Name & Address
7.	Smt. Kirti Kumari 361-B, BG-6, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi - 110 063.
8.	Shri Kishan Chad Aryan, 4563/16, Darya Ganj, New Delhi - 110 002.
9.	Shri K. Ramamurthy, C/o K. Balaraman, Nagaland House, 29, Aurangzeb Road, New Delhi - 110 011.
10.	Smt. Majeeda Khatoon H.No. C-190, Welcome Seelampur, Delhi - 110 053.
11.	Shri. Mahajanam Srirammurthi C/o Mrs Jayanthi Iyer, A-218, Defence Colony, II-Floor, New Delhi - 110 024.
12.	Mohd. Jafar Hayat Lucknavi, R/o 5, Imamia Hall, Panchkuin Road, New Delhi - 110 001.
13.	Mehmood Jan Khan, 125, Gali Kala Khan, Near Masjid Anar Wali, J-3, Laxmi Nagar, Delhi - 110 092.
14.	Shri Narinder Singh Lal, O-44, Chandar Shekar Azad Colony, Kishan Ganj, Delhi - 110 007.
15.	Smt. Oma Kaul, 13/497, Lodhi Colony, New Delhi - 110 003.
16.	Shri Panna] lal, H. No. 2346, Gali Jaal Wali Behind Kali Mashjid, Sita Ram Bazar, Delhi - 110 006.
17.	Shri Ramu, 410 - Vill & PO-Nangloi, Sain Mohalla, Delhi - 110 041.

S.No.	Name & Address
18.	Shri Sahil Brelvi, C-4/81, Yamuna Vihar, Delhi - 110053.
19.	Shri Saligram Gosain, W-25, Navin Shahdara, Delhi - 110 032.
20.	Smt. Salma Khan, B-1/252, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi - 110 063.
21.	Shri Umardin, H.No. 75, Saini Mohalla, Village Nangloi, Delhi - 110 041.
22.	Shri Virendra Singh Rahi, 64-B, Pocket-F, Mayur Vihar Phase-II, New Delhi - 110 091.
23.	Smt. Vidhya Devi Pathak, 11-D, Pocket-L, Sheikh Sarai Phase-II, New Delhi - 110 017.
24.	Ashok Kaushik 385, Site-1, Vikas Puri, New Delhi - 110 018.
25.	Brij Lal Sharma L-2/83-84, Shastri Nagar, Delhi - 110 052.
26.	Begum Khursheed Latif H.No.-1500, 1st Floor, Madni Manjil, Kotana Suiwalan, Delhi - 110 002.
27.	Chandra Kumar Mallick c/o Sita Ram, 651, Gali No-3, Ganesh Nagar, Shakarpur, New Delhi - 110 0092.
28.	Jagdish Arya 80/A-1, ISH-DEN, West Azad Nagar, Delhi - 110 051.

S.No.	Name & Address
29.	Leela Mukherjee B-12, Kalindi Colony, New Delhi - 110 065.
30.	Lakshmi Devi 37, Bharti Artiste Colony, Vikas Marg, Delhi - 92.
31.	Lal Singh U-78/16, Qutab Enclave, P-III(Near /Sector Road) Gurgaon - 122001
32.	Rajkumari 237, LIG Flats, Sanjay Enclave Delhi - 33.
33.	Reba Mukherjee B-1/C-108, Paryavaran Complex, Ignou Road, New Delhi - 30.
34.	Shanti F-35, Moti Bagh-II, New Delhi -21.
35.	Sharwan Devi F-75, Moti Bagh New Delhi - 21.
36.	Trilok Singh Latwal H.No.-27, Dr. Ambedkar Nagar, J.J. Colony, Tigari New Delhi -62.
37.	Malati Kasar c/o Radhika Kasar, G-94, Sarita Vihar, New Delhi.
38.	S.N. Bhatt Haleem 1-1, Kashmir Apartment, Pitampura Delhi - 34.
39.	Mehmood Nizame T-131, Hazrat Nizamuddin Nizamuddin New Delhi.

Tourist Inflow in Hotels

422. SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH :

SHRI P. MOHAN :

SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY :

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

(a) the total number of tourists inflow in hotels in the country during the last two years;

(b) the number of foreign/domestic tourists/domestic tourists visited during the last two years, separately year-wise;

(c) the foreign exchange earned as a result thereof; and

(d) the percentage of domestic tourists which stayed in 7-Star, 5-Star and 4-Star hotels during the said period ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) The estimated number of visits of tourists who stayed at hotels and other accommodation establishments run on commercial basis in the years 1999 and 2000 are 197 million and 216 million respectively. Similar data for the year 2001 is not available.

(b) The estimated number of foreign tourists arrival to the country and domestic tourist visits in the country during the last two years is as follows :

Year	Foreign Tourists Arrivals (in million)	Domestic Tourist visit (in million)
2000	2.65	210.11
2001	2.54	Not available

(c) The estimated foreign exchange earnings from tourism during the years 2000 and 2001 are as follows :

Year	Estimated Foreign Exchange Earnings (Rs. in Crores)
2000	14238.00
2001	14006.45

(d) The percentage of domestic guests in different categories of hotels are as indicated below :

Categories of Hotels	% of Domestic 1999-00	Guests* 2000-01
5-State (Deluxe)	54.6	46.3
5-Star	55.5	63.6
4-Star	67.4	71.5

There is no 7 star categorisation of hotels.

* Source : Indian Hotel Industry Surveys 1999-2000 and 2000-01 got conducted by the Federation of Hotels and Restaurants Association of India.

Research Station for Cashewnut

423. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) has any research station for cashewnut ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether ICAR has made any effort to improve the cashewnut seeding more productive along coastal areas ;

(d) if so, the new varieties of cashewnuts being developed at ICAR cashewnut research stations ;

(e) whether any new research stations on cashewnut are proposed to be set up ; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(b) National Research Centre for Cashew, Puttur (Karnataka) and ICAR Research Complex for Goa are working on cashew. Besides these, there are 9 centres under All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) on Cashew, namely at Bapatla (Andhra Pradesh); Bhubaneswar (Orissa); Chintamani (Karnataka); Jagadapur (Chhatisgarh); Jhargram (West Bengal); Madakkathara and Pillicode

(Kerala); Vengurla (Maharashtra) and Vridhachalam (Tamil Nadu) working on cashew.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) National Research Centre for Cashew, Puttur has released two varieties namely NRCC Selection-1 and NRCC Selection-2. Similarly, ICAR Research Complex for Goa has released a variety namely Goa-1. In all, a total of 38 varieties have been released by ICAR Institutes and AICRP on Cashew Centres attached to different Agricultural Universities.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Inspection by Central Registrar of Multi-State Cooperative Society

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

(a) whether the Central Registrar, Multi-State Cooperative Societies has undertaken inspection of societies;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the details of the societies inspected during each of the last five years ; and

(d) the outcome of those inspections and action taken thereon ?

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

Funds for Development of Tourist Spots in Tamil Nadu

425. SHRI A.K. MOORTHY : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to allocate more funds for the development of tourist places/pilgrim centres in Tamil Nadu ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) and (b) 32 projects for central financial assistance of Rs. 605.00 lakhs have been prioritised during 2001-2002 for development of tourist places/pilgrim centres in Tamil Nadu. However, based on the project proposals received from the State Government, these are processed and funds released, subject to availability.

(c) Does not arise.

India's Growth Rate in Terms of Ecological Costs

426. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether according to former Director of National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI) India is having minus 5 per cent growth in terms of ecological costs; and

(b) if so, the measures taken/proposed to be taken to get over this problem ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) Former Director of National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI), in his paper titled "Environmental Evaluation of Economic Growth: An Agenda For Change", published in 1997, has projected minus 4.92 per cent annual growth rate adjusted to environmental factors. However, there is no conclusive inference available in this regard.

(b) Government has undertaken various programmes such as environmental impact assessment, eco-regeneration, implementation of environmental and forestry programmes, promotion of environmental and forestry research, education and training, dissemination of environmental information to check environmental degradation. These programmes are well supported by a set of legislative and regulatory measures aiming at the preservation, conservation and protection of the environment which include the following :

- (i) Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974.
- (ii) Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.
- (iii) Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- (iv) Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991.
- (v) National Environment Tribunal Act, 1995.
- (vi) National Environment Appellate Authority Act, 1997.
- (vii) Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.
- (viii) Forests (Conservation) Act, 1980.
- (ix) National Conservation Strategy and Policy Statement on Environment and Development, 1992.
- (x) National Forest Policy, 1988.
- (xi) Policy Statement on Abatement of Pollution, 1992.

Scheme for Coconut Farmers

427. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any scheme from State Governments for assisting coconut farmers;

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

(c) the action taken thereon ?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A Central Sector Scheme on Integrated Development of Coconut Industry in India is being implemented through Coconut Development Board in all coconut producing States during IX Plan with an outlay of Rs. 105.00 crore for increasing production and productivity of coconut. Government of Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Orissa submitted additional proposals for providing assistance to coconut farmers. The State-wise details of project proposals received and the action taken thereon is as follow :

(i) Kerala

Government of Kerala submitted a proposal for Central assistance of Rs. 100.00 crore for control of Eriophyid mite of coconut. This was examined by Central Government and eligible assistance of Rs. 24.25 crore was released to the State Government during 2000-2001 through the Coconut Development Board for which utilization reports have not been received from the State Governments.

During 2000-2001, Government of Kerala submitted another project-Technology Mission on Coconut, at a total outlay of Rs. 992.74 crore with Rs. 501.44 crore as Government of India share for a period of five years. This was examined in Department of Agriculture and Cooperation and comments were sent to Government of Kerala with the request to modify the proposal accordingly. Now, Government of India has, however, agreed to implement a Central Sector Scheme for Technology Mission on Coconut in all coconut producing States during the year 2001-2002 as part of the IX Plan. The scheme for Technology Mission on Coconut envisages to address issues relating to technology development, demonstration and adoption in the field of insect/pest and disease management; processing and product diversification; and market research and promotion. The Coconut Development Board has already initiated preliminary necessary action and released the "Operational Guidelines" to implement the scheme.

(ii) Karnataka

During the current year, Government of Karnataka have requested for release of Rs. 166.00 crore for implementing

a scheme to mitigate the mite problem in 12 major affected districts of the State. In addition, Karnataka Government submitted another project proposal for integrated pest management programme for control of Black headed caterpillar, Red palm weevil and Rhinoceros beetle for Rs. 18.38 crore.

During the year 2000-2001, the Coconut Development Board released Rs.7.4 crore to Government of Karnataka for mite control for which the utilization reports are yet to be received from the State Government.

(iii) Tamil Nadu

During the current year, Government of Tamil Nadu submitted a project proposal for the integrated management of pest - Red palm weevil and Rhinoceros beetle at a total cost of Rs.50.00 lakh.

The Board has released Rs.25.00 lakh to the State Government under Integrated Pest Management for control of these pests in Tamil Nadu.

(iv) Orissa

The Government of Orissa submitted a project proposal for control of Black headed caterpillar and for mite management at a financial outlay of Rs. 26.68 lakh. The Board has released an amount of Rs. 26.68 lakh under the Integrated Pest Management for Control of Black headed caterpillar and mite.

[Translation]

Programme of Reclaim Saline Land

428. SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to salinity, some area of land in the country is not arable;

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

(c) whether the Government have formulated any time-bound programme to reclaim such land; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :
(a) and (b) About 7.6. m.ha. of land is affected by salinity in the country. The State-wise salt-affected soils in the country is given in the attached Statement.

(c) and (d) A Joint Central Team had visited the States of West Bengal, Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh. Based on the recommendations, a pilot project for the State of West Bengal, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh and Orissa has been formulated and forwarded to Planning Commission for their consideration for the treatment of salt affected soils.

Statement

The State-wise status of the Salt affected soils in the country

S. No.	State/UT	Area ('000 ha.)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	240
2.	Bihar	4
3.	Gujarat	1042
4.	Haryana	526
5.	Punjab	718
6.	Karnataka	404
7.	Kerala	117
8.	Madhya Pradesh	242
9.	Maharashtra	534
10.	Orissa	404
11.	Rajasthan	1000
12.	Tamil Nadu	104
13.	Uttar Pradesh	1295
14.	West Bengal	986
Total		7617

[English]

Threat Perception to Taj

429. SHIR K. YERRANNAIDU :
SHRI CHADA SURESH REDDY :

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

(a) whether an e-mail threat to destroy the Taj was received; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government to strengthen the security apparatus from all sides of the Taj in view of the threat perceptions ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) and (b) No such threat has been received in the Ministry of Culture. However, in view of media reports in this regard, the district authorities have taken appropriate measures.

Encroachments around Qutub Minar

430. SHRI E. AHAMED : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Qutub Minar Complex a protected monument is in the threat of encroachment ; and

(b) if so, the preventive steps taken by the Government in this regard ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

Bill for Workers of Unorganised Sector

431. SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce a bill for the workers of unorganised sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) and (b) Presently, there is no such proposal under the consideration of the Government.

Economic Development of SCs/STs

432. SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have been implementing various schemes and programmes under Special Component Plan (SCP) and TSP since 1978 for achieving overall development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes who live below poverty line;

(b) if so, the details of income generating schemes/programmes formulated/being implemented by his ministry;

(c) the funds allocated and procured by his Ministry during Sixth, Seventh, Eighth and Ninth Five Year Plans for such schemes/programmes;

(d) the quantified benefits and targets achieved in this regard; and

(e) the details of other schemes/programmes being implemented by his Ministry for economic empowerment of SCs and STs ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA) : (a) to (e) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries was established in 1988 and several schemes are being operated which aim at development of the processed food sector. the Plan schemes envisage enhanced scale of assistance for difficult areas including Integrated Tribal Development Project (ITDP) areas. The schemes of the Ministry are project oriented, the specific quantum of funds accruing of SC/ST as well as the benefits have not been separately maintained.

Under the scheme for Backward Linkages, there is stipulation that 20% of the contracted farmers should belong to SC/ST community. Similarly, in the fisheries sector, provision of insulated boxed must involve at least 20% beneficiaries from SC/ST. Proposals for Seminars/Symposia in areas where SC/ST population is predominant is given priority. Plan assistance to projects in the North-East, which has predominant tribal population, has been more than 10% per year of the total allocation during the last three years.

[Translation]

Clearance to NTPC Project at Sipat

433. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a separate report has been submitted by the Multi-disciplinary Committee of his Ministry after examining the details of the study report on the environmental impacts of the NTPC project at Sipat in Bilaspur district of Chhattisgarh;

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

(c) the time by which it is likely to be submitted and implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) The Environmental Impact Assessment Report submitted by M/s National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) Limited for 2000 MW Sipat Super Thermal Power Project (Stage-I) in Bilaspur District, Chhattisgarh was considered by the Multi Disciplinary Expert Committee for Thermal Power Projects constituted under the provisions of the Environmental Impact Assessment Notification of January, 1994. On the basis of the recommendations of this Committee, the project was accorded environmental clearance in February, 1999 stipulating various mitigation measures which are to be implemented by NTPC during construction and operation of the project.

[English]

Reservation of SCs/STs/OBCs in CWES

434. PROF. I.G. SANADI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the representation of SCs, STs and OBCs has reached the level of 15% 7.5% and 27% respectively in Central Water Engineering Service (Civil Engineering) Group A;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the total number of 'sanctioned posts' in Central Water Engineering Service (Civil Engineering) of Group A;

(d) the number of persons belonging to (i) SCs (ii) STs (iii) OBCs and (iv) General categories working against such posts including their respective percentage of such posts as on July 2, 1997; and

(e) the number of fresh vacancies occurred during the last five years filled by persons from SCs, STs, OBCs and General categories, year-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. Reservations in favour of SCs/STs/OBCs are applicable in respect of Junior Time Scale and Senior Time Scale posts in Central Water Engineering (Group 'A') Service. There is shortfall in requisite percentage of representation in these posts in promotion due to non-availability of SC/ST officers in the feeder grades and in direct recruitment vacancies due to SC/ST/OBC candidates not joining the service after allocation on the basis of Combined Engineering Service Examination.

(c) The total number of sanctioned posts as on date in various grades of Central Water Engineering (Group 'A') Service is 723 including all grades.

(d) Details in respect of Junior and Senior Time Scale posts of the service are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(e) Details in respect of Junior and Senior Time Scale posts of the service are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

Statement-I

Grade/ Number of Posts	Scheduled Castes		Scheduled Tribes		Other Backward Class		General Category	
	Number of officers working	Percentage against the posts in the grade	Number of officers working	Percentage against the posts in the grade	Number of officers working	Percentage against the posts in the grade	Number of officers working	Percentage against the Post in the grade
Senior Time Scale-256 posts	37	14.45	08	3.12	Not applicable *		196	76.56
Junior Time Scale-274 posts	29	10.58	06	2.18	18	6.56	163	59.49

* Reservation for OBCs is applicable only in direct recruitment. Posts in Senior Time Scale are filled only by promotion.

Statement-II

Grade	Vacancies occurred					Vacancies filled				
	1996- 97	1997- 98	1998- 99	1999- 2000	2000- 2001	1996- 97	1997- 98	1998- 99	1999 - 2000	2000- 2001
Vacancies filled by promotion										
Senior Time Scale	08	11	02	00	01	Vacancies could not be filled due to administrative reasons.				
Junior Time Scale	08	10	07	03	08	Vacancies could not be filled due to administrative reasons.				

Vacancies to be filled by direct recruitment**Junior Time Scale**

SC	00	06	07	03	02	00	05	04	03	
ST	01	05	02	01	02	01	02	01	00	
OBC	08	00	12	06	06	03	00	06	04	
GC#	14	13	22	11	11	10	08	18	10	Nominations yet to be received
Total	23	24	43	21	21	14	17	29	17	

General categories.

**Execution of Unapproved Irrigation Projects by A.P.
Government**

435. SHRI R.L. JALAPPA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Government of Andhra Pradesh is going ahead with the

execution of several unapproved irrigation projects to use the surplus water of Krishna river;

(b) if so, whether the "B" scheme announced in the Bachawat Award on surplus water in Krishna river has not been notified so far;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government of Karnataka has sought constitution of a Tribunal for sharing surplus water of Krishna river under "B" scheme of the Bachawat Award; and

(e) if so, the action proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) The Government of Andhra Pradesh have taken up projects in the Krishna basin without establishing long term water availability which is a pre-requisite for considering these projects for clearance.

(b) and (c) The decision of Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal was notified on 31st May, 1976, Scheme "B" is not a part of decision of the Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal and hence was not included in the notification.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Representation of SC/ST

436. SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to post/appoint adequate number of persons from Sc/STs community as Heads Chief Executives/CMDs and Directors, Official/Non-official Members of the Boards of management of various Public Sector Organisations and Statutory Bodies under his Ministry.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of persons appointed/posted to the said posts in all the Public Sector Undertakings/Autonomous/Statutory Bodies falling under his Ministry during the last three years, year-wise; and

(d) the number of SCs/STs persons among them and their percentage as compared to the total number of persons appointed during the said period ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) There is only one Public Sector Undertakings (i.e. India Tourism Development Corporation Limited) and there is no any Statutory Body under the Ministry (Department of Tourism). At present there is no reservation for SCs/STs community for filling up posts of Heads Chief Executives/CMDs and Directors, Officials/Non-Official Members.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The total number of persons appointed/posted to the post of Heads, Chief Executives/CMDs and Directors, Officials/Non-Official Members of the Boards of the Management in Public Sector Undertakings/Autonomous Bodies falling under the Ministry (Department of Tourism) during the last three years, the number of SCs/STs persons among them and their percentage as compared to the total number of persons appointed during the said period are as under :

Year	Total	No. of SCs/STs	Percentage
1999-2000	16	1ST	6% (approx.)
2000-2001	11	Nil	—
2001-2002	05	Nil	—

Harassment of Employees by Management of Maruti Udyog Limited

437. MOHD. SHAHABUDDIN :
DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH :
SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken up the issue with the Management of Maruti Udyog Limited ;

(b) if so, the remedial measures taken to resolve the issues ;

(c) whether the Government have taken up the issue with the Management of Maruti Udyog Limited ; and

(d) if so, the remedial measures taken to resolve the issue ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (d) The Maruti Udyog Employees Union has raised the issue of harassment of workers before various forums.

In the past, the workers of the company resorted to an agitation at the behest of the union followed by a regular tool down strike thereby adversely affecting the production.

To resolve the issue, a meeting was convened under the Chairmanship of Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister and a written agreement was reached. This was followed by a Memorandum of Settlement dated 8.1.2001 between the management and the workmen. The terms of the settlement included calling off the agitation, extension of full cooperation by the union to management, acceptance of productivity performance and profitability linked incentive scheme.

Disabled Friendly Historical Monuments

438. SHRI R.S. PATIL :

SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA :

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

(a) the number of disabled friendly Historical monuments in the country;

(b) whether the Government have any proposal to make more Historical monuments disabled friendly;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government have any proposal to provide free entry tickets to the disabled persons on the line of railway concessional tickets;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) The Archaeological Survey of India has provided facilities for the disabled at 25 centrally protected monuments.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) 104 centrally protected monuments have been identified for providing facilities to make them disabled-friendly.

(d) to (f) No such proposal is under consideration of the Archaeological Survey of India.

Decline in Foodgrain Production

439. DR. N. VENKATASWAMY :

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY :

SHRI SHIVAJI MANE :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether agricultural production is declining in the country ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(c) the production of foodgrains during the last three years, State-wise; and

(d) the efforts made by the Government to promote agriculture sector ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV : (a) and (b) The agricultural production in the country shows a long-term upward trend, albeit with fluctuations.

Agricultural production in the country is greatly influenced by the timing, extent and spread of rainfall as about 62% of the net area sown is dependent on rains for water.

(c) The State-wise estimates of production of foodgrains during 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-01 are given in the enclosed Statement.

(d) In order to improve the performance of the agriculture sector, the Government have launched various new initiatives such as promotion of watershed development programmes, emphasis on developing and promoting new technologies, measures for increasing availability of agricultural credit, credit linked subsidy scheme for augmenting storage/cold storage capacity, Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in North-Eastern States, Market Information Network and National Agriculture Insurance Scheme etc. Besides, the Government also encourage farmers to increase production through price policy which include implementation of Minimum Support Price and Market Intervention Schemes, procurement by public agencies and by using instruments of trade. Apart from these, the Government have also switched over from the conventional schematic approach to macro-management from November, 2000 for providing assistance to the States. The Macro-Management Scheme integrates 27 schemes into one for supplementing and complementing the efforts of State Governments through work plans. This gives flexibility to States to address specific problems faced by them depending on local requirements, avoid overlapping in the contents of different schemes and aim at all-round development of agriculture.

Statement

State-wise final estimates of Production of Foodgrains during 1998-99 to 2000-01

State	(Thousand tonnes)		
	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01
Andhra Pradesh	14905.0	13696.2	14534.7
Arunachal Pradesh	187.9	210.2	202.7
Assam	3434.0	4042.0	4166.5
Bihar	13625.9	14387.6	12055.1
Jharkhand	*	*	2011.0
Goa	164.4	219.8	153.9
Gujarat	5566.7	4051.8	3679.9

State	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01
Haryana	12123.2	13063.2	13251.5
Himachal Pradesh	1490.7	1444.3	1455.5
Jammu & Kashmir	1519.6	1328.5	1121.4
Karnataka	9996.6	9859.3	10949.0
Kerala	754.5	793.3	772.6
Madhya Pradesh	19501.2	21272.1	8930.4
Chhattisgarh	@	@	3652.1
Maharashtra	12752.8	12700.9	10076.4
Manipur	392.3	375.7	377.6
Meghalaya	187.8	208.7	203.0
Mizoram	135.0	105.6	124.0
Nagaland	282.0	210.5	277.0
Orissa	5793.1	5622.5	5984.8
Punjab	22906.9	25201.4	25323.6
Rajasthan	12944.5	10684.1	10035.8
Sikkim	90.7	103.1	103.2
Tamil Nadu	9418.7	8968.8	8903.4
Tripura	499.4	513.5	523.1
Uttar Pradesh	40417.2	45649.6	42320.1
Uttaranchal	#	#	1726.4
West Bengal	14367.2	14915.6	13834.5
A & N Islands	26.7	28.7	30.9
D & N Haveli	23.0	30.4	25.9
Daman & Diu	4.3	42.9	40.0
Delhi	40.3	6.9	4.3
Pondicherry	55.3	64.3	65.6
All India	203606.9	209801.5	195915.9

* Included in Bihar.

@ Included in Madhya Pradesh.

Included in Uttar Pradesh.

[Translation]

Outstanding dues of SEBs towards Public Sector Coal Companies

440. SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI :
SHRI ANANT GUDHE :

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of bills of the public sector coal companies outstanding against each of the State Electricity Boards (SEBs);

(b) the number of disputed bills and the date from which these are in dispute; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to recover the dues and settle these disputes speedily alongwith the results thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) and (b) The details of outstanding dues of Coal India Limited (CIL) against State Electricity Boards (SEBs) and their age-wise break-up are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) The following steps have been taken for recovery of dues and settlement of disputes speedily :

(i) Recovery from Central Plan Assistance (CPA) of the concerned States during the period 1997-98 to 2001-02. Till January 2002, a sum of Rs. 946 crores has been received from CPA.

(ii) Settlement of disputed dues with SEBs through bilateral discussions.

(iii) The process of securitisation of recovery of outstanding coal sale dues on the basis of the report of the Expert Group under Dr. M.S. Ahluwalia has been initiated.

(iv) Settlement of disputed outstanding dues through umpires appointed by Government. A total of eleven cases involving Rs. 685 crores have been referred to umpires for resolution.

(v) Through coal supply agreements between CIL subsidiaires and SEBs/power utilities like Punjab State Electricity Board, Haryana State Electricity Board, Badarpur Thermal Power Station, Maharashtra State Electricity Board, Karnataka Power Corporation Limited, Rajasthan State Electricity Board, Calcutta Electricity Supply Company, Damador Valley Corporation.

Statement

Coal sale outstanding dues and age-wise analysis of Disputed and Undisputed dues from SEBs as on 31.01.2002.

Provisional (Rs. in Crores)

Name of SEB	Dues as on 31.01.02		Total	Disputed Dues		Undisputed Dues	
	Disputed	Undisputed		Less than six months	More than six months	Less than six months	More than six months
Bihar State Electricity Board	24.69	221.67	246.36	0	24.69	21.74	199.93
Jharkhand State Electricity Board	0	5.24	5.24	0	0	5.59	-0.35
Uttar Pradesh Electricity Board	12.76	371.35	384.11	4.57	8.19	33.46	337.89
Punjab State Electricity Board	194.82	76.48	271.30	0.19	194.63	55.53	20.95
Tamil Nadu Electricity Board	278.66	156.93	435.59	21.24	257.42	145.00	11.93
Haryana State Electricity Board	0.04	20.89	20.93	0	0.04	-2.03	22.92
Rajasthan State Electricity Board	12.05	59.56	71.61	0	12.05	58.07	1.49
Maharashtra State Electricity Board	579.61	120.52	700.13	17.97	561.64	31.13	89.39
Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board	217.20	871.68	1088.88	32.59	184.61	154.58	717.10
Chhattishgarh State Electricity Board	0	27.48	27.48	0	0	27.48	0
Gujrat Electricity Board	9.61	687.43	697.04	0	9.61	365.22	322.21
West Bengal State Electricity Board	8.52	2.91	11.43	0	8.52	0.74	2.17
West Bengal Power Development Corpn. Ltd.	60.11	785.16	845.27	0.92	59.19	373.51	411.65
Andhra Pradesh Electricity Board	4.44	31.02	35.46	0	4.44	31.58	-0.56
Assam State Electricity Board	0	-1.25	-1.25	0	0	0	-1.25
Karnataka Power Corporation Limited	0	8.68	8.68	0	0	8.68	0
Durgapur Projects Limited	1.86	236.40	238.26	0.09	1.77	43.87	192.53
Total	1404.37	3682.15	5086.52	77.57	1326.80	1354.15	2328.00

Rural Tourism

441. SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to promote tourism in rural areas in the country;

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

(c) the funds proposed to be spent on the implementation of the scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) to (c) Department of Tourism, Government of India has proposed to develop and promote

rural tourism as a major area of growth, development and employment creation in the 10th Five Year Plan.

[English]

Scarcity of Water

442. SHRI C. SREENIVASAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a high level delegation from Tamil Nadu met the Prime Minister recently to seek his intervention of save the standing crops in the State which are on the verge of destruction due to scarcity of water;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) and (b) An all-Party delegation from Tamil Nadu met the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 11.09.2001 and presented a Memorandum seeking the Prime Minister's intervention to ensure the release of 1000 million Cubic Feet of water per day till the end of October to save the standing 'kuruwai' crops.

(c) A meeting of the Cauvery River Authority under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister was convened on 10th October 2001. After taking note of the drought conditions in the basin in both the States of Tamil Nadu & Karnataka, the Authority directed the Government of Karnataka to ensure inflows at Mettur as stipulated by the Tribunal, especially, in view of the situation being faced in the Cauvery basin of Tamil Nadu. The Authority also decided to work out an acceptable and equitable procedure for pro-rata sharing of the distress and accordingly requested the basin States to put forward their specific suggestions for consideration by the Authority.

[Translation]

Development of Milch Cattle Wealth

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

(a) whether the Government propose to develop milch cattle wealth in the country;

(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) Yes, Sir. During the 9th Plan the Centrally Sponsored Scheme National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding was launched to improve the availability of breeding inputs for cattle and buffalo both in quantitative and qualitative terms. The Scheme has focus no doorstep delivery of breeding inputs and genetic improvement of indigenous breeds. The project envisages for covering 73% breedable cattle and buffalo population. The States of Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Nagaland, Mizoram, West Bengal and Kerala and participating in the Project and rest of the States are also likely to participate.

(c) Question does not arise in the light of answer to parts (a) and (b).

[English]

Modernisation of K.C. Canal In A.P.

444. SHRI B. VENKATESHWARLU : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) wheather the Government of Andhra Pradesh has sought assistance from the Union Government for

modernisation of K.C. Canal for execution of medium irrigation projects in the State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) No proposal has been received by the Union Government from the Government of Andhra Pradesh seeking assistance for modernisation of K.C. Canal. However, K.C. Canal is receiving assistance from JBIC, Japan. Central Loan Assistance (CLA) under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) is being released by the Union Government for those major/medium irrigation projects which are in advanced stage of construction and not receiving financial assistance from other external and domestic agencies. 6 medium irrigation projects of Andhra Pradesh have so far received CLA amounting to Rs. 53.92 Crores under AIBP.

[Translation]

Action- Plan for Cultivable land

445. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :
DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA :
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any time bound action-plan to bring the cultivable land of the country under irrigation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the percentage of irrigated land in the country where cultivation is going on; and

(d) the increase in percentage of the irrigated land achieved in the country during the Ninth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) (a) to (d) Government of India has assessed the Ultimate Irrigation Potential in the country as 139.9 million hectare. The responsibility of investigation, planning execution and maintenance of all types of irrigation projejects/works primarily rests with the State Governments since irrigation is a State subject. Also these irrigation projects/works are funded by the State Governments from their plan funds and according to their own priorities. Creation of irrigation potential is continuous process for which the target is set in the State's Five-Year Plans according to allocation of funds by the States. At the beginning of the Ninth Five Year Plan, (i.e., 1997-98), 54.6 million hectare was provided with irrigation against total sown area of 142.02 million hectare which works out to 38.2 percent. The creation of additional irrigation potential of about 10.02 million hectares is expected during the Ninth Plan (1997-2002).

Appointment of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes

446. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose the post/appoint adequate number of persons from SCs/STs community as Heads/Chief Executives/CMDs and Directors, Official/Non-official Members of the Boards of Management of various Public Sector Organisations and Statutory Bodies under his Ministry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of persons appointed/posted to the said posts in all the Public Sector undertakings/Autonomous/Statutory bodies falling under the Ministry during the last three years, year-wise; and

(d) the number of SCs/STs persons among them and their percentage as compared to the total number of persons appointed during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA): (a) There is no Public Sector Organisation and Statutory Body under this Ministry. There is an autonomous body, namely, Paddy Processing Research Centre registered as a Society under T N Societies Registration Act. There is no reservation in appointment of CMD/Chief Executives/Director (official/non-official) in this autonomous body.

(b) to (d) does not arise.

[English]

Decline in Agricultural Production

447. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) wheter the agricultural production mainly wheat and rice come down drastically during the year 2000-01;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to arrest this trend in the coming years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) The production of wheat and rice during 2000-01 was considerably lower than that in 1999-2000 as is evident from the Statement given below :

Production of wheat and rice

(in million tonnes)

Crop	1999-2000	2000-01	% fall in 2000-01 over 1999-2000
Wheat	76.37	68.76	9.96%
Rice	89.68	84.87	5.36%

However, the production of both wheat and the rice in the country shows a long-term upward trend.

(c) In order to improve the performance of the agriculture sector, the Government have launched various new initiatives such as promotion of watershed development programmes, emphasis on developing and promoting new technologies, measures for increasing availability of agricultural credit, Market information Net work and National Agriculture Insurance Scheme etc. Besides, the Government also encourage farmers to increase production through price policy which include implementation of Minimum Support Price procurement by public agencies. Apart from these, the Government have also switched over from the conventional schematic approach to macro-Management from November, 2000 for providing assistance to the States. The Macro-Management Scheme integrates 27 schemes into one for supplementing and complementing the efforts of State Governments through work plans. This gives flexibility to States to address specific problems faced by them depending on local requirements, avoid overlapping in the contents of different schemes and aim at all-round development of agriculture.

Minimum Support Price for Foodgrains

448. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to dismantle the minimum support price mechanism fixed for various foodgrains following the lifting of restrictions on their production and storage;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the time by which the new policy is likely to come into effect?

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

(a) There is no such proposal before the Government to dismantle the minimum support mechanism, at present.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Development of Neemach Airport in MP

449. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the local people and Aviation Club of Madhya Pradesh have demanded for development of Neemach airport of the State ;

(b) if so, the details there of alongwith reaction of the Union Government thereto ; and

(c) the total amount spent by the Government on its expansion till date?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) (a) A representation has been received in this regard.

(b) The airport at Neemach belongs to Central Reserve Police Force and has been developed by the State Government of Madhya Pradesh for flying club activities.

(c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

LI Points for Irrigation

450. SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the farmers of the drought affected districts of Orissa are being encouraged to adopt and use Lift Irrigation (LI) Points for irrigation ;

(b) if so, whether there is any plan to fund large LI Points with an Ayacut of over 5000 acres from AIBP funding particularly for the KBK Districts of Orissa during the current and the next financial year to augment irrigation in the drought prone districts ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Irrigation being a State subject, the responsibility of planning funding execution and maintaining of major, medium and minor schemes including lift irrigation schemes primarily rests with the respective State Governments.

(b) and (c) 23 minor irrigation schemes of KBK districts of Orissa have been released Central Loan Assistance under AIBP amounting to Rs. 34.72 crore during 1999-2000 and 2000-01.

[Translation]

Upgradation of Bilaspur Airport

451. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have conducted a study for upgradation of the airstrip at Bilaspur in Chhattisgarh and introduce passenger flights therefrom ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the Government are formulating any schemes to link medium cities through 48 seater passenger planes ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) and (b) No such study has been undertaken by the Government for upgradation of the airstrip at Bilaspur. Due to lack of traffic potential, no airline has projected its requirement to operate through Bilaspur airport so far. As such, Airports Authority of India has no plans to upgrade the facilities at this airport.

(c) and (d) There is no such scheme at present.

[English]

Privatisation of ECL

452. SHRI PRABODH PANDA:
SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY :

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to privatise Eastern Coal Fields Limited (ECL) ;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to reduce the manpower in a big number over next five years ;

(d) if so, whether the Government of West Bengal has requested to consider for reduction of cess ; and

(e) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) It is proposed to reduce manpower in ECL by 22,800 during the 10th Plan period, consistent with the requirements to turn around the company, which is presently loss making.

(d) to (e) In the meeting held on 5th November, 2001 between the Union Minister of Coal & Mines and the Chief Minister, West Bengal, the State Government was requested to bring the rates of cess levied by West Bengal to such an extent that the rates of royalty and cess together, payable to the Government of West Bengal, is at par with the rate of royalty payable in the other coal producing States.

[Translation]

Hotels Running in Losses

453. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the Government hotels running in losses in various States, hotel-wise and State-wise ;

(b) whether the Government have formulated any action plan to close such hotels ;

(c) if so, the details thereof ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) The requisite information given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) to (d) No, Sir. However, Government has decided to disinvest the hotel properties of ITDC and HCI. With regard to ITDC, 22 hotels are to be sold outright and 4 hotels are to be given on long term lease cum management contract basis. So far, 7 hotels of ITDC have been disinvested. With regard to HCI, Government has already decided to sell three of its Hotel Units viz. two Centaur hotels in Mumbai and one at Rajgir. Decision on the sale of remaining two hotel units of HCI has not yet been taken.

Statement*List of Loss Making ITDC Operated Hotels as on 31st March, 2001*

Name of the Hotel and State	Star Category	Rooms
New Delhi		
1. Ashok Hotel	5 Star Deluxe	550
2. Samrat Hotel	5 Star	250
3. Janpath Hotel	4 Star	213
4. Kanishka Hotel	4 Star	317
5. Indraprastha Hotel	1 Star	548
6. Ranjit Hotel	2 Star	138
7. Lodhi Hotel	3 Star	160
8. Qutab Hotel	5 Star	92
Uttar Pradesh		
9. Hotel Varanasi Ashok, Varanasi	3 Star	84
10. Hotel Agra Ashok, Agra	4 Star	55
Bihar		
11. Hotel Patliputra Ashok, Patna	3 Star	46
12. Hotel Bodhgaya Ashok	3 Star	32
Orissa		
13. Hotel Kalinga Ashok, Bhubaneshwar	3 Star	64
West Bengal		
14. Hotel Airport Ashok, Kolkatta	4 Star	148
Rajasthan		
15. Hotel Jaipur Ashok, Jaipur	3 Star	99
16. Hotel LVP, Udaipur	5 Star	54
17. Bharatpur Forest Lodge, Bharatpur	3 Star	17
<i>(Dot: Property)</i>		
Jammu & Kashmir		
18. Hotel Jammu Ashok, Jammu	3 Star	45
Madhya pradesh		
19. Hotel Khajuraho Ashok, Khajuraho	3 Star	38
Himachal pradesh		
20. Hotel Manali Ashok, Manali	3 Star	29
Kerala		
21. Kovalam Ashok Beach Resort, Kovalam	5 Star	193
Tamilnadu		
22. Temple Bay Ashok Beach Resort, Mamallapuram	3 Star	36
23. Hotel Madurai Ashok, Madurai	3 Star	43
Maharashtra		
24. Hotel Aurangabad Ashok, Aurangabad	3 Star	66
Karnataka		
25. Hotel Hassan Ashok, Hassan	3 Star	46
<i>List of Loss Making Hotel Operated by Hotel Corporation of India Limited</i>		
Delhi		
1. Centaur Hotel Delhi Airport		
Jammu & Kahmir		
2. Centaur Lake View Hotel, Srinagar		

[English]

Funds Allocated for Science City Project at Ahmedabad

454. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have announced to release Rs. 41 crores for Science City Project at Ahmedabad (Gujarat) ;

(b) if so, the time by which the amount is likely to be released ;

(c) whether any such financial assistance has been given to other States also for such projects ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) In May, 2001, the then Minister (Tourism & Culture) had announced at the foundation stone laying function of the Science City, Ahmedabad, organised by Government of Gujarat that the Central Government would assist in setting up the Science City at Ahmedabad to the extent of Rs. 41 crores.

(b) A memorandum for Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) has been circulated amongst various agencies, including Planning Commission, for appraisal. Funds can be released only after the project is approved by Government and it is not possible to indicate the time for release of funds at this stage.

(c) and (d) The Government has agreed in July, 1998 to provide financial assistance to the extent of Rs. 70 crores for setting up a Science City at Jalandhar (Punjab).

Procurement of Copra By NAFED/STC

455. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal from Government of Kerala for the procurement of copra by NAFED or STC ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the total amount released by the Government for procurement of copra during the last year ;

(d) whether there is any proposal to stop the import of palm oil from Malaysia and other countries ; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government of Kerala has requested to resume procurement of Copra by NAFED under Price Support Scheme (PSS) in Kerala. The procurement of copra has already been resumed in Kerala.

(c) As a Central Nodal Agency, NAFED had procured 85,410 MTs of copra under PSS in Kerala during 2000 season and an amount of Rs. 287.00 crore being the procurement value of the same has been drawn by NAFED for the purpose from the State Bank of India.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Question does not arise.

[Translation]

Lower Cost of Agricultural Produce

456. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to lower the production cost of agricultural produce to face the challenges of WTO in agriculture sector ;

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard ;

(c) whether special attention would be paid to the prices and quality of implements and seeds available to the farmers;

(d) whether the loss being occurred to the farmers due to supply of sub-standard seeds and fertilizers would be compensated ; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) The cost of production can be reduced *inter-alia* through increase in production and productivity of crops. The Government is conscious about it and have taken steps to achieve this. The Government have launched various new initiatives such as watershed development programmes, emphasis on developing and promoting new technologies, measures for increasing availability of agricultural credit, credit linked subsidy scheme for augmenting storage/cold storage capacity. Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in North-Eastern States, Market Information Network and National Agriculture Insurance Scheme etc. Besides, the Government also encourages farmers to increase production through price policy which include implementation of Minimum Support Price and Market Intervention Schemes, procurement by public agencies and using instruments of trade.

(c) to (e) There is no statutory control on the prices of agricultural implements and machines and these are controlled by the market forces. Similarly, there is no control on the prices of Seed. The price of seed is open to market forces and there is no restriction on its production and distribution.

[English]

Misappropriation of funds Under AIBP

457. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there have been misappropriation of funds in the execution of projects under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) ;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to conduct an enquiry into the matter and fix responsibility ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) to (c) 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 monitoring report of the Central Water Commission. In view of this and also as no specific complaint has been received, there is no misappropriation of funds in the execution of projects under AIBP. 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. Under the AIBP, the Union Government is providing Central Loan Assistance to the eligible projects to supplement the State Governments own financial resources with a view to complete such projects at an early date.

International Flights from Cochin, Trivandrum and Calicut Airports

458. SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN :
SHRI V.S. SIVAKUMAR :
SHRI GEORGE EDEN :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce more international flights from various airports in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether any foreign airlines has sought permission to operate from various airports in the country particularly from Cochin, Trivendrum and Calicut;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) and (b) Air India and Indian Airlines are presently operating to Abu Dhabi, Bahrain, Muscat, Dubai, Jeddah, Riyadh, Dammam, Sharjah, Male, Kuwait, Doha, Fujairah and Rasalkhaimah from airports in Kerala. Besides our national carriers, Gulf Air, Kuwait Airways, Oman Air, Qatar Airways, Silk Air, Sri Lankan Airlines have been operating from their respective countries to Trivendrum. Oman Air, Kuwait Airways and Silk Air have also recently commenced operations from Cochin.

(c) to (e) Operation by foreign airlines from different airports in the country is reviewed from time to time depending upon traffic demand. As part of this ongoing

process, Kuwait Airways, Oman Air and Silk Air have recently been granted access to Cochin. Emirates Airlines of Dubai will also get access to Cochin effective September, 2002.

Opening of Agriculture Export Area

459. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to open Agriculture Export Area in the country particularly in Jharkhand State ;

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

(c) the time by which the Agriculture Export Area are likely to be opened in the country ; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for creating increased job opportunities particularly in rural areas and enabling farmers to reap the benefits of modern technology in each State particularly in the State of Jharkhand ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Imports of Pulses and Peas

460. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH :
SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether pulses and peas are being imported in the country ;

(b) if so, the quantum of pulses and peas imported during each of the last three years and the value of foreign exchange incurred thereon ; and

(c) the efforts made by the Government to reduce the import of pulses and peas ?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of import of pulses and peas and the value during the last three years is given in the attached Statement.

(c) In order to increase the production of pulses, the scheme of National Pulses Development Project (NPDP) is being implemented under the ambit of Technology Mission on Oilseeds & Pulses, Department of Agriculture & Cooperation. Efforts are also being made to increase the production by way of providing incentives to the farmers. Assistance is provided on production and distribution of seeds, seed minikits, improved farm implements, sprinkler sets, gypsum/pyrites, micro nutrients, rhyzobium culture etc.

Statement**Import of Pulses during the year 1998-99 to 2000-01**

Quantity (in lakh ton), Value (in Rs. lakh)

1998-99		1999-2000		2000-2001	
Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
5.64	70881.36	2.51	35469.04	3.48	49379.36

Import of Peas during the year 1998-99 to 2000-01

1998-99		1999-2000		2000-2001	
Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
2.57	27284.98	1.50	16182.67	1.43	14373.28

*[Translation]***Water Pollution**

461. SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA :
SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :
SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA :

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

(a) the details of schemes formulated with regard to checking of water pollution in the country ;

(b) the total amount spent on implementation of these schemes during each of the last three years, scheme-wise ;

(c) whether the C&AG in its recent report has revealed shortcomings in the implementation of Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 ;

(d) if so, the facts and details thereof ;

(e) whether the water pollution in the country is increasing

day by day and various agencies have failed to check the same ;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor and if not, the extent of success achieved in this regard so far ; and

(g) the concrete steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to check the water pollution and enforce the Act effectively ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) Government has launched schemes such as National River Conservation Plan, Ganga Action Plan, Yamuna Action Plan, Gomti Action Plan, National Water Quality Monitoring Programme, Common Effluent Treatment Plants etc. to check water pollution. These schemes include diversion interception and treatment of wastewater generated by various towns/industries. Central Pollution Control Board along with State Pollution Control Boards is monitoring the water quality of rivers and lakes at 507 locations. The amounts spent on these schemes during the last three years are as under :

(Rs. in lakhs)

Projects	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002 (upto Feb., 2002)
National River Conservation Plan (as on 31.12.2001)	6205.00	6432.11	6301.30
Yamuna Action Plan Phase II (as on 31.12.2001)	7201.73	2489.96	772.29
Gomti Action Plan (as on 31.12.2001)	118.22	658.00	500.00
Ganga Action Plan - II (Main stem) as on (31.12.2001)	1718.29	1987.60	2848.00
National Water Quality Monitoring Programme	62.44	54.92	56.13
Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs)	129.09	320.43	248.89

(c) and (d) The Comptroller and Auditor General's Report indicated gaps in implementation of pollution control programme by State Pollution Control Boards with regard to maintenance of water quality in river and other water bodies.

(e) to (g) Steps taken to check water pollution in the country include :

(i) Periodic interaction meetings are held with the personnel at various levels of the Pollution Control Boards (PCBs) and Pollution Control Committees (PCCs).

(ii) State Governments have been advised to induct professionals in the Pollution Control Boards and Pollution Control Committees (PCCs).

(iii) Guidelines have been framed for streamlining the procedure for issuance of consent and authorisation by the Pollution Control Boards.

(iv) Minimal National Standards for control of pollution from various sources have been laid down by the Central Pollution Control Board for implementation through the concerned State Pollution Control Boards.

(v) Effluent standards have been notified for 71 different categories of industries.

(vi) Water quality at 507 monitoring stations carried out by State Pollution Control Board have been reviewed and data used for executing programmes on abatement of pollution in rivers and lakes.

(vii) Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) directed the State Pollution Control Boards/Pollution Control Committees for identification of grossly polluting industries and for taking action against those have not provided the requisite Effluent Treatment Plants (ETPs).

(viii) Financial assistance is provided for installation of Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) in cluster of small-scale industry.

(ix) Out of 1551 large and medium industrial units in highly polluting categories 1350 have installed requisite pollution control system, 177 are closed and 24 units are in various stages of upgrading their effluent treatment system.

Problem of Unemployment for Diploma Holders

462. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL :
SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of persons holding diploma/degree and post graduate degree of the Agriculture colleges/Institutes of the country are facing the problem of unemployment due to inadequate employment opportunities;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the government have formulated any action plan with a view to provide them with adequate employment opportunities ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :
(a) and (b) As per the information collected from most of the State Agricultural Universities/Institutes, very many of the diploma holders/graduates and post-graduates have to wait six months to three years to get a suitable employment in Government sector/private sector in their respective fields of specialization.

(c) and (d) The Government of India has launched a scheme to have a new extension system through private ventures to be set up by unemployed agriculture graduates who will provide services to the farmers on payment basis. the ventures willbeset up through NABARD financing.

[English]

P.F. Gratuity Benefits to Employees

463. SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of private companies which exist in Delhi, Noida and Okhla and strength of their employees ;

(b) the number of employees who enjoy Provident Fund and Gratuity benefits ;

(c) whether 90 percent of these employees do not get even minimum wages ; and

(d) if so, the remedial action the Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) and (b) The total number of establishments covered under the Employees Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 in Delhi, Noida and Okhla are 24,731; 2,153 and 2,233 respectively and the number of employees getting the benefits are 11,67,904; 1,60,871 and 1,69,031 respectively. Employees are also eligible for benefits of Gratuity under the Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972.

(c) and (d) Minimum wages to the employees are administered under the provisions of Minimum Wages Act, 1948. Both Central and State Governments are appropriate authorities to ensure that the workers are getting minimum wages as fixed and revised under the statutory provisions of the Act. Remedial action to mitigate any flaw is taken by the Central Industrial Relations Machinery and the State Enforcement Machinery through regular inspections. In case of violation of the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, legal and penal action is aken against defaulting establishments.

Establishment of ESI Hospitals

464. SHRI K. MURALI EEDHARAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Kerala Government has submitted any project estimates for establishment of ESI hospitals at Ashramam, Kollam and Chakkarathukulam and Kozhikode;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the time by which the project is likely to be implemented by ESI Corporation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (c) The ESI Corporation received the Project estimates of Rs. 667.89 Lakhs in December, 1998 from the Government of Kerala for construction of Super Speciality Hospital at Ashramam, Kollam. No project estimates have been received from the State Government in respect of project for Occupational Diseases Centre at Chakkarathukulam. There is no separate proposal for a hospital at Kozhikode.

It has been decided to set up a separate cardiology (Non-invasive) Wing (Super Speciality Deptt.) at Ashramam, Kollam. The Corporation has recently received the confirmation of the State Government regarding commitment to post staff and to bear the running expenditure. The project is likely to be completed in two years after the sanction. The Corporation in its meeting held on 20.2.2002 has decided to review the proposal of Chakkarathukulam.

[Translation]

Privatisation of IGI Airport

465. DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to privatise the IGI Airport, New Delhi ;

(b) if so, the details of the Scheme ; and

(c) the time by which the IGI Airport will be comparable with the finest airports of the world ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) and (b) Government had approved the proposal for restructuring of the airports as and when found suitable through long term lease. In the first instance, the airports at Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata have been taken up for privatisation through long term leasing. Financial and Legal Consultants have been appointed to advise on all aspects of the long term leasing. Selection of the lessees for these airports will be taken up through an open competitive global bidding process, based on pre-determined objective selection criteria. The airports would be leased out to the selected bidders, for a specified period, through a formal/legal agreement, on due payment.

(c) The long term lease will stipulate various performance standards and benchmarks for quality of service to be achieved over a period of time, which would ensure early upgradation of IGI Airport to world class standards.

[English]

Killing of People by Leopards and Vice-Versa

466. SHRI J.S. BRAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Leopard kill many people every year in Uttranchal (Garhwal-Kumaon) and Himachal Pradesh (Shivalik) and almost equal number of Leopards are eliminated as man eaters ;

(b) if so, the number of casualties on both sides during the years 2000 and 2001 ;

(c) the reasons that are forcing Leopards to move into human habitat ; and

(d) the steps being taken to restrict both Leopard and human beings in their respective territories and protect them both ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) Instances of depredation by leopards and the leopards being killed to prevent such depredation are reported from time to time. The details of human deaths caused by leopards and number of leopards killed to safeguard the human killings are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) The reasons that force leopards to enter the human habitations are :

1. Decline in the extent of wildlife habitats.

2. Decline in the prey base of leopards.

(d) The steps taken to prevent human leopard conflicts include :

1. Improvement of habitat and prey base in the Protected Areas and the buffer zones through various Centrally Sponsored Schemes including Project Tiger, Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries and Eco-development in and around Protected Areas.

2. Funds are also provided to the State Governments for purchase of communication equipments and vehicles for the field staff to reduce response time in cases of attack on human beings by wild animals.

3. Wildlife Institute of India organises courses on tranquilisation and translocation of wild animals for the field managers.

Statement

S.No.	Name of the State	Period	Human casualties		Man eater leopards	
			Killed	Injured	Declared	Killed
1.	Uttaranchal	Nov-Dec. 2000	5	8	Nil	Nil
2.	Uttaranchal	2001	27	43	12	2 (killed) 1 (Caged)
3.	*Himachal Pradesh	2000	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
4.	*Himachal Pradesh	2001	3	Nil	Nil	Nil

- * During the last two years, 12 leopards have been trapped and killed in retaliatory action by the people in the vicinity of villages.

Losses to Indian Airlines in North-East*[Translation]*

467. SHRI Y.V. RAO : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Airlines has been incurring severe losses in its operations in North-East ; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to make the services to North-East viable ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) Indian Airlines and its subsidiary Alliance Air are incurring losses to the tune of around Rs. 70 crores per annum on North East operations.

(b) The losses on North East operations are due to relatively lower fares, pay load penalties, higher operating cost due to Short-Haul sectors, poor load on certain sectors and inadequate airport facilities such as shorter runway, sunset restrictions, no night landing facility and inclement weather etc.

Government of India has agreed, in principle, to provide Rs. 35 crores in the Budget Estimates of 2002-03 for Indian Airlines to enable it to improve air connectivity in North-East.

Proposals pending with NCDC

468. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of proposals pending with National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) for reforms in cooperative sugar mills of the country, particularly of Maharashtra State ;

(b) the district-wise details of above mentioned proposals and by when the decision is likely to be taken thereon ;

(c) whether the proposal in regard to Jagdamba Cooperative Sugar Mill of Ahmednagar district is pending with the Government ; and

(d) if so, the action taken or likely to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (d) NCDC has not received any proposal for reforms in the cooperative sugar mills of the country.

However, NCDC has received 7 proposals including one from Shri Jagdamba Sahkari Shakar Karkhana (SSK), Ahmednagar, Maharashtra, for sanction of financial assistance or modernization-cum-expansion of existing coop. sugar factories. A Statement showing the details of these projects including their status is enclosed.

Statement

State	Name of the Society	District	Proposed Assistance in (Rs. lakhs)	Status
Maharashtra	Shri Jagdamba SSK	Ahmednagar	732.86	It has been decided to
	Vishwasrao Naik SSK	Sangli	430.00	undertake spot evaluation of the project proposals.
	Jawahar SSK	Kolhapur	1320.00	Reply from the society of the clarification called for is still awaited
Karnataka	Ghataprabha SSK	Belgaum	2250.00	State Govt.'s consent for routing funds (through State Govt.) is still awaited.
	Dhoodganga SSK	Belgaum	450.00	State Govt.'s consent for routing funds (through State Govt.) is still awaited.
Andhra Pradesh	Anakapally CSM	Vishakapatnam	507.00	State Govt.'s consent for routing funds (through State Govt.) is still awaited.
	West Godavari CSM	West Godavari	326.00	State Govt.'s consent for routing funds (through State Govt.) is still awaited.

*[English]***Request of Gujarat on BT Cotton**

469. SHRI DINSHA PATEL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether State Biotechnology Coordination Committee, Gujarat has requested the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) to reconsider their order on BT cotton ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the details of final decision taken in the matter ?

(c) The GEAC in its meeting held on 31.10.2001, considered the request of SBCC and directed the SBCC to:

- procure the cotton bolls of Navbharat 151 crop from the farmers at the appropriate support price ;
- separate the lint and seed ;
- destroy the seed and store the lint in safe custody till further orders from GEAC ; and
- complete destruction of crop residue by uprooting and burning and sanitation of fields.

Privatisation of Coal Blocks

470. SHRI SUNIL KHAN :
SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL :
SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :
SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Gujarat State Biotechnology Coordination Committee (SBCC) requested the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) to reconsider GEAC's order dated 18.10.01, in view of the practical difficulties in implementing the order.

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken a decision to hand over 127 coal blocks including 7 blocks of Western Coalfields Limited (WCL) to private sector for exploitation of coal deposits ;

(b) if so, the names of such coal blocks, State-wise ;

(c) the reasons for such a decision ;

(d) the details of the terms and conditions laid down therefor ; and

(e) the extent to which the awarding of said blocks to private sector is going to help the loss making subsidiaries of Coal India Limited (CIL) ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) to (c) Considering the need to augment power generation and to create additional capacity during the VIII Plan period, the Government decided to allow private participation in the Power Sector. The Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973 was amended w.e.f. 9.6.1993 to allow private sector participation in coal mining for generation of power, for washing of coal obtained from a mine or for other end uses to be notified by Government from time to time in addition to the existing provision for the production of iron and steel. Mining of coal for production of cement was also permitted by the Government vide notification dated 15.3.1996.

At present, 121 coal mining blocks/sub-blocks under Coal India Limited including 10 blocks in the command area of Western Coalfields Limited, a subsidiary of CIL and 7 blocks under Singareni Collieries Company Limited have been identified for mining by public/private sector companies for specified end use on captive basis. The names of these 128 coal blocks/sub-blocks, State-wise, are given in the Statement enclosed .

(d) The following are the guidelines adopted for allocation of blocks to the public/private sector for captive mining :

(i) An application for mining of a coal block for quantity less than 1 million tonnes per annum in opencast mining and less than 250,000 tonnes per annum in underground mining would not be entertained so as to ensure economic/scientific mining of Indian coal.

(ii) Preferably blocks in green field areas where basic infrastructure like road, rail links, etc, is yet to be developed

should be given to the public/private sector. The areas where CIL has already invested in creating such infrastructure for opening new mines should not be handed over to the private sector, except on reimbursement of costs.

(iii) The blocks offered to private sector should be at reasonable distance from existing mines and projects of CIL in order to avoid operational problems.

(iv) Blocks already identified for development by CIL where adequate funding is on hand or in sight should not be offered to the private sector.

(v) Public/private sector should be asked to bear full cost of exploration in these blocks which may be offered.

(vi) For identifying blocks, the requirements of coal for about 30 years would be considered.

(vii) The other requirements are :

(a) approval of mining plan as required under the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957.

(b) inspection for an appropriate enforcement of conservation measures by the Coal Controller under the Coal Mines (Conservation and Development) Act 1974 with a view to ensuring scientific mining.

(c) enforcement of safety regulations by the Directorate General of Mines Safety.

(e) Allocation of coal blocks for mining by public/private sector parties for specified end use on captive basis has no relationship with profit or loss of any subsidiary company of Coal India Ltd.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the block
<i>Jharkhand</i>	
1.	Pirpainti Barahat (North of Hura) (ECL)
2.	Chuperbhita (ECL)
3.	Chichro-Parsimal (ECL)

Sl. No.	Name of the block
4.	Pachwara North (ECL)
5.	Pachwara Central (ECL)
6.	Pachwara South (ECL)
7.	Chakla (CCL)
8.	North Dhadhu (CCL)
9.	South Dhadhu (CCL)
10.	Pakri-Barwadih (CCL)
11.	Rajbar (CCL)
12.	Tubed (CCL)
13.	Jagaldagga (CCL)
14.	Chiru (CCL)
15.	Jayanti (CCL)
16.	Lohari (CCL)
17.	Durgabat/Kathautua (CCL)
18.	Meral (CCL)
19.	Mednirai (CCL)
20.	Seregarha (CCL)
21.	Brinda (CCL)
22.	Sisai (CCL)
23.	Dumri (CCL)
24.	Chatti-Bariatu (CCL)
25.	Karendari A, B, C (CCL)
26.	Bundu (CCL)
27.	Tokisud South (CCL)
28.	Tokisud North (CCL)
29.	Jainagar (CCL)

Sl. No.	Name of the block
30.	Pindra - Debipur-Khaowa (CCL)
31.	Belghara (CCL)
32.	Saddampur (CCL)
33.	Choritand-Tilya (CCL)
34.	Moitra (CCL)
35.	Badam (CCL)
36.	Gondulura (CCL)
37.	Babupara (CCL)
38.	Rauthpara (CCL)
39.	Jogeswar (CCL)
40.	Basantpur-Kotre (CCL)
41.	Pachmo (CCL)
42.	Lalgarh (CCL)
43.	Gomia (CCL)
44.	Saria-Koiyatand (CCL)
45.	Tenughat-Jhikri (CCL)
46.	Mahal (BCCL)
47.	Sitanala (BCCL)
48.	Parbatpur (BCCL)
49.	Tashra (BCCL)
50.	Gaurigram (BCCL)
51.	Aluara (BCCL)
<i>West Bengal</i>	
52.	Dewanganj (ECL)

Sl. No.	Name of the block
53.	Deocha-Pachmi (ECL)
54.	Barjora North (ECL)
55.	Barjora South (ECL)
56.	Sarisatolli (ECL)
57.	Tara (West) (ECL)
58.	Tara (East) (ECL)
59.	Khagra-Joydev (ECL)
60.	Ardhagram (ECL)
61.	Kunur (ECL)]
62.	Nachan (ECL)
63.	Ichhapur (ECL)
64.	Biharinath (ECL)
65.	Shunuri (ECL)
66.	Dharma (ECL)
67.	Lalgañj (ECL)
68.	Kabitirtha (ECL)
69.	Sitarampur (ECL)
70.	Kulti (ECL)
71.	Jitpur (ECL)
72.	Gangaram Chak Bhadulia (ECL)
73.	Gangaram Chak (ECL)
74.	Borejora (ECL)
<i>Madhya Pradesh</i>	
75.	Mahan (NCL)

Sl. No.	Name of the block
76.	Mandala North (WCL)
77.	Rawanwara North (WCL)
78.	Sial Ghoghri (WCL)
79.	Brahmpuri (WCL)
80.	Gotitoria East (WCL)
81.	Gotitoria West (WCL)
<i>Maharashtra</i>	
82.	Lohara East (WCL)
83.	Marki-mangli (WCL)
84.	Takli-Jena-Bellora (WCL)
85.	Takli-Jena-Bellora (WCL)
<i>Chhattisgarh</i>	
86.	Madanpur (SECL)
87.	Bisrar (SECL)
88.	Tara (SECL)
89.	Patoria (SECL)
	Gare-Palma (SECL)
90.	Sector-I (SECL)
91.	Sector-II (SECL)
92.	Sector-III (SECL)
93.	Sector-IV/1 (SECL)
94.	Sector-IV/2 (SECL)

Sl. No.	Name of the block
95.	Sector-IV/3 (SECL)
96.	Sector-IV/4 (SECL)
97.	Sector-IV/5 (SECL)
98.	Sector-IV/6 (SECL)
99.	Sector-IV/7 (SECL)
100.	Sector-IV/8 (SECL)
101.	Gidhumuri (SECL)
102.	Parsa (SECL)
103.	Nakiya (SECL)
104.	Chotia (SECL)
105.	Panch-Bahani (SECL)
<i>Orissa</i>	
106.	Utkal-A (MCL)
107.	Utkal-B-1 (MCL)
108.	Utkal-B-2 (MCL)
	Utkal-III (MCL)
109.	Utkal-C (MCL)
110.	Utkal-D (MCL)
111.	Utkal-E (MCL)
112.	Utkal-F (MCL)
113.	Chaturdhara (MCL)
114.	Talabira-I (MCL)
115.	Talabira-II (MCL)

Sl. No.	Name of the block
116.	Rampia (MCL)
117.	Ghogar Palli (MCL)
118.	Brahmani (MCL)
119.	Radhikapur (MCL)
120.	Patrapara (MCL)
121.	Aunli (MCL)
<i>Andhra Pradesh</i>	
122.	Anisettipalli UG (SCCL)
123.	Cherla OC (SCCL)
124.	Cherla UG (South Block) (SCCL)
125.	Penagadpar-I (SCCL)
126.	Punukul Chilka (SCCL)
127.	Tadicherla Block-II (SCCL)
128.	Tadicherla Block-I (SCCL)

Pilot Drip Projects

471. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the 500 hectare pilot drip projects provided by the Findex Drip Irrigation System of Finolex Plastro Polassion Ltd. of Pune has helped the sugar factories to extend their crushing season in Maharashtra ;

(b) whether the States of Punjab and UP propose to have the project ;

(c) whether the Government propose to develop any technology for reduction in farm costs ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) There is no such pilot project of drip irrigation system for sugarcane provided by the Finolex Plastro Polassion Ltd. in Maharashtra. However, last year some drip irrigation companies have installed drip sets which may help in extending the crushing season in Maharashtra.

At present no such project is in operation in Punjab or Uttar Pradesh. However in Punjab some Cooperative Sugar Mills are planning trials of drip irrigation for sugarcane.

(c) and (d) A number of technologies have been developed by the ICAR/SAUs for reducing the farm costs by efficient use of inputs, use of organic manures, mechanization, drip irrigation and inter-cropping besides better use of by-products.

[Translation]

Joint Venture with Ukraine in Mining Field

472. SHRI PADAM SEN CHOUDHRY :
SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Ukraine have evinced interest in joint ventures in the field of mining and supply of heavy equipments for excavation ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether any agreement has been signed with the Government of Ukraine in this regard ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) Government of Ukraine has not submitted any offer for joint venture in the field of mining and supply of heavy equipment for excavation.

(b) to (d) Question does not arise in view of above.

Arrest of Corrupt Officials

473. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the grade-wise number of officials arrested by the Vigilance Cell of his ministry facing charges of corruption, fraud and amassing wealth disproportionate to their known sources of income from 2000-2001 to January 31, 2002 ;

(b) whether any action has been taken by the vigilance cell against the said officials ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) The Vigilance Cell of the Ministry of Labour has no powers to arrest any official in any charge. Therefore, no official of the Ministry of Labour has been arrested by the departmental vigilance cell. However, two officials of this Ministry have been arrested by the CBI during the period 1.4.2000 to 31.1.2002 for demanding and accepting bribes.

(b) Action has been taken as shown in reply to item (c) below.

(c) Details are given below in the Statement enclosed.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name & Designation of official	Date of arrest	By State Police or CBI	Charges	Action taken by the concerned vigilance cell
1.	Shri K. Vijay Kumar, LEO (C) Trivendrum	Jan., 2001	CBI	Demanded and accepted a bribe of Rs. 2000/-	Sanction to prosecute the officer in a court of law has been issued.
2.	Shri M.D. Gawade, LEO (C) Ahmedabad	Nov., 2000	CBI	Demanded and accepted a bribe of Rs.10,000/-	Sanction to prosecute the officer in a court of law has been issued.

*[English]***CVC Inquiry against DMS Officer**

474. SHRI MAHENDRA BAITHA :
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that a C.V.C inquiry related to poly film material purchase and processing of LDP and LLDP is pending against the Delhi Milk Scheme (DMS) officers for the last two years ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the details of loss due to 100 per cent payment of high cost LDP material instead of 80:20 LDP and LLDP purchase order ;

(d) whether the inquiry has since been completed ;

(e) if so, the details thereof ; and

(f) if not, the reasons for delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (f) A complaint was received in July, 1999 from C.V.C. The allegations are that during the last 2-3 years, the raw material (granules) has been purchased at higher cost (100% LDPE) from Indian Petro Chemicals Ltd. (IPCL) while the polythene has been processed in the ratio of 80:20 (80% LDPE and 20% LLDPE). Based on the complaints, a preliminary enquiry was conducted which revealed certain irregularities. The enquiry report was sent to CVC, who in turn have asked for additional information. The enquiry has not been completed.

Selection of SCs, STs and OBCs on Merit

475. SHRI A.K.S. VIJAYAN :
SHRI V. VETRISILVAN :

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

(a) whether as provided under para 11 of Explanatory Notes to DOPT O. M. No. 36012/2/96-Estt (Res.) dated July 2, 1997 persons belonging to SCs/STs and OBCs who are delected on merit are not required to be shown against the quota of vacancies/posts reserved for their communities ;

(b) if so, the total number of persons belonging to SCs, STs and OBCs who have been selected/recruited/promoted on merit to defferent categories of services and not counted against the 'reserved quota of vacancies/posts, for their communities during the last five years under his Ministry ; and

(c) the details of instances in which candidates belonging to SCs, STs and OBCs who were, though, selected on merit but shown/adjusted against vacancies/posts reserved for their communities with the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Security Audit by BCAS at IGI Airport

476. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) has recently conducted a security audit and recommended steps to prevent serious breach of security at IGI Airport ;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereon ;

(c) whether the security arrangements around IGIA are adequate to face any terrorists threat ; and

(d) if not, the concrete plans formulated to strengthen the security cover around the Airport ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) to (d) As a part of the ongoing process the IGI Airport was inspected recently by BCAS officials. The security arrangements at the airport are adequate, and no major shortcomings have been noticed. However, all concerned agencies have once again been sensitized to the need for maintaining utmost security. The existing instructions about access control, perimeter security, Quick Reaction Teams, pre-embarkation security checks, screening of registered baggage, handling of cargo, have been reiterated.

Misuse of National Parks

477. SHRI G.J. JAVIYA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any representations regarding misuse of National Parks and illegal custody of wild animals captured from forests during the last five years ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the action taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BALLU) : (a) to (c) Protection and management of national parks and forest areas is the responsibility of the State Governments. Cases of violation inside the national parks and sanctuaries and illegal possession of wild animals are detected by them from time to time. However, the information in respect of these cases is not compiled and collated by the Central Government.

Policy Regarding Leasing Space to Private Airlines

478. SHRIMATI D.M. VIJAYA KUMARI :
SHRI G. GANGA REDDY :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the policy of leasing out space at airport terminals and duration thereof;

(b) whether the Airports Authority of India has leased out to Jet Airways an exclusive terminal at the Delhi Airport for a period of five years; and

(c) if so, the reasons for deviation from the current policy of leasing ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) Space at the airport terminal is licensed in terms of the commercial policy for a period of 3 years at the applicable licence fee prevailing from time to time.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Promotion of Aquaculture in M.P.

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

(a) whether the Government have accorded approval for promotion of aquaculture in fresh water in Madhya Pradesh during 2001-2002; and

(b) if so, the time by which the amount of the Centre's share is likely to be released for the purpose ?

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

(b) An amount of Rs. 19.97 lakh as one time central assistance towards 100% grant under the Pilot Scheme on Integrated Development of Inland Capture Fisheries Resources (Development of Reservoir Fisheries) has been released to Government of Madhya Pradesh on 21-8-2001. No funds have been released to the State Government under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Development of Freshwater Aquaculture during the current year since the State is having an unspent balance of Central share to the tune of Rs. 99.96 lakhs.

Area Under Agricultural Crops

480. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO :
DR. M.P. JAISWAL :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the area under agricultural crops has been reduced due to thrust on cash crop production and use of fertilizers over the last few years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the names of non-agricultural activity for which the agricultural land is being increasingly used;

(d) whether the Government are contemplating to enact a law to ban the use of agricultural land for non-agricultural activities; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) The Net Area Sown (NAS) under agriculture has remained almost constant at around 142 million hectares during last few years. The year-wise NAS under agriculture is given as under :

(Area in million hectares)	
Year	Net Area Sown
1992-93	142.72
1993-94*	142.34
1994-95*	142.96
1995-96*	142.20
1996-97*	142.81
1997-98*	142.02

* Provisional.

(d) and (e) The Government has issued 19 point National Land Use Policy Outline and Action Points to the States for implementation. The action points include, *inter-alia*, restructuring of urban policy in such a manner as to ensure that highly productive land is not taken away.

Use of Vermi Culture Fertilizer by Farmers

481. SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH RAJUKHEDI :
SHRI RAMSHAKAL :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that farmers in many States have increased their production by using 'vermi culture fertilizer';

(b) whether according to experiments done and studies conducted by non-Governmental voluntary organization involved in production and distribution of vermi culture fertilizer' during the last three years, it has been found that production of crops increases and cost decreases when this fertilizer is used ; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government for using this technology extensively in agriculture dominant States ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It has been observed that use of vermi culture fertilizers which is popularly known as vermi compost, when used alone or in conjunction with chemical fertilizers helps in improving the soil fertility, enhancement in crop yields and consequently reduction in costs of cultivation.

(c) The Government of India is promoting the use of various sources of organic manure as supplementary source of nutrients to crops including vermi compost.

Promotion of "vermi culture" for preparation of vermi compost from bio-degradable waste has been made as one of the activities in the Centrally Sponsored Technology Mission on integrated Development of Horticulture in North-Eastern States. To establish vermi compost unit under this scheme funds upto Rs. 30,000 per unit are provided. Besides, Department of Biotechnology has implemented a number of projects in the States of Haryana, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh for training and demonstration on various aspects of vermi composting and its use.

The Indian Council of Agriculture Research is implementing projects to further standardize the technology for preparation of vermi compost.

[English]

SC, ST and OBC's Selected on Merit

482. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether persons belonging to SCs/STs and OBCs who are selected on merit are not required to be shown against the quota of vacancies/posts reserved for their communities;

(b) if so, the total number of persons belonging to SCs, STs and OBCs who have been selected/recruited/promoted on merit but not counted against the reserved quota of vacancies/posts' for their communities during the last five years under his ministry; and

(c) the details of instances where such candidates, though selected on merit but shown/adjusted against vacancies/posts reserved for their communities with reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A total of 263 SC, 61 ST and 115 OBC candidates have been selected/recruited/promoted on merit to different categories of services and not counted against the 'reserved quota of vacancies/posts for their communities during the last five years in the Ministry of Civil Aviation and its various organisations.

(c) SC/ST/OBC candidates selected on merit have not been adjusted against vacancies/posts reserved for their communities.

Conversion of Land for Mining purpose

483. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL) had approached the district authorities for conversion of land for mining purpose;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) Eastern Coalfields Limited did not approach the district authorities for conversion of land for mining purpose.

(b) and (c) Does not arise in view of reply to part (a).

Funds For purchase of House Boats in Karnataka

484. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether his ministry has released funds for purchase of House Boats to be operated in the back waters of Sharavati and Kali rivers in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the number of House boats which have become functional at present;

(c) whether any additional funds have been sought for the purpose; and

(d) if so, the response of his ministry in this regard ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Polluting Industries

485. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY :
SHRIMATI RENU KUMARI :
SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA :

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

(a) the names of private/public sector companies/ industrial units which are violating environmental laws by discharging hazardous effluents and solid wastes, State-wise and location-wise;

(b) the action taken against each such defaulters;

(c) whether the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has studied the problem of effluents and solid wastes and issued notices to the polluting industrial units for their closure;

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and unit-wise;

(e) whether the CPCB has constituted a Committee to fix the norms in this regard;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the steps taken by the Government to protect environment from such pollution and the details of directions issued to make these companies aware of the environmental concerns ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (d) As on 31st December, 2001 out of 1551 large and medium industrial units in the 17 categories of highly polluting industries, 1350 have installed requisite pollution control system. 177 are closed and 24 units are in various stages of upgrading their effluent treatment system. Out of 851 grossly polluting industries discharging their effluents into rivers and lakes, 608 have installed pollution control system, 238 are closed and 5 units are in various stages of upgrading their effluent treatment system. Names of private/public sector defaulting industries in both categories and action taken against each industry is given below in the Statement.

(e) and (f) Central Pollution Control Board has constituted four regional Committees in 1997, to review the status of

the defaulting industries discharging their effluents into rivers and lakes and made recommendations in regard to granting of further time to the industries for installation of requisite effluent treatment plant.

(g) The Steps taken by the Government, to protect environment from industrial pollution and to make industries aware of the environmental concern, include the following :

(i) Effluent and Emission Standards have been notified under the Environmental (Protection) Act, for almost all categories of polluting industries. Standard for 90 categories of polluting sources have been notified to control pollution at source. In addition to this, standards for ambient air and water quality have also been notified under the Environment (Protection) Act.

(ii) Government have identified 17 categories of highly polluting industries, which are being regularly monitored for taking adequate measures to comply with the prescribed standards.

(iii) An "Environmental Surveillance Squad" has been constituted for surprise inspection of industries by the Central Pollution Control Board.

(iv) Central Pollution Control Board has issued directions to State Pollution Control Boards to monitor and take action against the defaulting industries.

(v) 24 critically polluted areas have been identified and Action Plans have been prepared, which are being implemented by CPCB/SPCBs.

(vi) Preparation of Zoning Atlas for siting of industries, based on environmental considerations in various districts of the country has been taken up. Atlases for siting of industries have been completed for 19 districts covering 14 States.

(vii) To check pollution in small scale industries, 40 waste minimization circles have been set up in various parts of the country for adoption of clean technology, better work practices and energy conservation techniques.

(viii) A scheme for setting up of Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) in clusters of small scale industrial units has been taken up.

Statement**State—wise Status of the Defaulting Industries of 17 Categories**

(As on December 31, 2001)

S. No.	Name and Address of the Industry	Category & Whether CU/PU/SU/CP	Status of Pollution Control/Action Taken
Andhra Pradesh			
01.	M/s Kothagundem Thermal Power Station, Paloncha, Khammam Dist, Andhra Pradesh	TPP (SU)	Upgradation/retrofitting of ESPs to be completed by July 2002

S. No.	Name and Address of the Industry	Category & Whether CU/PU/SU/CP	Status of Pollution Control/Action Taken
Assam			
02.	M/s Bongaigaon Thermal Power Station, Bongaigaon Assam	TPP (SU)	Augmentation of ESPs to be completed by June 2002.
Bihar			
03.	M/s Patratu Thermal Power Station, Patratu, Hazaribagh Bihar	TPP (SU)	Augmentation of ESP in Unit no. 10 was completed in December 2001
04.	M/s Bokaro Thermal Power Plant (DVC) B, Bokaro, Bihar	TPP (SU)	Installation of ESPs to be completed by June 2002.
Madhya Pradesh (includes the units of Chhattisgarh)			
05.	M/s Cox Distillery Naugaon, Chattarpur, Chattishgarh	DISTILLERY (PU)	Digester installed by the industry and its performance is under observation of the SPCB.
06.	M/s Chhattishgarh Distillery Khapri, Kunhari Durg Chhattishgarh	DISTILLERY (PU)	Directions under Section 18 (1) (b) of the Water Act, 1974 issued to Chhattisgarh Environment Conservation Board requiring the State Board to direct the industry for providing the requisite ETP, HDPE lining with brick/stone pitching in the storage lagoon & sludge drying beds. This industry is to be closed by the SPCB in case it fails to provide the facilities with the time fixed by SPCB.
07.	M/s Bhilai Steel Plant, Bhilai, Chhattisgarh	IRON & STEEL (CU)	Industry visited by CPCB and the findings are under implementation.
08.	M/s Gwalior Sugar Co. Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh	SUGAR (PU)	Work of new ETP is under progress and expected to be completed in March 2002.
09.	M/s Satpura Thermal Power Station, Betul, Madhya Pradesh	TPP (SU)	The unit has approached the PFC to get funds for the installation of ESPs.
Maharashtra			
10.	M/s Chandrapur Super Thermal Power Station Maharashtra State Electricity Board, Dist. Chandrapur Maharashtra	TPP (SU)	All units have ESPs but performance is not satisfactory. MSEB has decided to install either Bag filter/higher size ESPs in all the units in a phased manner by 2002-2004.
11.	Koradi Thermal Power Station, Maharashtra State Electricity Board, Koradi-441, 111 Dist, Nagpur Maharashtra	TPP (SU)	All the units have ESPs but their performance is not satisfactory. Augmentation of the ESPs is in progress and expected to be completed in a phased manner by the year 2003.

S. No.	Name and Address of the Industry	Category & Whether CU/PU/SU/CP	Status of Pollution Control/Action Taken
12.	Nashik Thermal Power Station, Maharashtra State Electricity Board, P.O. Ekiahare-422 105. Maharashtra	TPP (SU)	All units have ESPs but performance is not satisfactory. MSEB has decided to install either Bag filter/higher size ESPs in all the units in phased manner by the year 2000-2005.
13.	Bhusawal Thermal Power Station, Maharashtra State Electricity Board, Deep Nagar-425 307, Maharashtra	TPP (SU)	All units have ESPs but performance is not satisfactory. MSEB has decided to install either Bag filter/higher size ESPs in all the units in a phased manner by 2005-2006.
14.	M/s Parli Vajinath Thermal Power Station Beed, Maharashtra	TPP (SU)	All units have ESPs but performance is not satisfactory. MSEB has decided to install either Bag filter/higher size ESPs in all the units in a phased manner by 2004-2006.

Orissa

15.	Paradeep Phosphates Ltd., P.O. PPL Township, Paradeep-754 145, Dist. Jagatsinghpur, Orissa.	FERTILIZER (CU)	A detailed inspection of the unit has been conducted by CPCB during September 19-23, 2000 for assessment of the status in view of the affects of the cyclone and the report was sent to the Orissa State Pollution Control Board for implementation of the recommendations. The industry was given hearing by the SPCB on April 26, 2001 and the decisions of the hearing are under implementation.
16.	M/s Rourkela Steel Plant (Iron & Steel), Rourkela Dist. Sundargarh, Orissa	IRON & STEEL (CU)	Matter is in the Hon'ble Supreme Court.
17.	M/s Aska Co-operative Sugar & Chemicals Ltd. Aska, Orissa	SUGAR (CU)	Matter is in the Hon'ble Supreme Court.
18.	M/s Talcher Thermal Power Station, P.O./ Talcher Thermal, Dist. Angul, Orissa -759 101	TPP (CU)	Augmentation of ESPs in unit No. 5 & 6 completed. Augmentation of the remaining ESPs to be completed in a phased manner by the year 2002.

Uttar Pardesh

19.	M/s Obra Thermal Power Station, Unit (B) Obra, Sonbhadra, Uttar Pardesh	TPP (SU)	Three units of 100 MW each have ESPs which are not working properly and 5 units of 50 MW each have mechanical dust collectors. Due to paucity of funds no action has been initiated for commissioning of the ESPs. Capacity of ash ponds has also been exhausted. Plant authority is not keen to take necessary steps to provide pollution control measures. The proposal for installation of ESPs is pending with World Bank/PFC for financial assistance. Board has prosecuted the industry u/s 22-A of Air Act-1981 and u/s 33(1) of Water Act, 1974. The case is still pending.
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S. No.	Name and Address of the Industry	Category & Whether CU/PU/SU/CP	Status of Pollution Control/Action Taken
20.	M/s Obra Thermal Power Station, Unit (A) Obra, Sonebhadra, Uttar Pradesh	TPP (SU)	There are 5 units of 200 MW each. Industry has installed ESPs but they are not satisfactory. Due to paucity of funds no action has been initiated. Capacity of ash ponds has also been exhausted. Plant authority is not keen to take necessary steps to provide pollution control measures. The proposal for installation of ESPs is pending with World Bank/ PFC for financial assistance. Board has prosecuted the industry u/s 22-A of Air Act-1981 and u/s 33(1) of Water Act, 1974. The case is still pending.
21.	M/s Hardwarganj Thermal Power Project, Kasimpur, Aligarh, U.P.	TPP (SU)	None of the unit is provided with ESP. Due to paucity of funds no action has been initiated. Capacity of ash ponds has also been exhausted. Plant authority is not keen to take necessary steps to provide pollution control measures. The proposal for installation of ESPs is pending with World Bank/ PFC for financial assistance. The industry has not submitted any time bound programme for installation of APCs. The matter has been referred to U.P. Govt. for taking action under E (P) Act, 1986. Action under process for prosecution of the industry by SPCB.

West Bengal

22.	M/s Indian Iron and Steel Company, Bumpur West Bengal	IRON & STEEL (CU)	Directions issued by CPCB under section 5 of EP Act, 1986 to the unit for compliance to the emission Burdwan, standards.
23.	M/s Durgapur Steel Plant, Durgapur, W.B.	IRON & STEEL (CU)	The industry has, modified the bag filter system in the New Lime Calcination Plant (NLCP), installed dust suppression system for the Captive Power Plant and the Coal Handling area, and oil separator in the Tar Handling. The industry is under observation in regard to the compliance to standards in the BOD plant, old power plant, sinter plant & NLCP.
24.	M/s Durgapur Thermal Power Station, Damodar Valley Corpn., P.O. Durgapur-713 207 Dist. Burdwan, W.B.	TPP (SU)	Matter is in the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

*Status of Pollution Control in grossly Polluting Industries Discharging their Effluents into rivers and lakes
(As on December 31, 2001)*

S. No.	Name and Address of the Industry	Sector	Category	Status
<i>Madhya Pradesh</i>				
01.	M/s Kedia Great Galeon Ltd. Sejwaya, Ghatabillod, Dist. Dhar	PU	Distillery	Matter is in the Hon'ble High Court of Jabalpur.

S. No.	Name and Address of the Industry	Sector	Category	Status
Orissa				
02.	M/s Rourkela Steel Plant, Rourkela	CU	Iron & Steel	Matter is in the Hon'ble Supreme Court.
03.	M/s Pardeep Phosphate Ltd. Paradeep	CU	Fertiliser	A detailed inspection of the unit has been conducted by CPCB during September 19-23, 2000 for assessment of the status in view of the affects of the cyclone and the report was sent to the Orissa State Pollution Control Board for implementation of the recommendations. The industry was given hearing by the SPCB on April 26, 2001, and the decisions of the hearing are under implementation.
Punjab				
04.	M/s Rana Mahindra Papers Vill. Ltd. Fatehpur (Sialba)	PU	Paper Mill	The Govt. of Punjab vide its order dated 17.5.2001 has permitted the industry to operate at 25 TPD capacity with its effluent not exceeding 100 BOD to be discharged on land only. The unit has also been given 18 months time for installation of the Chemical Recovery Plant.
Uttar Pradesh				
05.	Harduaganj Thermal Power Station, Aligarh	SU	Thermal Power	Capacity of ash ponds has exhausted. Plant authority is not keen to take necessary steps to provide pollution control measures. The proposal for installation of pollution control facilities is pending with World Bank/ PFC for financial assistance. Action under process for prosecution of the industry by SPCB.

CU-Central Public Sector Unit, SU-State Sector Unit, PU-Private Sector Unit, CP-Cooperative Sector Unit.

Maintenance of National Parks/Sanctuaries

486. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the condition of various National Zoological Parks / Sanctuaries/Forest Reserves in the country is in very bad shape;

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

(c) the number of such parks/sanctuaries/forest reserves where the population of lion, tiger, bear, deer, sambhar and other rare species have risen and declined separately during the last five years alongwith the reasons therefor, State-wise; and

(d) the assistance provided for development and maintenance of sanctuaries/parks, forest conservation and other schemes during the said period, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) The book published by World Wide Fund for Nature-India has listed 82 National Parks and Sanctuaries where the management is not up to the mark. The list is at Statement I. The list of 18 poorly managed Zoos is at Statement II. The main reason for management of National Parks and Sanctuaries not being up to the mark is due to lack of staff for enforcement and non-availability of funds on time for operational costs. In the case of zoos, lack of space further compounds the problem.

(c) Population estimates in respect of tiger, leopard, elephant, lion & rhino for various States are at Statement III. National Park/Sanctuary-wise details of population estimation are not maintained at the level of Central Government. Rise or decline in the population is basically site specific and depend on various factors including habitat conditions, biotic factors, natural calamities and poaching.

(d) The assistance provided for development and maintenance of National Parks and Sanctuaries under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes during the last five years is at Statement IV.

Statement - I*List of Sanctuaries where mangement is low*

Sl. No.	Name of National Parks/ Sanctuaries
1. Manali Sanctuary	Himachal Pradesh
2. Gangul Siabehi Sanctuary	Himachal Pradesh
3. Nargu Sanctuary	Himachal Pradesh
4. Kugti Sanctuary	Himachal Pradesh
5. Lippa Asrang Sanctuary	Himachal Pradesh
6. Daranghati Sanctuary	Himachal Pradesh
7. National Chambal Sanctuary	Rajasthan
8. Keoladeo National Park	Rajasthan
9. Ramgarh Sanctuary	Rajasthan
10. Anamalai Sanctuary	Tamil Nadu
11. Kolleru Sanctuary	Tamil Nadu
12. Papikonda Sanctuary	Andhra Pradesh
13. Satpur National Park	Madhya Pradesh
14. Rajaji National Park	Uttar Pradesh
15. Kishanpur Sanctuary	Uttar Pradesh
16. Bhitakanika Sanctuary	Orissa
17. Karakoram Sanctuary	Jammu & Kashmir
18. Pin Valley National Park	Himachal Pradesh
19. Changthang Sanctuary	Jammu & Kashmir
20. Rupibhaba Sanctuary	Himachal Pradesh
21. Rakchham Chhitkul Sanctuary	Himachal Pradesh
22. Senchal Sanctuary	West Bengal
23. Abohar Sanctuary	Punjab
24. Harikelake Sanctuary	Punjab

Sl. No.	Name of National Parks/ Sanctuaries
25. Hingol Garh Sanctuary	Gujarat
26. Silent Valley National Park	Kerala
27. Chimony Sanctuary	Kerala
28. Mukurthy Sanctuary	Tamil Nadu
29. Brahmagiri Sanctuary	Karnataka
30. Biligiri Rangaswamy Temple Sanctuary	Karnataka
31. Barnadi Sanctuary	Assam
32. Pulicat Sanctuary	Tamil Nadu
33. Tunda Sanctuary	Himachal Pradesh
34. Bandli Sanctuary	Himachal Pradesh
35. Sruinsar Mansar Sanctuary	Jammu & Kashmir
36. Khokhan Sanctuary	Himachal Pradesh
37. Talra Sanctuary	Himachal Pradesh
38. Chail Sanctuary	Himachal Pradesh
39. Naina Devi Sanctuary	Himachal Pradesh
40. Shilli Sanctuary	Himachal Pradesh
41. Majathal Sanctuary	Himachal Pradesh
42. Darrah Sanctuary	Rajasthan
43. Shergarh Sanctuary	Rajasthan
44. Jawahar Sagar Sanctuary	Rajasthan
45. Phulwari Sanctuary	Rajasthan
46. Sardarpur Sanctuary	Madhya Pradesh
47. Bhimashankar Sanctuary	Maharashtra
48. Bannerghatta National Park	Karnataka
49. Adichunchanaguri Sanctuary	Karnataka
50. Siwaram Sanctuary	Andhra Pradesh

Sl. No.	Name of National Parks/ Sanctuaries
51. Painganga Sanctuary	Maharashtra
52. Topchanchi Sanctuary	Bihar
53. Phen Sanctuary	Madhya Pradesh
54. Panpatha Sanctuary	Madhya Pradesh
55. Mahavir Sanctuary	Uttar Pradesh
56. Nawabgang Sanctuary	Uttar Pradesh
57. Langtang Sanctuary	Mizoram
58. Kais Sanctuary	Himachal Pradesh
59. Gobind Sagar Sanctuary	Himachal Pradesh
60. Shimla Water Supply Catchment Sanctuary	Himachal Pradesh
61. Fambung Lho Sanctuary	Sikkim
62. Bir Motibagh Sanctuary	Punjab
63. Bir Gurdial Pura Sanctuary	Punjab
64. Bir Bunerheri Sanctuary	Punjab
65. Jamva Ramgarh Sanctuary	Rajasthan
66. Chinnar Sanctuary	Kerala
67. Cotigao Sanctuary	Goa
68. Nugu Sanctuary	Karnataka
69. Thatekkad Sanctuary	Kerala
70. Peppara Sanctuary	Kerala
71. Aralam Sanctuary	Kerala
72. Peechi Vazhani Sanctuary	Kerala
73. Ranganathittu Sanctuary	Karnataka
74. Melkote Sanctuary	Karnataka
75. Ghataprabha Sanctuary	Karnataka
76. Vedanthangal Sanctuary	Tamil Nadu
77. Baisipalli Sanctuary	Orissa

Sl. No.	Name of National Parks/ Sanctuaries
78. Chandraprabha Sanctuary	Uttar Pradesh
79. Fossil National Park	Madhya Pradesh
80. Siroy National Park	Manipur
81. Lothianisland Sanctuary	West Bengal
82. Balukhand Konark Sanctuary	Orissa

Statement - II*List of Zoos which are in bad shape*

S.No.	Name of the Zoo
1.	State Museum Zoo, Thrissur, Kerala
2.	Maharaj Baug Zoo, Nagpur, Maharashtra
3.	Kamla Nehru Prani Sangrahalaya, Indore, Madhya Pradesh
4.	Lady Hydary Park, Shillong, Meghalaya
5.	Udaipur Zoo, Udaipur, Rajasthan
6.	Bikaner Zoo, Bikaner, Rajasthan
7.	Kota Zoo, Kota, Rajasthan
8.	Chindrens Zoo Bellary, Karnataka
9.	Marble Palace Zoo, Kolkata, West Bengal
10.	Haddo Zoo, Port Blair, Andaman & Nicobar
11.	Surat Zoo, Surat, Gujarat
12.	Rajkot Zoo, Rajkot, Gujarat
13.	Peshwe Park, Pune, Maharashtra
14.	Alzwal Zoo, Mizoram
15.	Jaipur Zoo, Jaipur, Rajasthan
16.	Kohima Zoo, Kohima, Nagaland
17.	Jodhpur Zoo, Jodhpur, Rajasthan
18.	Sayaji Bag, Vadodara, Gujarat

Statement III*Population Census of Important Wild Animals*

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Tiger		Leopard		Lion		Elephant			Rhino	
		1993	1997	1993	1997	1995	2000	1997	2001		1993	1998/99
								Minimum		Maximum		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1.	Andhra Pradesh	197	171	152	138	-	Nil	57	57	57		Nil
2.	Arunachal Pradesh*	180	180	98	98*	-	Nil	2102	1607	1607		Nil
3.	Assam	325	458	246	246*	-	Nil	5312	5312	5312	1440	1684
4.	Bihar/Jharkhand	137	103	203	203*	-	Nil	618	618	618		Nil
5.	Goa/Daman & Diu	3	6	31	25	-	Nil	-	-	-		Nil
6.	Gujarat	5	1	772	832	304	310-320	-	-	-		Nil
7.	Haryana*	Nil	Nil	25	25*	-	Nil	-	-	-		Nil
8.	Himachal Pradesh*	Nil	Nil	821	821*	-	Nil	-	-	-		Nil
9.	Karnataka*	305	350	455	620	-	Nil	6088	6088	6088		Nil
10.	Kerala	57	73	16	NA	-	Nil	5737	5737	5737		Nil
11.	M.P./Chhattisgarh	912	927	1700	1851	-	Nil	Nil				Nil
12.	Maharashtra	276	257	417	431	-	Nil	Nil	-	-		Nil

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
13.	Manipur	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	-	Nil	Nil	10	15		Nil
14.	Meghalaya	53	63	Nil	Nil	-	Nil	1840	1840	1840		Nil
15.	Mizoram	28	12	49	28	-	Nil	Nil	28	28		Nil
16.	Nagaland*	83	83	-	Nil	-	Nil	147	147	147		Nil
17.	Orissa	226	194	378	422	-	Nil	1827	1827	1827		Nil
18.	Rajasthan	64	58	475	474	-	Nil	Nil	-	-		Nil
19.	Sikkim*	2	2	-	Nil	Nil	Nil	-	-	-		Nil
20.	Tamil Nadu	97	62	138	110	-	Nil	2971	2971	2971		Nil
21.	Tripura*	Nil	Nil	18	18*	-	Nil	Nil	60	85		Nil
22.	UP/Uttaranchal	465	475	711	1412	-	Nil	1984	1000	1984	12	13
23.	West Bengal	335	361	108	108*	-	Nil	327	327	327	44	120
24.	Dadar and Nagar Haveli	Nil	Nil	Nil	15	-	Nil	Nil	-	-		Nil
Total		3750	3836	6828	7273	310-320		29010	27377	28713	1496	1817

*Population census in Arunachal, Nagaland and Sikkim have not been done.

The census fig quoted by these States during 1993 has been incorporated in 1997 also.

** Population census as conducted in 1991.

Statement - IV*Funds Released (Rs. in Lakhs) Under The Scheme "Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries"*

Sl. No.	State	1996-1997	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01
1.	Andhra Pradesh	52.062	43.39	50.72	87.54	186.07
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	36.458	27.953	57.91	50.983	121.12
3.	Assam		54.62	58.05	53.44	317.205
4.	Bihar		6.00	Nil	27.85	21.02
5.	Goa	10.143	Nil	11.07	21.305	10.5
6.	Gujarat	52.728	17.005	13.80	22.105	65.27
7.	Haryana	11.04	14.57	37.20	21.55	28.35
8.	Himachal Pradesh	12.1	61.50	49.80	47.46	165.3
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	13.94	124.70	7.00	5.55	
10.	Karnataka	225.845	78.17	84.12	100.319	307.18
11.	Kerala	34.962	49.29	49.35	59.975	102.62
12.	Madhya Pradesh	41.873	195.67	35.93	152.203	182.195
13.	Maharashtra	13.81	48.845	27.783	123.43	90.96
14.	Manipur	23.01	13.50	19.64	13.28	41.784
15.	Meghalaya	2.57	Nil	Nil	Nil	66.36
16.	Mizoram	4.6	13.48	8.45	12.30	102.31
17.	Nagaland	4.31	15.29	9.00	9.70	31.85
18.	Orissa	8.38	34.22	68.73	94.74	3.5
19.	Punjab	-	14.03	8.65	11.57	26.39
20.	Rajasthan	37.027	82.34	89.52	66.54	116.00
21.	Sikkim	15.29	12.51	11.00	12.00	97.45
22.	Tamil Nadu	20.25	61.284	74.63	61.81	89.83
23.	Tripura	2.29	29.81	Nil	19.97	21.90
24.	Uttar Pradesh	55.995	112.11	89.57	117.81	144.6
25.	West Bengal	39.31	69.69	72.96	55.20	90.22
26.	Andaman & Nicobar	-	20.56	Nil	22.00	50.00
27.	Chandigarh	-	12.00	Nil	28.00	-
Total		717.993	1212.533	934.883	1298.00	2479.984

Funds Released (Rs. in Lakhs) Under the Scheme "Project Elephant"

Sl.No.	State	1996-1997	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11.20	18.90	30.21	11.86	46.30
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	26.50	-	10.08	19.303	89.81
3.	Assam	-	-	29.60	25.15	45.00
4.	Bihar	-	-	40.00	26.00	-
5.	Karnataka	119.82	51.79	40.00	85.00	51.00
6.	Kerala	71.96	76.87	143.40	63.55	66.05
7.	Meghalaya	2.39	12.31	-	20.68	35.732
8.	Nagaland	6.08	-	11.00	40.00	35.17
9.	Orissa	-	48.40	-	25.00	29.75
10.	Tamilnadu	15.00	30.60	69.28	48.21	50.00
11.	Uttar Pradesh	84.30	111.95	95.00	155.806	80.00
12.	West Bengal	62.76	84.72	78.44	76.011	79.04
13.	Jharkhand					5.00
14.	Uttaranchal					20.00
15.	Manipur					1.00
16.	Tripura					2.00
17.	Mizoram					1.00
Total		410.00	435.54	547.01	596.57	636.852

Funds Released (Rs. in Lakhs) Under the Scheme "Project Tiger"

Sl. No.	State	Funds released 1996-97	Funds released 1997-98	Funds released 1998-99	Funds released 1999-2000	Funds released 2000-01
1.	Andhra Pradesh	16.87	10.70	18.01	29.036	45.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	26.00	20.00	47.68	30.590	32.607
3.	Assam	40.435	45.08	35.00	87.290	156.10
4.	Bihar	88.315	36.75	153.99	165.952	87.077
5.	Karnataka	45.30	25.00	69.34	167.079	193.36
6.	Kerala	32.88	34.95	39.19	43.665	50.00
7.	Madhya Pradesh	141.570	133.778	225.125	332.160	433.567

Sl. No.	State	Funds released 1996-97	Funds released 1997-98	Funds released 1998-99	Funds released 1999-2000	Funds released 2000-01
8.	Maharashtra	48.107	60.53	110.74	134.765	167.931
9.	Meghalaya		-	-	-	1.50
10.	Mizoram	8.36	12.45	9.65	21.430	27.58
11.	Orissa	28.37	49.30	67.65	84.450	83.31
12.	Rajasthan	132.895	149.885	472.265	222.595	299.705
13.	Tamil Nadu	28.795	45.60	32.50	58.780	60.315
14.	Uttar Pradesh	107.428	125.012	199.75	234.23	181.655
15.	West Bengal	104.675	58.95	179.985	137.140	98.18
Total		850.00	807.985	16660.875	1749.162	1917.887

Funds Released (Rs. in Lakhs) Under the Scheme "Eco-Development in and around Protected areas including Tiger Reserves"

Sl. No.	State	1996-1997	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01
1.	Andhra Pradesh	29.051	25.399	40.020	44.534	33.548
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	12.493	4.998	15.229	13.820	31.83
3.	Assam	32.00	10.250	42.34	20.00	45.51
4.	Bihar 25.09	-	15.00	38.39	28.99	
5.	Gujarat	11.05	-	-	9.64	26.22
6.	Haryana	5.00	-	-	-	-
7.	Himachal Pradesh	7.95	58.400	-	86.84	66.00
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	5.00	22.490	-	13.700	-
9.	Karnataka	-	34.650	20.350	62.250	209.02
10.	Kerala	24.2		70.550	36.450	153.439

Sl. No.	State	1996-1997	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01
11.	Madhya Pradesh	18.3	51.330	65.890	54.200	126.53
12.	Maharashtra	26.29	7.435	41.880	86.675	27.00
13.	Manipur	14.805	4.750	10.400	10.110	21.445
14.	Mizoram	3.15	10.500	2.00	45.500	118.05
15.	Nagaland	10.00	-	10.00	8.00	23.25
16.	Orissa	21.95	45.775	22.600	12.00	56.16
17.	Punjab	2.48	9.140	10.200	-	-
18.	Rajasthan		36.930	53.440	16.740	-
19.	Sikkim	50.383	-	5.854	26.00	29.60
20.	Tamil Nadu	3.40	4.120	18.100	31.960	6.30
21.	Tripura	7.50	-	44.40	-	20.00
22.	Uttar Pradesh	22.34	41.453	101.860	51.510	113.74
23.	West Bengal	48.485	66.525	44.390	48.873	153.00
24.	Meghalaya	-	-	-	21.52	-
Total		381.056	484.145	634.499	729.208	1311.152

Funds Released (Rs. in Lakhs) Under the Scheme "Beneficiary Oriented Tribal Development Scheme"

Sl. No.	State	1996-1997	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01
1.	Karnataka	22.08	25.00		68.500	64.65
2.	Madhya Pradesh	77.92	45.00	350.00	201.080	200.00
3.	Orissa		40.00			
4.	Maharashtra					46.00
Total		100.00	110.00	350.00	269.580	310.65

[English]

Public and Private Coal Mines

487. SHRI RUP CHAND PAL : Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of public and private coal mines functioning in the country, State-wise; and

(b) the production of coal from both the mines, separately, during each of the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) The number of public and private sector coal mines functioning in the country, as on 31.12.2001, State-wise, is as follows:

Public Sector Coal Mines

States	Number of coal mines
Andhra Pradesh	70
Assam	6
Chhattisgarh	56
Jharkhand	169
Jammu & Kashmir	3
Madhya Pradesh	77
Maharashtra	50
Orissa	22
Uttar Pradesh	3
West Bengal	98
Meghalaya	1
Total	555

Private Sector Coal Mines

States	Number of coal mines
Madhya Pradesh	Nil
Chhattisgarh	1
Jharkhand	7
West Bengal	1
Meghalaya	•
Total	9

*Number of mines not available.

(b) The production of coal from both the mines, separately, during each of the last three years, State-wise, is as follows :

Public Sector Coal Mines

(In million tonnes)			
States	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001
Andhra Pradesh	27.326	29.556	30.274
Assam & Meghalaya	0.637	0.572	0.660
Chhattisgarh	Nil	Nil	22.128
Bihar	70.941	71.297	38.618
Jharkhand	Nil	Nil	31.456
Jammu & Kashmir	0.010	0.028	0.033
Madhya Pradesh	84.900	87.120	67.309
Maharashtra	25.279	27.698	28.754
Orissa	43.512	43.554	44.803
Uttar Pradesh	15.646	16.220	18.740
West Bengal	16.970	15.816	17.687
Total	285.221	291.861	300.462

Private Sector Coal Mines

(In million tonnes)			
States	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001
Madhya Pradesh	0.037	0.781	0.755
Chhattisgarh	Nil	Nil	0.661
Bihar	5.220	5.236	3.097
Jharkhand	Nil	Nil	2.245
West Bengal	1.792	2.165	2.411
Meghalaya	4.238	4.060	4.065
Total	11.287	12.242	13.234

Dairy Development Programmes

488. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR :
SHRI ANANTA NAYAK :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Operation Flood Programme are being launched in the country;

(b) if so, the achievements made thereunder during the Ninth Plan, State-wise;

(c) whether there is a vast scope to create employment through dairy development;

(d) if so, the achievement made under the Programme in the country particularly in Madhya Pradesh during Ninth Five Year Plan;

(e) the steps taken by the Government for the promotion of dairy development programmes in the country;

(f) whether dairy development programmes are proposed to be expanded during the Tenth Five Year Plan; and

(g) if so, the programmes drawn up, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) Implementation of the Operation Flood Programme commenced from July, 1970 and ended in April, 1996. The programme was not covered under Ninth Five Year Plan.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) As the programme ended prior to the commencement of the Ninth Five Year Plan, therefore the achievement made during Ninth Five Year Plan does not arise.

(e) Government of India is implementing following schemes for promotion of Dairy Development in the country:

(i) Integrated Dairy Development Project in Non-Operation Flood, Hilly & Backward Areas.

(ii) Assistance to Cooperatives.

(f) and (g) The Schemes mentioned at (i) & (ii) in response to part (e) of the question are proposed to be continued during the Tenth Five Year Plan. Projects under these schemes are drawn by the State Governments and allocation is made as and when the project is approved.

Implementation of Schemes/Programmes under SCP/TSP

489. SHRI RAJAIAH MALYALA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have been implementing various Schemes and Programmes under Special Component Plan (SCP) and Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) for achieving overall development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes majority of whom live below poverty line as landless agricultural labourers;

(b) if so, the details of new schemes and programmes being formulated by his Ministry under SCP and TSP for the Tenth Five Year Plan for training the educated SC/ST youths; and

(c) the funds to be spent on such programmes during the Tenth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (c) Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is primarily responsible for increasing production and productivity of agricultural output through implementation of various agriculture development schemes. The schemes are production oriented and area specific in nature which therefore benefit farmers of all categories including farmers of SC/ST communities. In view of the above, there is little scope for formulating schemes/programmes particularly focused on specific communities. However, wherever possible, the State Governments/Implementing Agencies are advised in the Administrative Approvals of Schemes/Programmes to provide allocation/funds for Special Component Plan (SCP) for Scheduled Castes and Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) for Scheduled Tribes as per the Government guidelines on the subject.

[Translation]

Murder of Forest Officials

490. PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT :
SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA :

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

(a) whether several forest officials particularly of lower grade have been murdered in the forests during the last three years ;

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

(c) whether the Government have taken any effective steps in this regard ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BALLU) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Loss due to Rain and Flood in Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh

491. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN:
SHRI G. GANGA REDDY:
DR. (SHRIMATI) C. SUGUNA KUMARI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the huge loss of crops in various districts of Tamil Nadu and Andhra

Pradesh due to rains, floods and hailstorm in the month of January and February, 2002 ;

(b) if so, whether the Government have sent a team to the States to make assessment;

(c) if so, the findings thereof; and

(d) the follow-up action taken thereon and assistance provided to each State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) The Government of Tamil Nadu have reported that unseasonal rains in the first week of February, 2002 in the coastal districts caused extensive damage to standing paddy crops, pulses and other dry crops, due to submersion. No report has been received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh.

(b) No memorandum has been received from either of the State Governments.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) During 2001-02, central share of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) amounting to Rs. 196.91 crore to Andhra Pradesh and Rs. 80.83 crore to Tamil Nadu have been released for undertaking necessary relief measures in the wake of natural calamities. Distribution of relief at the ground level is the responsibility of the respective State Governments.

[Translation]

Cleaning of Ganga in Bihar

492. DR. M.P. JAISWAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ganga river flowing through Bihar has become highly polluted;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to clean the Ganga river in Bihar?

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

(b) According to water quality monitoring reports, Ganga in the stretch of Bihar is not polluted. The extent of pollution in the stretch of Bihar with respect to pollution parameters

namely, Dissolved Oxygen (DO) and Bio-chemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) in the years 1986 and 2001 during critical periods of summer was measured as follows :

Sl.No.	Location	DO	BOD	DO	BOD
		(mg/l)	(mg/l)	(mg/l)	(mg/l)
		1986	2001		
1.	Buxar	7.7	1.8	7.4	2.2
2.	Patna	8.1	2.2	7.7	2.4
3.	Rajmahal	7.8	1.8	7.7	1.5

The desired standards fixed by the Central Pollution Control Board for the river for these two parameters are BOD as 3 mg/l (maximum) and DO as 5 mg/l (minimum) respectively.

(c) In order to divert the municipal sewage from large town from discharging into the river, the Ganga Action Plan has been taken up in Bihar in two phases. Under the phase-I started in 1985, a total 118 million litres per day of sewage out of about 135 million litres per day targeted has been tackled. Under GAP phase-II, about 39 million litres per day of sewage is proposed to be tackled. The Ganga river can be expected to be pollution free only after the GAP phase-II is completed in 2005.

Small, Marginal and Big Farmers

493. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have ascertained the number of small, marginal and big farmers in the country;

(b) if so, the present number of such farmers in the country, State-wise; and

(c) the percentage of the total agricultural land with the small, marginal and big farmers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir. The number of operational holdings and the area operated by them are estimated through quinquennial Agricultural Censuses conducted by the Government.

(b) and (c) Latest all India information available from Agricultural Census relates to 1990-91. Statements on the State-wise number of operational holdings and percentage area operated by them by major size-groups are given in Statements I and II respectively.

Statement - I*Number of operational holdings in major size-groups estimated through Agricultural Census, 1990-91*

(In Thousand)							Total
Sl. No.	State	Marginal (Below 1.0 ha)	Small (1.0- 2.0 ha)	Semi-Medium (2.0- 4.0 ha)	Medium (4.0- 10.0 ha)	Large 10.0 ha & above	
1	Andhra Pradesh	5211	1972	1345	644	118	9290
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	16	17	30	26	5	94
3.	Assam	1521	560	343	95	5	2523
4.	Bihar	10193	1438	945	351	39	12966
5.	Goa	58	7	4	2	1	72
6.	Gujarat	924	915	890	669	118	3517
7.	Haryana	622	304	336	222	46	1530
8.	Himachal Pradesh	532	166	94	36	6	834
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	902	197	98	20	1	1217
10.	Karnataka	2262	1586	1163	636	129	5776
11.	Kerala	5016	280	98	21	3	5418
12.	Madhya Pradesh	3136	1917	1738	1287	323	8401
13.	Maharashtra	3275	2728	2126	1171	171	9470
14.	Manipur	69	49	21	3	Negligible	142
15.	Meghalaya	59	51	46	13	1	171
16.	Mizoram	29	23	9	1	Negligible	61
17.	Nagaland	13	21	26	47	33	142
18.	Orissa	2118	1035	594	186	15	3948
19.	Punjab	296	204	286	261	67	1117
20.	Rajasthan	1517	1019	1061	1017	493	5107
21.	Sikkim	26	11	9	5	1	53
22.	Tamil Nadu	5848	1275	618	228	31	7999
23.	Tripura	217	69	28	4	Negligible	318
24.	Uttar Pradesh	14819	3118	1543	548	45	20074
25.	West Bengal	4639	1107	457	79	1	6284
26.	All Union Territories	70	19	13	7	0	109
All India		63389	20092	13923	7580	1654	106637

Statement-II*Area operated by major size-group of operational holdings estimated through Agricultural Census, 1990-91*

(In Percentage)

Sl. No.	State	Marginal (Below 1.0 ha)	Small (1.0- 2.0ha)	Semi-Medium (2.0- 4.0 ha)	Medium (4.0- 10.0 ha)	Large 10.0 ha & above	Total
1.	Andhra Pradesh	16.4	19.6	25.2	26.1	12.8	100.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2.9	7.4	24.0	42.0	23.4	100.00
3.	Assam	18.9	24.5	28.6	15.4	12.6	100.00
4.	Bihar	33.4	18.2	24.0	18.4	6.0	100.00
5.	Goa	28.4	16.4	13.4	13.4	28.4	100.00
6.	Gujarat	4.8	13.0	24.4	38.9	18.9	100.00
7.	Haryana	7.9	12.5	25.4	35.0	19.1	100.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	21.3	23.3	25.5	20.3	9.6	100.00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	34.2	26.8	26.0	10.7	2.3	100.00
10.	Karnataka	8.7	18.7	26.0	30.6	16.0	100.00
11.	Kerala	48.2	21.3	14.2	6.3	9.9	100.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	6.4	12.6	21.9	35.1	24.0	100.00
13.	Maharashtra	7.7	19.0	28.1	32.8	12.4	100.00
14.	Manipur	21.7	38.3	30.9	8.6	0.6	100.00
15.	Meghalaya	10.6	22.5	38.7	23.5	4.3	100.00
16.	Mizoram	21.4	42.9	29.8	4.8	Negligible	100.00
17.	Nagaland	1.0	3.3	8.4	32.8	61.2	100.00
18.	Orissa	19.7	26.9	29.5	19.1	4.8	100.00
19.	Punjab	4.1	8.1	20.9	40.2	26.7	100.00
20.	Rajasthan	3.5	7.0	14.4	30.2	44.9	100.00
21.	Sikkim	9.9	17.1	24.3	27.9	19.8	100.00
22.	Tamil Nadu	28.3	24.0	22.6	17.4	7.7	100.00
23.	Tripura	28.2	34.4	25.0	5.8	6.5	100.00
24.	Uttar Pradesh	31.4	24.4	23.4	16.9	3.9	100.00
25.	West Bengal	36.5	30.0	22.4	7.5	3.6	100.00
26.	All Union Territories	17.9	17.9	24.3	27.1	12.9	100.00
	All India	15.0	17.4	23.2	27.0	17.3	100.00

Wages for Employees in Integrated Child Development Scheme

494. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the wages being provided to the various categories of workers and employees working in the projects under Integrated Child Development Scheme;

(b) whether the said wages are in conformity with minimum wages laid down by the Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor alongwith the action proposed to be taken in this regard; and

(e) the details of man-hours fixed for various categories of workers and employees working in the said projects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) According to Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Women and Child Development), the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme implemented through State Governments/UT Administrations. There is no provision in the Scheme to engage labourers. The staff working under ICDS Projects are employees of State Governments/UT Administrations, except the Anganwadi workers and Helpers who are voluntary workers. The regular staff get remuneration as per the Rules of respective States/UTs. Anganwadi Workers and Helpers are paid honorarium as indicated at Statement - I.

(b) to (d) Under the provisions of Minimum Wages Act, 1948, both Central and the State Governments are the appropriate Government to fix, revise and enforce minimum wages of the workers in the scheduled employments under their respective jurisdictions. The ICDS Scheme is not a scheduled employment under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 either in the Central or the State sphere.

(e) Anganwadi Workers and Helpers work for 4-5 hours a day. However, working hours in different States/UTs are

indicated in Statement-II. Regular employees are subject to working hours prevailing in respective States/UTs.

Statement -I

Facilities and Honorarium of AWW's and Helpers

Honorarium of Anganwadi Workers & Helpers

At the beginning of the ICDS Scheme, Anganwadi workers were paid honorarium @ of Rs. 100/- per month (Non Matriculate) and @ Rs. 150/- per month (Matriculate). The honorarium of Helpers were fixed to the tune of Rs. 35 per month. Over the years honorarium of Anganwadi workers and Helpers have been increased which may be seen in detail in following table :

Qualification	1975-76	1.4.78	1.7.86	2.10.92	16.5.97
Year					
Non - Matriculate	100/-	125/-	225/-	350/-	438/-
Matriculate	150/-	175/-	275/-	400/-	500/-
Non- Matriculate with 5 years Exp.	-	-	250/-	375/-	469/-
Matriculate with 5 years Exp	-	-	300/-	425/-	531/-
Non - Matriculate with 10 years Exp.	-	-	275/-	400/-	500/-
Matriculate with 10 years Exp.	-	-	325/-	450/-	563/-

Statement II*Information in connection with working Hours and Additional Honorarium to AWW's/AWI's*

Sl. No.	State/UT	Working Hours	Addl. Hono. to AWW	Addl. Hon. to AWW
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	9 a.m. - 1 p.m.	Nil	Nil
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	8 a.m. - 12 noon	Nil	Nil
3.	Assam	8 a.m. - 12 noon	Nil	Nil
4.	Bihar	8 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.	Nil	Nil
5.	Goa	8 a.m. - 1 p.m. + field	1000	400
6.	Gujarat	11 a.m. - 2 p.m. + field	Nil (under consideration)	Nil
7.	Haryana	8 a.m. - 2 p.m.	200	100
8.	Himachal Pradesh	10 a.m. - 2 p.m.	200	100
9.	J & K	10 a.m. - 2 p.m. + field	245-280	100
10.	Karnataka	9.30 a.m. - 1.30 p.m. + field	250	75
11.	Kerala	9.30 a.m. - 3.30 p.m. + field	200	200
12.	Madhya Pradesh	9 a.m. - 1 p.m.	Nil	Nil
13.	Maharashtra	10 a.m. - 1 p.m. + field	400	125
14.	Manipur	7 a.m. - 12 noon	Nil	Nil
15.	Meghalaya	7 a.m. - 11 a.m. + field	Nil	Nil
16.	Mizoram	9 a.m. - 1 p.m.	Nil	Nil
17.	Nagaland	7 a.m. - 11 a.m.	Nil	Nil
18.	Orissa	7 a.m. - 12 noon + field	Nil	Nil
19.	Punjab	9 a.m. - 1 p.m. + field	100	40
20.	Rajasthan	8 a.m. - 12 noon	Nil	Nil
21.	Sikkim	9 a.m. - 1 p.m. + field	Nil (under consideration)	Nil
22.	Tamil Nadu	8 a.m. - 3 p.m.	560	260
23.	Tripura	6.30 a.m. - 9.30 a.m.	300	250
24.	Uttar Pradesh	9 a.m. - 1 p.m. field	Nil	Nil
25.	West Bengal	8 a.m. - 3 p.m.	200	200
26.	A&N Islands	8 a.m. - 12 noon	Nil	Nil
27.	Chandigarh	9.30 a.m. - 1.30 p.m.	200	140

1	2	3	4	5
28.	Delhi	9 a.m.-1 p.m.	Nil (under consideration)	Nil
29.	D & N Haveli	N.A.	Nil	Nil
30.	D & Diu	N.A.	Nil	Nil
31.	Lakshadweep	9 a.m. - 3 p.m.	500	200
32.	Pondicherry	9 a.m. - 3 p.m.	690	470

Honorarium of Helper

Helper	35/-	50/-	110/-	200/-	260/-
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Additional Facilities

Under the scheme, the following additional facilities are provided to Anganwadi Workers :

1. TA/DA is paid from the ICDS budget to the Anganwadi Workers for attending monthly meetings or short terms reorientation/training courses, on the following lines :
 - (a) Actual bus/train (2nd Class) fare for to and fro journeys;
 - (b) Daily Allowance at the rate applicable to LDC in accordance with the State Government rules.
2. Anganwadi Workers & Helpers are allowed paid casual absence upto 20 days in a year.
3. Two times maternity leave can be availed by Anganwadi Workers & Helpers, and one time paid absence for 42 days can be granted for miss carriage/abortions.
4. State Govts. have been directed to reserve minimum 25% of the posts of Supervisors under the scheme to be filled by anganwadi workers.
5. The rates of boarding during training has been also enhanced @ Rs. 30 per day w.e.f. 19.5.2000.
6. Incentive equivalent to one month honorarium is paid to AWWs on satisfactory completion of training.

Problems of Cotton Growers

495. DR. SANJAY PASWAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state. :

(a) the efforts being made by the Government to resolve the problems of cotton growers of the country;

(b) whether the production of cotton is declining sharply in the country;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the details of the cotton produced in the country during the last three years;

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to develop the hybrid seeds after having banned the use of BT Cotton like; and

(e) the present position of India in the World in the field of cotton production ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The Government of India is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme viz. Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC) in the country through which concerted efforts are made to resolve the problems of the cotton growers of the country. Besides, in case of fall in price cotton is purchased by Cotton Corporation of India at minimum support price.

(b) and (c) The cotton production during the last 3 years was to the tune of 122.87 lakh bales in 1998-99, 115.30 lakh bales in 1999-2000 and 96.52 lakh bales in 2000-2001. The reason attributed to this decline in production

were incidence of pest and diseases and adverse agro climatic conditions during these years.

(d) The development of cotton hybrids is being undertaken by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and through the All India Coordinated Cotton Improvement Project having centres at different State Agricultural Universities in the country. At these centres efforts are being made to develop conventional hybrids as well as hybrids based on Genetic male Sterility (GMS) and Cytoplasmic Male Sterility (CMS) systems.

(e) India stands third in the world in the field of cotton production after China and USA.

[English]

Economic condition of Farmers in Rajasthan

496 COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the deteriorating economic condition of farmers of Rajasthan due to prolonged spell of drought especially in Barmer and Jaisalmer districts;

(b) if so, remedial steps taken/ proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether the Government propose to conduct a survey;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) Barmer and Jaisalmer were among the 31 districts reported as drought affected by the Government of Rajasthan during 2000-01. Assistance amounting to Rs. 163.97 crore from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) was released to the State in the wake of drought, which is in addition to release of Central share of Calamity Relief Fund. No report has so far been received from the State Government regarding deterioration in the economic condition of farmers.

(c) to (e) It is primarily the responsibility of the State Government to take necessary measures in the wake of

natural calamities including drought. In response to the Memorandum received from the State Government regarding drought situation during 2001-02.

[Translation]

Growth rate of Foodgrain Production

497. SHRIMATI RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the annual growth rate of production of foodgrains is less than that of the annual growth rate of population;

(b) the details of annual growth rate of production of foodgrains during the last five years; and

(c) the efforts made by the Government to boost the production of foodgrains ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) The annual growth rate of production of foodgrains is 1.64% as against the average annual exponential growth rate of population of 1.93% (Provisional) for the decade ending 2001.

(b) The annual growth rate of production of foodgrains during the last five years is as under :

Year	Annual growth rate of foodgrain production
1996-97	10.5%
1997-98	(-)3.6%
1998-99	5.9%
1999-2000	3.0%
2000-2001	(-)6.6%

(c) In order to improve the performance of the agriculture sector, the Government have launched various new initiatives such as promotion of watershed development programmes, emphasis on developing and promoting new technologies, measures for increasing availability of agricultural credit, credit linked subsidy scheme for augmenting storage/cold storage capacity,

Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in North-Eastern States, market Information Network and National Agriculture Insurance Scheme etc. Besides the Government also encourages farmers to increase production through price policy, which include implementation of Minimum Support Price (MSP) and Market Intervention Scheme (MIS), procurement by public agencies and by using instruments of trade. Apart from these, the Government have also swithced over from the conventional schematic approach to macro-management mode from November, 2000 for providing assistance to the States. The Macro-Management Scheme integrates 27 schemes into one for supplementing and complimenting the efforts of State Governments through work plans. This gives flexibility to States to address specific problems faced by them depending on local requirements, avoid overlapping in the contents of different schemes and aim at all-around development of agriculture.

Genetic Material

498. SHRI TARACHAND BHAGORA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the exchange of genetic material such as seeds, plants and germ plasm etc. were used to take place freely between India and other countries earlier;

(b) if so, whether all the countries are now claiming their right on biodiversity;

(c) if so, whether the Government are formulating certain rules with regard to the exchange of genetic material with various countries; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The UN Convention of Biological Diversity reaffirming the sovereign rights of nations over their biological resources, *inter alia* provides for facilitating access to these resources to other parties on mutually agreed upon terms and with prior informed consent, subject to national legislation.

(c) and (d) The Government has formulated a biological diversity legislation with broad objectives of conservation and sustainable utilization of biodiversity and equitable

sharing of benefits arising out of the use of biological resources and associated knowledge.

[English]

Drought Prone Area

499. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHRI : Will the Minsiter of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Gujarat is a drought prone State; and

(b) if so, the concrete measures taken by the Government to meet crisis seriously during drought ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. 67 blocks in 14 districts in Gujarat are covered by the Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) implemented by the Department of Land Resources. The State Government had reported drought situation in some parts of the State during 2000-01. In addition to release of Central share of Calamiti Relief Fund (CRF), assistance amounting to Rs. 112.00 crore was released to the State. The other steps taken by the Government of India to assist the State Government include allocation of foodgrains free of cost under Food for Work Programme, free transportation of drinking water and fodder by the Railways, handing over of exploratory wells for drinking water purposes and relaxation in norms under the schemes implemented by the Department of Drinking Water Supply. The State Government has not reported any drought situation during 2001-02.

National Committee on Disaster Management

500. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Committee on Disaster Management has submitted its report to the Government;

(b) is so, the details of the recommendations made by the Committee;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the measures taken to implement the recommendations of the Committee ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (d) The National Committee on Disaster Management under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister is continuing its exercises and is yet to submit its report.

Mining of Sand and Stone in U.P

501. SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have identified several districts of Uttar Pradesh for mining of sand and stone;

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

(c) the amount of subsidy given by the Government for the purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) to (c) Sand and Stone are minor minerals defined under Section 3(e) of the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957. For minor minerals the State Governments are fully empowered to regulate and grant mineral concessions according to the Minor Minerals Concession Rules (MMCR) framed by the State Government concerned under section 15 of the Act and therefore such information is not centrally maintained.

MOUs signed by ITDC

502. SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC) has signed a number of MoUs with various Organisations and State Governments;

(b) if so, whether various divisions of ITDC have been converted into independent business units;

(c) if so, the details of these profit making units; and

(d) the time frame by which these are likely to benefit the Government ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. ITDC has signed number of MOUs with various Organisations and State Governments for expanding its business activities and promoting tourism.

The Corporation has also converted the following four existing divisions into independent profit centres which will maintain its separate accounts w.e.f. 01-04-2002 and their profitability shall depend upon market forces :

1. Ashok Reservation and Marketing Services.
2. Ashok Creatives.
3. Ashok Consultancy and Engineering Services.
4. Ashok Manpower Development Centre.

[Translation]

Protection of Mango Crop from Harmful Insects

503. SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have chalked out any programme to protect the mango crop from harmful insects;

(b) whether there is any likelihood of spread of pest namely "Gujia; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the remedial measures to be undertaken ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) No separate programme has been chalked out to protect the mango crop from harmful insects. However, the plant protection measure comprising of cultural, mechanical, biological and need based use of pesticides are being promoted under the ambit of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) programme.

(b) and (c) There is no report regarding spread of "Gujia" pest.

[English]

Assistance of FPI

504. SHRIMATI KUMUDINI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state the details of incentives and assistance in the form of tax concessions and running capital availability for different food processing industries in the country particularly in the State of Orissa ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA): The Ministry of Food Processing Industries extends financial assistance in the form of grant under its Plan schemes for the development of processed food sector. These schemes are project oriented and applicable to all States including Orissa. Higher quantum of assistance is provided for projects in difficult areas. Other incentives to processed food sector include *inter-alia* according high priority to this sector, automatic approval for upto 100% foreign investment in most of the sector, & Central excise exemption for processed fruits & vegetables. Besides Government of Orissa also extends incentives to food processing industries through States Agriculture Policy, 1996 & Industrial Policy, 2001.

[Translation]

Deletion of Water From Concurrent List

505. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal is pending with the Government to delete water from the concurrent list and include the same in the Union List of the Constitution;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is likely to affect the rights of States and citizens on natural resources; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) No, Sir. Water, that is to say, water supplies, irrigation and canals, drainage and embankments, water storage and water power, subject to the provisions of Entry 56 of List-I (Union List), is with the State Governments as per Entry 17 List-II (State List) under the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution. However, as per Entry 56 of List-I, regulation and development of inter-State rivers and river valleys, to the extent to which such regulation and development under the control of the Union is declared by Parliament by law to be expedient in the public interest, is with the Union Government. There is no proposal with the Government to change any of these provisions in the Constitution.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Fair/Remunerative Prices for Crops

506. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA :
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide fair and remunerative prices for the crops to the farmers ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the final decision likely to be taken in this regard ; and

(d) the number of farmers provided with credit cards till date and the number of farmers likely to be provided with the credit cards during current year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (c) One of the main objectives of the Government's price policy for agricultural produce is aimed at ensuring remunerative prices to the growers for their produce with a view to encourage higher investment and production. Towards this end, the Government announces each season the minimum support prices (MSPs) for major agricultural commodities and organizes purchase operations through public and cooperative agencies such as Food Corporation of India (FCI); Cotton Corporation of India (CCI); Jute Corporation of India (JCI); National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Limited (NAFED) and Tobacco Board, besides other agencies designated by the State Governments. A Statement showing the MSPs of major agricultural commodities fixed in recent years is enclosed.

(d) the total number of Kisan Credit Cards (KCCs) issued since the inception of the scheme in August, 1993 till 31.12.2001 is 2.07 crores as reported by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD). The figure of 2.07 crores includes the issuance of 55 lakh of KCCs issued by Commercial Banks whose data is available only till 30.09.2001. A target of issuing one crore KCCs to farmers has been set for the current financial year i.e. 2001-02.

Statement**Minimum Support Prices (According to Crop Year)**

(Rs. per quintal)

S. No.	Commodity	Variety	1997 -98	1998- 99	1999- 2000	2000- 01	2001- 02	(#) Increase in 2001-02 over 2000-01
1.	Paddy	Common	415	440	490	510	530	20(3.9)
		Grade'A'	445	470	520	540	560	20 (3.7)
2.	Coarse Cereals (Jowar, Bajara, Ragi & Maize)		360	390	415	445	485	40 (9.0)
3.	Wheat		510x	550	580	610	-	-
4.	Barley		350	385	430	500	-	-
5.	Gram		815	895	1015	1100	-	-
6.	Arhar		900	960	1105	1200	1320	120(10.0)
7.	Moong		900	960	1105	1200	1320	120(10.0)
8.	Urad		900	960	1105	1200	1320	120(10.0)
9.	Masur (lentil)		-	-	-	1200	-	-
10.	Sugarcane @		48.45	52.70	56.10	59.50	62.05	2.55 (4.3)
11.	Cotton	F-414/H-777/J34	1330	1440	1575	1625	1675	50 (3.1)
		H-4	1530	1650	1775	1825	1875	50 (2.7)
12.	Groundnut-in-shell		980	1040	1155	1220	1340	120 (9.8)
13.	Jute		570	650	750	785	810	25 (3.2)
14.	Rapeseed/Mustard		940	1000	1100	1200	-	-
15.	Sunflower Seed		1000	1060	1155	1170	1185	15 (1.3)
16.	Soyabean	Black	670	705	755	775	795	20 (2.6)
		Yellow	750	795	845	865	885	20 (2.3)
17.	Safflower		910	990	1100	1200	-	-
18.	Toria		905	965	1065	1165	-	-
19.	Tobacco (VFC)	Black Soil (F2 Gr)	20.50	22.50	25.00	26.00	27.00	1 (3.8)
	(Rs. per kg.)	Light Soil (L2 Gr)	23.50	25.50	27.00	28.00	29.00	1 (3.6)
20.	Copra	Milling	2700	2900	3100	3250	3300	50 (1.5)
	(Calendar Year)	Ball	2925	3125	3325	3500	3550	50 (1.4)
21.	Sesamum		950	1060	1205	1300	1400	100 (7.7)
22.	Nigerseed		800	850	915	1025	1100	.75 (7.3)

@ Statutory Minimum Price Linked to a basic recovery of 8.5 percent with proportionate premium for every 0.1 per cent increase in recovery above that level.

x Including a Central Bonus of Rs. 55.00 per quintal payable from 01.04.98 to 30.06.98.

The MSP for masur (lentil) has been fixed from the crop year 2000-01.

Figures in brackets indicate percentage increase.

*[English]***Fisheries Training and Extension Units**

507. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of fisheries Training and Extension Units sanctioned since 1998 all over the country and the amount released to various States, State-wise and year-wise;

(b) whether the Government of Karnataka has requested for sanction of such Units in the State ; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereon ?

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

(a) State-wise and year-wise total number of Fisheries Training and Extension Units sanctioned since 1998 under the Central Sector Scheme on "Fisheries Training and Extension" and the amount released under the scheme is given in the Statement.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Three Fish Farmers Training Centres have been sanctioned for establishment in the State of Karnataka.

Statement

State-wise and Year-wise details of Fisheries Training & Extension Units sanctioned since 1998

Sl. No.	States	1998-99		1999-2000		2000-01	
		No. of Training Centre	Amount Released (Rs. in lakh)	No. of Training Centre	Amount Released (Rs. in lakh)	No. of Training Centre	Amount Released (Rs. in lakh)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	-	-	1	3.60	-	-
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	2.50	-	-	-	-
3.	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	1	8.00	-	-
4.	Jammu & Kashmir	-	-	1	8.00	-	-
5.	Karnataka	-	-	-	-	3	11.50
6.	Madhya Pradesh	-	-	-	-	1	8.00
7.	Meghalaya	1	2.50	-	-	-	-
8.	Nagaland	-	-	1	8.00	1	8.00
9.	Tripura	-	-	1	8.00	-	-
10.	Uttar Pradesh	-	-	-	-	1	7.72
11.	West Bengal	-	-	3	8.00	-	-
Total		2	5.00	8	43.60	6	35.22

[Translation]

Mica and Bauxite Mines

508. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the Mica and Bauxite mines given on lease to the private parties in Jharkhand indicating the area in hectare during each of last three years and current years, location-wise; and

(b) the tenure for which the lease is given ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) and (b) Mineral Concessions are granted as per the provisions of Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and Rules made thereunder by the State Government concerned. As per information furnished by Indian Bureau of Mines, a subordinate office of the Department of Mines, no new mining lease was granted for minerals mica or bauxite in the State of Jharkhand in favour of any private party during the last three years and the current year i.e. 1998-99, 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 (upto December, 2001).

[English]

Funds by UNESCO for Tourism Development

509. SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the funds allocated by UNESCO for the development of tourism in India, during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the funds utilised by various State Govts. during the said period; and

(c) the funds utilised out of the total funds received by the Government of Gujarat for the development of Junagadh in the State?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) and (b) UNESCO is a technical support agency in the UN System and not funding unit.

(c) No funds have been provided by UNESCO for the development of Junagadh in Gujarat. An international expert

was fielded to Gujarat, funded by UNESCO, to assess damages caused to the cultural property in the aftermath of the earthquake.

[Translation]

Air Services in Madhya Pradesh

510. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of airlines operating in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether any proposal for operating an Indian Airlines flight between Aurangabad-Bhopal-Khajuraho is pending with the Central Government ;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to become operational ;

(d) whether there is any proposal to extend the services operating from Bhopal upto Jabalpur ;

(e) if so, the details thereof ; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) At present, Indian Airlines, Alliance Air and Jet Airways are operating air services in Madhya Pradesh as per the following details :

Indian Airlines :

Delhi-Gwalior-Delhi	- 3 flights/week
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Alliance Air :

Delhi-Raipur-Jabalpur-Delhi	- 3 flights/week
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Delhi-Bhopal-Indore-Mumbai & return	-Daily
Delhi-Agra-Khajuraho-Varanasi & return	- 4 flights/week

Jet Airways :

Mumbai-Indore-Mumbai	- Twice daily
Delhi-Indore-Delhi	6 flights/week
Mumbai-Bhopal-Mumbai	- Daily
Delhi-Varanasi-Khajuraho & return	- Daily

(b) and (c) Due to commitment of aircraft capacity Indian Airlines has no plan to operate services on these routes.

(d) to (f) Due to commitment of aircraft presently Indian Airlines has no proposal to extend the services operating from Bhopal upto Jabalpur. Jet Airways and Sahara Airlines has also no plan to operate on this sector. However, Airlines are free to operate on any route in their commercial judgement subject to compliance with the Route Dispersal Guidelines.

[English]

Tourism Projects of Kerala

511. SHRI V.S. SIVAKUMAR : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any tourism projects has been submitted by the Government of Kerala to the Union Government under the Prime Minister's Kumarakom Package; and

(b) if so, the time by which the projects are likely to be accorded approval ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. A proposal from Government of Kerala for preparing a Master Plan for Development of Kumarakom and Vennanad Kayal was received by the Planning Commission at a cost of Rs. 1.00 crore in August, 2000 as a package comprising eight projects. A sum of Rs. 1.00 crore has been sanctioned as Additional Central Assistance to the State Government under Planning Commission's Project Preparation Facility subject to the requirement of the State Government seeking appropriate advice from the Ministry of Tourism regarding scope of study, time frame and consultancy charges. An amount of Rs. 50.00 lakhs has been released by the Planning Commission in March, 2001.

A project for preparation of Masterplans for Special Tourism Zones of Kovalam, Munnar and Kumarakom has been prioritised for Rs. 40.00 lakhs during 2001-2002. In addition the Department of Tourism have sanctioned the following specific proposals for the development of Kumarakom :

(i) Wayside amenities for Rs. 20.82 lakhs.

(ii) Tourist Ayurvedic Health Centre for Rs. 6.50 lakhs.

(b) Does not arise.

Cases of Disputes between Labour and Management

512. SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of pending cases of dispute between labour and management in various mines and plants in Orissa; and

(b) the steps taken to dispose off pending cases at the earliest ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) and (b) The number of pending cases in the Central Sphere which include organisations/establishments mentioned in Section 2a(i) of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 and for which the Central Government is the appropriate government for adjudication under Section 7 of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947- in so far as the CGIT-cum-Labour Court, Bhubaneswar is concerned are given below :

(a) Total number of pending cases in this CGIT-cum-Labour Court=409 (upto 27-2-2002)

(b) All possible steps are being taken for disposal of the cases expeditiously avoiding unwarranted adjournments.

Geological Survey of India

513. DR. B.B. RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to review the working of Geological Survey of India (GSI);

(b) if so, whether the Government have constituted a Committee in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which the said Committee is likely to submit its report ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. In view of the post-liberalization scenario in the mineral sector, which has thrown the sector open for

domestic as well as foreign direct investment both in exploration as well as exploitation of minerals, it is evident that there is need to take stock of the working of GSI. Consequently the Government is in the process of setting up a High Powered Committee to review the working of GSI.

[Translation]

Child Labour

514. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV :
SHRI M.K. SUBBA :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have identified the number of child labourers in various States in the country, particularly in the Jharkhand ;

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

(c) whether the North-Eastern States have submitted any action plan to eradicate child labour ;

(d) if so, the details thereof ; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) and (b) Authentic information on child labour is generated during the decennial census. As per the 1991 census, the total number of working children in the country is 11.28, million. State-wise number of working children in the country is given below in the Statement. Jharkhand is a newly formed State and the figures on child labour as per the 2001 census are yet to be published.

(c) No action plan has been received from the North-Eastern States for the eradication of child labour.

(d) and (e) In view of (c) above, does not arise.

Statement

*State-wise Distribution of Working Children
according to 1991 Census*

S. No.	State	1991
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1,661,940
2.	Assam	327,598

1	2	3
3.	Bihar	942,245
4.	Gujarat	523,585
5.	Haryana	109,691
6.	Himachal Pradesh	56,438
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	**
8.	Karnataka	976,247
9.	Kerala	34,800
10.	Madhya Pradesh	1,352,563
11.	Maharashtra	1,068,418
12.	Manipur	16,493
13.	Meghalaya	34,633
14.	Nagaland	16,476
15.	Orissa	452,394
16.	Punjab	142,868
17.	Rajasthan	774,199
18.	Sikkim	5,598
19.	Tamilnadu	578,889
20.	Tripura	16,478
21.	Uttar Pradesh	1,410,086
22.	West Bengal	711,691
23.	Andaman & Nicobar Island	1,265
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	12,395
25.	Chandigarh	1,870
26.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	4,416
27.	Delhi	27,351

1	2	3
28.	Daman and Diu	941
29.	Goa	4,656
30.	Lakshadweep	34
31.	Mizoram	16,411
32.	Pondicherry	2,680
Total		11,285,349

** Census could not be conducted.

NB: Figures for 1991 relates to workers of age group 5-14 years.

[English]

Development of Tourist Sites in West Bengal

515. SHRI AKBOR ALI KHANDOKER : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have recieved some proposals from the West Bengal for deveolpment of tourist sites ;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last two years ;

(c) whether the Government have taken any initiative to identify tourist sites in West Bengal during the period ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) to (d) Identification and development of tourist sites is primarily undertaken by the State Governments. Department of Tourism, Government of India, however, provides some financial assistance for tourism projects prioritised in consultation with them. The details fo financial assistance provided to West Bengal based on their proposals during the last two financial years are as under :

Year	No. of Projects sanctioned	Amount sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)
1999-2000	6	194.01
2000-2001	20	412.68

Intensive Cotton Development Programme

516. SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) whether Intensive Cotton Development Programme (ICDP) a Centrally sponsored scheme is under implementation in Andhra Pradesh.

(b) if so, the production of cotton recorded in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years.

(c) whether the Government are aware that a large number of cotton growers in Andhra Pradesh committed suicide as their produce failed to fetch the desired price; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government to ensure remunerative price to the cotton growers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Intensive Coton Development Programme under Mini Mission - II of Technology Mission on Cotton is being implemented in the 13 cotton growing States including Andhra Pradesh. The production of cotton recorded in the State during the last 3 years is as under :

Year	Production (000 bales of 170 kg. each)
1998-99	1522.00
1999-2000	1595.00
2000-2001	1663.0

(c) and (d) No such reports have been received. However, to safeguard the interests of the cotton growers, the Government announces Minimum Support Price for cotton each year and guarantees its procurement, if the price falls below the Minimum Support Price, through the Cotton Corporation of India in all States except Maharashtra. In Maharashtra, the State Government itself procures cotton under its Monopoly Procurement Scheme. During the current year, Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) has procured 353587 bales of cotton in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

Water Catchment Capacity of Cauvery River

517. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received the experts' reports on the actual water-catchment capacity along Cauvery and its utility in Tamil Nadu and Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government as well as the State Governments of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka have chalked out any new project to minimise the net loss of water from the river; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) The report of the Expert Group set up by Central Water Commission on technical aspects related to the proforma evolved by Cauvery Monitoring Committee for review of storage status in Cauvery Basin in respect of important Karnataka and Tamil Nadu reservoirs has been received and has been circulated among the Cauvery Basin States for their comments.

(b) In its report the Expert Group has opined that (i) the active/inactive storages may be replaced by live and dead storages in the present proforma. (ii) the hydrological observations at crucial locations may be done jointly (i.e. by the Central Govt. and concerned State Governments) (iii) The revised area capacity curves for all the reservoirs need to be prepared, and (iv) the automatic water level recorders may be installed at all the five reservoirs in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu and properly maintained by the concerned States.

(c) and (d) The disputes about sharing of Cauvery Waters is before the Cauvery Water Dispute Tribunal for their adjudication. The basin States will be in a position to plan new projects within their allocated share after the final award of the Tribunal is received.

Irregularities in Purchase of Groundnut Seeds

518. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Vigilance Commission enquiring into the alleged irregularities in the quality of groundnut seeds

purchased by Andhra Pradesh State Seed Development Corporation before the Kharif season of this year has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the officials of the Corporation have been held responsible by the Commission for the irregularities; and

(d) if so, the action taken against those held responsible?

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

(b) Vigilance & Enforcement Department of Government of Andhra Pradesh at the Instance of State Government enquired into the irregularities and submitted its report. It is observed that a part of the Groundnut seed procured by Andhra Pradesh State Seeds Development Corporation Limited to Anantapur district was of inferior quality. The Department has requested for initiating necessary disciplinary action against the officials responsible for the irregularities.

(c) Yes, Sir. 10 officials of the Corporation have been held responsible for the irregularities in the procurement and supply of groundnut seed.

(d) The Corporation has taken action by suspending the 10 officials named in the said report.

Flood Control in Assam

519. SHRI M.K. SUBBA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the allocation made and sanctioned for flood control in Assam during the Ninth Five Year Plan indicating the details of the schemes approved for the State; and

(b) the progress made in implementation of the schemes and the expenditure incurred thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) and (b) Flood Management being a State subject, the flood control schemes are planned, funded and executed by the State Government themselves out of their own resources and as per their own priorities. The assistance rendered by Central Government are technical, catalytic and promotional in nature.

As per the information received from the State Government of Assam, during the Ninth Five Year Plan the approved allocation to Assam was Rs. 78.8962 crore in the Central Plan and the status of the schemes approved, progress of implementation and the expenditure incurred thereon is given as under :

(i) Total number of approved schemes (Nos.)	153
(ii) Schemes physically completed (Nos.)	53
(iii) Schemes in advanced stage of completion (Nos.)	62
(iv) Schemes in progress (Nos.)	38
(v) Expenditure incurred (Rs. in crore)	78.8962

Flights from Thiruvananthapuram

520. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:
SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA:
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Airlines had proposed to link Thiruvananthapuram and Sharjah and operate "terminator" flights between Thiruvananthapuram and Bangalore, Bangalore and Kochi and increase the frequency of flights between Bangalore, Delhi and Hyderabad and Sharjah from the month of January, 2002; and

(b) if so, the progress made in that regard so far ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) and (b) Necessary details are as under :

Links between Thiruvananthapuram and Sharjah :

Twice weekly A-320 service has been introduced on Hyderabad-Trichy-Thiruvananthapuram-Sharjah route w.e.f. 12th January, 2002.

Terminator flights between Thiruvananthapuram, Bangalore and Kochi :

Bangalore - Thiruvananthapuram - Bangalore and Bangalore-Kochi-Bangalore on daily basis with A-320 aircraft w.e.f. 10 January, 2002.

Increase in frequencies of flights between Bangalore, Delhi, Hyderabad and Sharjah :

Hyderabad-Bangalore-Sharjah : From twice weekly to thrice weekly by A-320 aircraft w.e.f. 10th January, 2002.

Hyderabad - Ahmedabad - Sharjah : - From twice weekly to four times weekly by A-320 aircraft w.e.f. 10th January, 2002.

Hyderabad - Dubai* :- From thrice weekly to five times weekly (w.e.f. 10th January, 2002) and from five times weekly to daily (w.e.f. 16th February, 2002.) by A-320 aircraft.

Jaipur-Delhi-Dubai* : Daily A-320 service w.e.f. 12th February, 2002.

*Dubai is in close proximity to Sharjah.

Population of Livestock and availability of fodder

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

(a) the population of livestock at present in the country, State-wise;

(b) the per capita availability of fodder; and

(c) the growth rate of livestock viz-a-viz fodder ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) A Statement showing State-wise Livestock population on the basis of 16th Livestock Census, 1997 is enclosed.

(b) the per capita availability of fodder during the year 1997 was around 1.8 metric tones per annum.

(c) The population of livestock in 1997 over 1992 increased by 33% whereas the production of fodder increased by 4.8% during the same period.

Statement

State-wise Livestock Population

(In Thousand Nos.)

S.No	State/UT	Livestock 97 (P)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	37331
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1188
3.	Assam	13753
4.	Bihar	38389 #

S.No.	State/UT	Livestock 97 (P)
5.	Gujarat	20969
6.	Goa	325
7.	Haryana	11062
8.	Himachal Pradesh	5013
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	9609
10.	Karnataka	30688
11.	Kerala	6964
12.	Madhya Pradesh	48918
13.	Maharashtra	39638
14.	Manipur	1199
15.	Meghalaya	1607
16.	Mizoram	256
17.	Nagaland	1299
18.	Orissa	24263
19.	Punjab	9857
20.	Rajasthan	56348
21.	Sikkim	294
22.	Tamilnadu	25939
23.	Tripura	2251
24.	Uttar Pradesh	66327
25.	West Bengal	36711#
<i>Union Territories</i>		
26.	A & N Islands	218
27.	Chandigarh	44
28.	D & N Haveli	43 #
29.	Delhi	393
30.	Lakshwadweep	29
31.	Pondicherry	135
32.	Daman & diu	12
All India		491121

P - Provisional.

- Projected.

Permission to Austrian Airlines to Operate Flights from India

522. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Austrian airlines have sought the permission of the Government to launch its flights from Chennai, Mumbai and Hyderabad to Vienna in addition to the Delhi-Vienna route;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the frequency of service to be operated from these sectors?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) to (c) During the last round of bilateral air services negotiations with Austria in June, 2001, Hyderabad was offered as a point of call to the Austrians. They were however not keen on Hyderabad but instead requested for Mumbai as a point of call for their designated airline. This was not acceptable to the Indian side.

Allotment of Floor Lime Stone Mines

523. SHRI A. NARENDRA : Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons who have been allotted floor lime stone mines on priority basis in Andhra Pradesh ;

(b) the minimum wages fixed for the labourers ;

(c) whether the Government propose to increase their wages on being to meagre; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) Floor limestone is reckoned to be a minor mineral under Section 3 (e) of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and consequently the Central Government is not concerned with the grant of mining lease for this minor mineral. The regulation of mineral concessions etc. of minor minerals like floor limestone is entirely under the domain of the State Government of Andhra Pradesh and therefore the Central Government do not maintain such information. However, the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has informed that 1254 quarry leases have been granted for floor limestone as per the provisions of Andhra Pradesh Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 1966.

(b) to (d) The minimum wages of the workers engaged in the scheduled employments are fixed, revised and enforced by the Central and the State Governments under the statutory provisions of Minimum Wages Act, 1948. Recently, the Ministry of Labour have revised the minimum wages of the workers employed in various mines vide Gazette Notification S.O. No.9(E) dated 3rd January, 2002 wherein the wages above the ground range from Rs. 52/- to Rs. 93/- per day and below the ground, from Rs. 63/- to Rs. 111/- per day.

Strike by Workers of Jute Mills

524. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK :
SHRI C.N. SINGH :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the workers of the major jute mills in the country were on strike in January, 2002 ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to look into their demands and to recover the outstanding dues such as PF, ESI etc. from the defaulting Jute Mill owners ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The reasons for the strike were mainly non-payment of bonus, revision of grade and scale, payment of DA at current rates, uniformity in wages and non-payment of retirement dues.

(c) Tripartite agreement to resolve the problems of the Jute Mill Workers, has been reached between the State Government of West Bengal, Indian Jute Mills Association and the Trade Unions.

In respect of outstanding dues such as PF and ESI, steps have been taken to recover the dues from the defaulting Jute Mill owners and in some cases prosecution action has also been initiated.

Domestic and Foreign Investment in FPI

525. SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to increase domestic and foreign investment in FPI to develop and improve its infrastructure ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA): (a) and (b) Government have taken various steps from time to time for promotion of food processing industries. These include *inter-alia* development and improvement of infrastructure, according high priority to this sector, automatic approval for upto 100% foreign investment, granting Central excise exemption for processed products of fruits and vegetables and financial assistance under the plan schemes operated by the Ministry.

[Translation]

Financial Assistance/Relief to Rajasthan for Drought

526. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the funds provided to the Government of Rajasthan from State Calamity Fund, National Calamity Fund and Special Relief Funds for drought relief measures during the last three years till date, head-wise ; and

(b) the details of the other relief measures such as providing employment opportunities, potable water, fodder undertaken in the State during the said period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) Details of Central share of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) and assistance from National Fund for Calamity Relief (NFCR)/ National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) released to Rajasthan during 1998-1999 to 2000-2001 is indicated below :

Year	Assistance released	
	Central share of CRFF	(Rs. in crore) From NFCR/ NCCF
1998-1999	148.92	21.98 (NFCR)
1999-2000	155.25	102.93 (NFCR)
2000-2001	196.00	85.00 (NCCF)

In addition, further assistance of Rs. 78.97 crore from NCCF was released during 2001-02 for the drought of 2000-01.

(b) The other steps taken by the Government of India to assist the State Government include allocation of foodgrains under Food for Work Programme, free

transportation drinking water and fodder by the Railways, handing over of exploratory wells for drinking water purposes and relaxation in norms under the schemes implemented by the Department of Drinking Water Supply.

Use of Urea Fertilizer

527. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of the Urea fertilizer being used in Rajasthan;

(b) whether the Government are contemplating to reduce the use of this fertilizer;

(c) if so, the time by which it is likely to be reduced; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) During the Year 2000-01, Rajasthan accounted for 4.92% of the total urea consumed in the country.

(b) to (d) The Government does not contemplate reduction in use of urea. However, it recommends balanced application of nutrients (N, P and K) based on soil test.

[English]

Performance of Air India

528. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether greater emphasis has been laid by the Government to improve the performance of Air India ;

(b) if so, the achievement made thereon during 2001-2002 ; and

(c) the details of programmes drawn up, if any, to further improve the performance of Air India in 2002-2003 ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The achievements made during 2001-2002 are : (i) 49 stations have been identified for closing/downsizing and

142 local staff have also been identified for retrenchment which will result in saving of Rs. 21 crores p.a.; (ii) Minimising distribution cost which resulted in reducing Agency Commission from 9% to 7% (iii) Re-deployment of skilled/unskilled categories in operational areas resulting in saving of approx. Rs. 2 crores per annum; (iv) Air India's Engine Overhaul Department has been certified as a FAR - 145 Repair Station by Federal Aviation Administration, USA, JAR-145 Repair Station by Civil Aviation Authority, UK, ISO-9002 by Bureau of Indian Standards; (v) The budgeted profit of the Air India during the current financial year 2001 - 2002 is Rs. 21.50 crores which shows that there has been marked improvement as compared to last year's loss of Rs. 44.40 crores despite global recession and adverse effects on civil aviation due to terrorist attack on US on September 11 and events following it.

(c) The important measures taken to improve the performance of Air India in 2002-2003 includes : (i) Dry-leasing of five A310 aircraft; (ii) Evaluation of future growth plan and a long term strategy for acquisition of aircraft by a Departmental Committee; (iii) Code-share agreements with various foreign airlines to supplement core network; (iv) Introduction of Guwahati as new on-line station effective 4 April, 2002; (v) Launching of on-line booking facility on its web-site; (vi) Introduction of Automated Reservation Management System (ARMS); (vii) Efforts are being made to enlarge the scope of providing ground handling services to foreign carriers operating through Air India; (viii) Computerisation of various activities in a phased manner to improve the service standard with a view to serve the passenger better.

[Translation]

Heritage Sites

529. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to declare heritage sites in the country as international tourist places; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) and (b) The Department of Tourism Government of India has no scheme to declare heritage sites as International tourist places.

[English]

Funds for Research and Development in Agricultural Sector

530. SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of funds allocated by the government for research and development in the agricultural sector during the Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(b) the details of its utilisation during the said period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) The amount of actual allocation of the Department of Agricultural Research and Education are Rs. 2514.17 crore (Revised Estimates 1997-2001 & Budget Estimate 2001-02) for Plan and Rs. 3018.90 crore (Total Revised Estimate of 1997 - 2002) for Non-Plan during the IX Five Year Plan.

(b) Since the IX Five Year Plan is going to complete by 31st March, 2002, the details of utilisation during the first four years of IX Five Year Plan and RE for 2001- 02 are Rs. 2494.04 crore for Plan; and Rs. 2904.18 crore for first 4 years expenditure of IX Five Year Plan and RE for 2001-02, for Non-Plan respectively.

Tourism Promotion Scheme

531. SHRI SAIDUZZAMA : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has floated an imaginative and attractive scheme to promote tourism in the country on the lines of Malaysia, Thailand and some other countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Government propose to encourage such innovations and also provide them certain amount of independence and work environment in this task ?

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

(b) and (c) A logo contest has been initiated to attract new ideas aiming at positioning and branding India in both the domestic and the international markets. Such steps would encourage competitive marketing of the India Tourism product that delivers a diversity of meaningful experiences drawn from Indian civilization for domestic and international travellers.

[Translation]

Use of Latest Technologies Developed by Scientists

532. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps for effective transfer of latest technologies developed by the scientists at home and abroad to the farmers of West Bengal enabling them to increase their production ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether field exhibitions are being organised and farmers are being trained by the Government and Agriculture Universities in the State ;

(d) if so, the details thereof ; and

(e) the other measures being adopted to increase production of foodgrains in West Bengal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The steps taken are as follows :

The Government of West Bengal have reorganized the extension services at various levels by providing "Krishi Prayukti Sahayak" at village, Agricultural Development Officer at Block, Sub-Division Agricultural Officer and Subject Matter Specialist at Sub-Division, Agronomist and Principal Agricultural Officer at District Headquarters, and Joint Director at Range Level.

Under Training and Visit programme of the State, monthly workshops of extension specialists are held on latest technologies developed, field problems faced by the farmers and its solutions. Besides conducting Minikit demonstrations and Multilocal trials on farmers' fields, various extension activities including electronic and print media are organized.

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research have sanctioned ten Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVK) including strengthening of one Zonal Agricultural Research Station to take up the additional functions of KVK. An Agricultural Technology Information Centre has also been sanctioned in favour of Bidhan Chandra Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. During the last one year 13 kisan mela-cum-exhibitions were organized with the participation of 14,427 farmers, besides, training of 1.776 lakh farmers.

(e) Other measures adopted by the Government of West Bengal include more coverage of high-yielding and hybrid varieties, expansion of irrigation facilities, bringing wastelands under cultivation, adoption of watershed approach, provision of more electricity supply in the villages, farm mechanization, production and supply of quality seeds, use of organic manure/bio-fertilizer, better credit facilities, and adoption of integrated pest management.

[English]

Misappropriation of Developmental Funds Meant for Dal Lake

533. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

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

(a) whether the Government are aware that the funds worth crores of rupees allocated by the Government for the integrated development of Dal Lake has been reported to have been misappropriated ;

(b) if so, whether the Government have conducted any inquiry into the matter ;

(c) if so, the details thereof ; and

(d) the action taken by the Government against the persons found responsible ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (d) The investigations into the reported misappropriation of funds allocated for integrated development of Dal Lake have been conducted by the State Vigilance Organisation and First Information Reports registered against 17 officials of Jammu & Kashmir Lakes and Waterways Development Authority. These officials have been placed under suspension by the State Government.

[Translation]

Unemployed Men and Women in Bihar

534. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of men and women provided employment in Bihar during the last three years;

(b) the number out of them belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes; and

(c) the number of unemployed men and women as on date in each category ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (c) Category-wise number of job-seekers, all of whom are not necessarily

unemployed, registered with the Employment Exchanges in Bihar as on December 1999 (latest available) and the number of job-seekers provided employment during 1997, 1998 & 1999 is given below :

Year	Placement (in thousands)					
	Total	Men	Women	SC	ST	OBC
1997	6.9	6.8	0.1	0.5	2.8	N.A.
1998	13.0	12.8	0.3	0.5	1.5	0.4
1999	11.8	11.7	0.1	0.9	3.1	1.2
	No. of Job-seekers on Live Register (in lakhs) as on 31.12.1999					
1999	31.8	29.1	2.7	3.8	2.3	6.7

N.A. : Information not available.

[English]

Import of Coal

535. SHRI GUNIPATI RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether coal is being imported for certain specific industries due to its non-availability in the country ;

(b) if so, the details of these industries ;

(c) the reasons for not making available the required coal ;

(d) the maximum and minimum prices of both types of imported and indigenous coal ;

(e) whether the cost of imported coal is lesser than that of the indigenous;

(f) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(g) the corrective steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) (a) and (b) All types of coal and coke are open for imports under Open General Licence (OGL), and the consumers of coal have been importing their requirements of coal directly. However

as per available information, steel, power and cement plants are the major industries importing coal in view of inadequate availability of required quality of coal in adequate quantities indigenously or on cost consideration.

(c) Indian coal by virtue of its drift origin is having high ash content. Reserves of low ash coking and non-coking coal are limited. Indian coal is also having very difficult washability characteristics.

(d) As per information available, the CIF price of imported coal in Asian market during 2001 is approximately US \$ 37.63 per tonne. Current prices of different grades of coal produced by Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL) and Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL) are given below. Coal prices of other subsidiaries of Coal India Limited fall between these ranges.

Price range of Run-of-Mine (Non-Long Flame) coal
(Basic price in Rupees per tonne)

Grade	High (ECL)	Low (MCL)
A	1,382	912
B	1,222	819
C	1,006	674
D	794	566
E	630	445
F	502	351
G	358	250

(e) to (g) Imported coal, per-se, at ports is costlier than the pit-head price of Indian coal on per tonne basis. However, the delivered price of Indian coal upon transportation over long distances becomes higher than the price of imported coal on equated energy basis mainly due to following factors:

- (i) Indian coal is inherently of low Gross Calorific Value (GCV) when compared to imported coal.
- (ii) Indian coal by virtue of location of coal fields in central/eastern part of India requires transportation over long distances to consumption points and transport costs are substantially high.
- (iii) Indian coal also undergoes levy of royalty and sales tax, which may not be obtaining to the same degree on imported coal.

Jobs on Compassionate Grounds

536. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the names and designations of officials under his Ministry expired while in service during the last three years, year-wise and office-wise;

(b) the names of those whose eligible dependents have been provided with the suitable jobs on compassionate grounds;

(c) the names of those who have not yet been provided with the jobs on compassionate grounds; and

(d) the time by which the jobs on compassionate grounds are likely to be provided to all such eligible dependents of deceased officials ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) (a) to (d) As per extant guidelines, powers to make compassionate appointments are decentralized with respective Departments, and Heads of Department in case of attached/subordinate offices. Such appointments can be made upto a maximum of 5% of vacancies falling under direct recruitment quota in Group 'C' & 'D' posts. The information relating to names and designations of officials who died while in service and names of their eligible dependents who have been provided or could not be provided with jobs on compassionate grounds, is being collected from various offices under the administrative control of Ministry of Agriculture.

Strike In Coal Sector

537. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there were any labour strikes in coal sector in the country during the last three years ;

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

(c) the reasons for such agitations and strikes ;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to solve the disputed issues ;

(e) whether there is any machinery to anticipate potential issues of dispute ; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The details of Strikes/Bandhs in the coal mines of

subsidiaries of Coal India Limited during the last three years is given below :

Name of the Company	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002 (upto February 02)
Eastern Coalfields Ltd.	07	08	01
Bharat Coking Coal Ltd.	05	04	06
Central Coalfields Ltd.	06	03	02
Western Coalfields Ltd	03	06	02
South Eastern Coalfields Ltd.	13	06	03
Northern Coalfields Ltd	03	04	01
Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd.	01	02	02
North Eastern Coalfields Ltd.	00	00	01
Central Mine Planning & Design Institute Ltd.	01	03	01
Total	39	36	19

(c) During the last few years, the Central Trade Unions operating in the Coal Industry have called strikes in protest against privatisation of coal mines and proposed Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Amendment Bill, 2000, seeking restoration of Customs Duty on imported coal to the level of 1989-90, reorganisation of Coal industry to make single unified company with full autonomy and to press demands such as wage revision, allowances and payment of arrears of wage revision.

(d) The National Coal Wages Agreement-VI has been finalised and implemented. Part arrears of wages have been paid and discussions are on for payment of the balance amount. On all other policy matters, discussions have been held with the Central Trade Unions at different levels including the Group of Ministers.

(e) and (f) Joint Bi-partite fora of Central Trade Unions and Management has been functioning in Coal India Limited at different levels. All such matters are discussed in this fora.

Promotion of Indian Culture and Heritage Abroad

538. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to promote Indian culture and heritage broad for the benefit of Non-Resident Indians ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(b) Promotion of Indian culture and Heritage Abroad for the benefit of foreigners and Non-Resident Indians is done through the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR).

One of the primary objectives of the ICCR is to promote greater awareness of India's composite cultural heritage abroad. Towards this end, the Council has set up 14 Cultural Centres abroad. Several of these Centres have been set up in countries having sizeable populations of Non-Resident Indians and People of Indian Origin, such as Trinidad & Tobago, Mauritius, Guyana, Suriname, U.K., Sri Lanka, South Africa and previously in Fiji. The activities of these Centres include training in Indian Music/Dance/Indian languages/Yoga etc. The Council also undertakes cultural activities around the world to fulfil its mandate of strengthening cultural relations and mutual understanding between India and other countries. Non-Resident Indians also benefit from such cultural interactions. Many persons of Indian Origin have been provided scholarships under the various Scholarship Schemes of the Council to study Indian arts and culture in Indian universities/institutions.

The Council is maintaining Chairs of Indian Studies abroad and has deputed Professors to teach Hindi,

Sanskrit, Tamil, Modern Indian History and Indian Civilization in Hungary, Mauritius, Russia, South Korea, Poland, Trinidad & Tobago, Turkey, Romania, Thailand, France, Kyrgyzstan, Suriname and Uzbekistan.

The MEA had also constituted a High Level Committee on Indian Diaspora to make recommendations on Promotion of Indian Culture and heritage for the benefit of Indian Diaspora abroad. The relevant portion of the recommendations of the High Level Committee will be placed on the Table of the House.

Export of Ongole Cattle

539. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have entered into an Agreement with Brazil to export Ongole cattle from Andhra Pradesh ;

(b) if so, whether a delegation from Brazil has also made a visit in this connection ; and

(c) if so, the full details thereof ?

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

(b) and (c) In view of (a) above, question does not arise. However a Brazilian delegation visited Andhra Pradesh in 2000 for considering the possibilities of import of germplasm of Ongole breed. Recently another delegation from Brazil visited India with a mission to evaluate the Indian Veterinary Services, for the issuance of sanitary certificates for export of bovine embryos to Brazil.

Pending Proposal for ADG in ICVR

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

(a) whether a proposal for setting up ICVR is pending for more than five years;

(b) if so, the reasons for such a long pendency; and

(c) the time by which the ICVR is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (c) The proposal to set up Indian Council of Veterinary Research has been examined in the Department. It has

been decided not to create separate Indian Council of Veterinary and Fishery Research at this stage.

Funds Allocation to ASI

541. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Archaeological Survey of India is facing resource crunch for maintaining existing monuments as well as for undertaking protection of new sites;

(b) if so, the details thereof, alongwith the funds allocated to ASI during the last three years; and

(c) the measures adopted to generate additional financial resources for the purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) and (b) The funds made available to the Archaeological Survey of India are not commensurate with its multifarious activities and responsibilities.

The allocation of funds to the Archaeological Survey of India for the last three years is as under

1998-99	Rs. 8963.33 lakhs
1999-2000	Rs. 10321.77 lakhs
2000-2001	Rs. 11649.31 lakhs

(c) Various agencies such as UNESCO, State Governments and its autonomous bodies have given funds for the development of specific monuments. Funds have also been received from corporate sector for this purpose through the National Culture Fund. But these funds are inadequate.

International Airport at Shamsabad

542. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of modalities worked out to build international airport at Shamsabad near Hyderabad;

(b) the amount of financial grant proposed to be given by the Union Government; and

(c) the status of the project as on date?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) to (c) The proposed international airport at Shamsabad near Hyderabad is being

promoted by the Government of Andhra Pradesh, with the help of Airports Authority of India (AAI). The State Government and AAI would jointly hold 26% of the equity, and balance 74% would be held by a Joint Venture Partner. No financial grant from the Union Government is envisaged. A consortium, M/s GMR/MAHG has been selected as the preferred bidder by the Government of Andhra Pradesh, through a global bid process, in order to hold 74% stake of the Joint Venture (JV). Detailed scrutiny of the project proposal of the preferred bidder by a designated team is currently in progress, with a view to arrive at the optimized project cost and the quantum of State support. Upon completion of this exercise, JV partner will be issued with the award letter by the State promoter after due processing and entrusted with the task of implementation of the project.

Joint Ventures with French Dairy Products Company

543. SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have entered into a joint venture with a French Dairy Products Company to establish a Dairy Unit in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the locations identified for the purpose?

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

(b) and (c) In view of (a) above, question does not arise.

MoU with China on Brahmaputra River

544. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI :
SHRI M.K. SUBBA :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn towards the news-item captioned "India, China sign accords, MoU on Brahmaputra" appearing in the '*Hindustan Times*' dated January 15, 2002; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof and the benefits likely to be accrued to India by signing the accord?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BHOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) Yes, Sir. The news-item captioned "India, China sign accords,

MoU on Brahmaputra" had appeared in the *Times of India* dated 15.1.2002.

(b) During the visit of Chinese Premier Zhu Rongji to India in January 2002, an MoU was signed between the Ministry of Water Resources of India and Ministry of Water Resources of China on provision of hydrological information of the Yaluzangbu/Brahmaputra river in flood season by China to India. As per the MoU, China will provide India with information on water level, discharge and rainfall twice a day from June 1 to October 15 each year in respect of three hydrological stations - Nugesha, Yangcun and Nuxia - lying on the mainstream of the Brahmaputra river in China. The Chinese side has also agreed to provide this hydrological information if water level exceeds mutually agreed levels during the non-flood season. China has further agreed to provide information on a real time basis on abnormal rise/fall in the water level/discharge and other information which might lead to sudden floods on the basis of existing monitoring and data collection facilities. The two sides are to conclude an Implementation Plan to implement the understanding reached in the MoU. The above information will be useful in flood forecasting activities on the downstream of Brahmaputra river in India.

Promotion of Micro Irrigation

545. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY :
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any comprehensive scheme for promotion of micro-irrigation facilities through drip irrigation and sprinkler equipment and adoption of other cost effective methods including mechanisation of agriculture through cooperatives to boost agricultural production has been under consideration;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total area of land under drip irrigation presently and State-wise targets fixed in this regard under the Ninth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) Promotion of micro irrigation facilities through drip irrigation, sprinkler equipment is undertaken under the comprehensive macro-management scheme which allows the State Governments to formulate work plan proposals as per their requirements and also under the Intensive Cotton Development Programme (Technology Mission on Cotton). Subsidy is being provided to farmers on purchase of various types of agriculture implements/machines. In case of tractors, subsidy is provided up to 30 Power Take Off (PTO) HP and the subsidy is also available to Registered Cooperative Societies, Multipurpose Agricultural Farming Societies and Agricultural Credit Societies.

(c) The total area under drip irrigation (horticulture) is 3.05 lakh ha. The State wise figures for physical targets and achievement under the Ninth Plan are given in the Statement enclosed.

Statement

Targets and physical achievement of drip irrigation (horticulture) during ninth five year plan

(Area in ha.)

Name of States/UTs	Targets	Achievements
Andhra Pradesh	16400	30156
Arunachal Pradesh	65	220
Assam	30	0
Bihar	65	0
Goa	77	130
Gujarat	2660	3109
Haryana	1038	830
Himachal Pradesh	25	290
Jammu & Kashmir	121	129
Karnataka	33785	35015
Kerala	4555	800
Madhya Pradesh	2330	375
Maharashtra	37400	60439
Manipur	260	164
Meghalaya	136	0
Mizoram	230	124
Nagaland	620	566
Orissa	572	200
Punjab	722	725
Rajasthan	4226	4348
Sikkim	48	64
Tamilnadu	11750	37296

Name of States/UTs	Targets	Achievements
Tripura	100	0
Uttar Pradesh	1830	1854
West Bengal	15	0
D & N Haveli	24	0
Daman & Diu	28	0
Delhi	10	0
Lakshwadweep	24	0
Chandigarh	0	0
A & N Islands	0	0
Pondicherry	10	0
Total	119156	176834

Survey of Hampi Temple Complex

546. SHRI KOLUR BASAVANAGOUD : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to bring out a detailed survey map of Hampi temple complex alongwith an annotated bibliography of the researches made about the temple complex;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the name of agencies to be engaged in this work; and

(c) the amount spent by the Government on the above work during 2001-02 and projected for 2002-2003?

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

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

National Seminar on Agricultural Marketing Reforms

547. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI :
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a National Seminar on Agricultural Marketing reforms was held recently at the National Institute of Agricultural marketing;

(b) if so, whether the experts have suggested to free the marketing and processing of agricultural commodities from controls to enable the farmers and the consumers to reap the benefits of liberalization;

(c) if so, whether the experts have also suggested that States should also make uniform laws in this regard to protect the interest of farmers and avoid profiteering by intermediaries;

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard; and

(e) the corrective steps taken or likely to be taken by the Government in this regard?

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

(c) The experts suggested that for providing an efficient and competitive marketing system in the country, there was need to bring in reforms in agricultural marketing sector. The State Agricultural Produce Market (Regulation) Acts need to be amended to encourage investment in the marketing infrastructure by the private sector and to promote direct marketing and contract farming in order to facilitate farmers to receive remunerative prices for the agricultural produce.

(d) and (e) The Department of Agriculture & Cooperation has constituted an inter-Ministerial Task Force to examine the recommendations and suggest measures for the implementation of the recommendations of the Expert Committee on Strengthening and Developing of Agricultural Marketing. The above seminar was organized to solicit the views of the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations on the reforms measures in order to enable the Task Force to finalise its report.

[Translation]

Quality of Water in Ganga River

548. SHRI RAMESHWAR DUDI*: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether as per latest data of the Uttaranchal Regional Pollution Control Board (URPCB) the Ganga water has become very polluted at Har-Ki-Pauri in Haridwar which is a pilgrimage centre;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether as per study of URPCB consumption of the said water in even small quantity can cause serious diseases like Jaundice, Cholera and other stomach related ailments ; and

(d) if so, the effective steps taken by the Government to provide clean Ganga water to the pilgrims and the measures taken to get rid of the problem of water pollution?

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

(b) As per the latest data of Regional Office of Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board at Dehradun, for the period from January, 2001-January, 2002, as given below, all the parameters except total coliforms in river Ganga at Hardwar, are within the prescribed limits for bathing purposes. The water quality standards for bacterial quality namely total coliform and fecal coliform have been revised and according to the revised standards, the total coliforms indicated in Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board Regional Office data are also within limits. The results of water quality monitoring programme under the Ganga Action Plan done separately also indicate that all parameters namely, Dissolved Oxygen, Biochemical Oxygen Demand and Total Coliform are within the prescribed limits.

Water Quality Data of Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board for river Ganga at Hardwar for January, 2001-January, 2002

Period	Range			Standards for bathing class		
	DO(mg/l)	BOD(mg/l)	Total Coliform (MPN* .100 ml)	DO(mg/l)	BOD (mg/l)	Total Coliform (MPN/100 ml)
January 2001-02	8.2-9.5	1.8-2.5	900-1600	More than 5.00	Less than 3.00	10,000 (revised from 500)

*MPN-Most Probable Number.

(c) As per report of Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board Regional Office, Dehradun, no cases of water borne ailments have been reported from Hardwar.

(d) Does not arise. However, a capacity to treat about 25 million liters per day of sewage has been created at Rishikesh-Hardwar under Ganga Action Plan Phase-I. This capacity is to be increased by another 7 million litres per day under the ongoing second phase of the Ganga Action Plan.

Inspection of Polluting Mills/Factories by CPCB

549. SHRI MANSINH PATEL :
SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO :

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

(a) whether the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has carried out on-the-spot inspection of some of the factories and mills spreading environmental pollution in various States during the last three years ;

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

(c) whether the Government have received any report in this regard ; and

(d) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken against each defaulting unit ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has carried out 107 surprise inspections of industries during the last three years for ensuring compliance of pollution norms. State-wise and location-wise details of the industries are given in Statement enclosed.

(c) and (d) The inspection reports have been forwarded to the concerned State Pollution Control Boards/Pollution Control Committees for taking necessary action. Direct action under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, has been taken by the CPCB, wherever necessary.

Statement

Surprise inspection of the industries

S.No.	Name and address of the industry
Andhra Pradesh	
01.	M/s Kothagudem Thermal Power Station, Paloncha, Khammam Dist., Andhra Pradesh.
02.	M/s Vamsadhara Paper Mills, Madapam, Srikakulam Distt.
03.	M/s Siris India Ltd., Gummadidala, Medak Distt. (Presently Rallis India Ltd.)
04.	M/s Hindustan Zinc Limited, Vishakapatnam

S.No.	Name and address of the industry
05.	M/s Global Bulk Drugs and Fine Chemicals Ltd., Digwal (V), Medak Distt-I.
Assam	
06.	M/s Hindustan Fertilizer Corpn. Ltd., Namrup Unit - I & II, Parbatpur Dibrugarh Dist., Assam
07.	M/s Bongaigaon Thermal Power Station, Bongaigaon Assam
Bihar	
08.	Hindustan Copper Ltd., Indian Copper Complex, P.O. Ghatsila-832 303, Dist. Singhbhum, Bihar
09.	M/s Tata Iron & Steel Co. Ltd., Bihar
10.	M/s Patratu Thermal Power Station, Patratu, Hazaribagh, Bihar
11.	M/s Bokaro Thermal Power Plant (DVC) A, Bokaro, Bihar
12.	M/s Bokaro Thermal Power Plant (DVC) B, Bokaro, Bihar
13.	M/s Bokaro Steel Plant, Bokaro, Bihar
14.	M/s Bata India Ltd., Mokamaghat, Hathidah, Patna - 803 301
15.	M/s McDowell's & Company Ltd., Hathidah, Patna- 803 301
Gujarat	
16.	M/s Shree Bileshwar Khand Udyog, (Distillery Unit) Khedut Sahakari Mandli Ltd., Kodinar Amreli Dist., Gujarat
17.	M/s Yeast Alco Enzymes Ltd., Palitana Dem Site, Bhavnagar Dist., Gujarat
18.	M/s Ahmedabad Electricity Co. Ltd., Sabarmati, Ahmedabad
19.	M/s Amal Rasayan Ltd., GIDC Estate, Ankleshwar, Bharuch Distt., Gujarat
20.	M/s Vapi Paper Mills Ltd., GIDC Estate Vapi, Valsad Dist., Gujarat
Haryana	
21.	M/s Haryana Distillery, Yamunanagar, Haryana
22.	M/s Ashoka Distillery & Chemicals, Hathin Fbd. Gahlab Road, Vill. Hathin Faridabad, Haryana
23.	M/s Haryana Organics, Samalkha, Panipat
24.	M/s Frost Falcon Distilleries, Vill. Jahri, Sonapat
25.	M/s Indian Leather, 18th Milestone, Vill. Nathupur Sonapat

S.No.	Name and address of the industry
26.	Cement Corpoation of India Ltd., Chakri Dadri Cement Unit, Chakri Dadri, Bhiwani - 123 306 Haryana
27.	M/s Haryana Breweries Ltd., Murthal, Sonapat, Haryana
28.	Panipat Thermal Power Station, Haryana State Electricity Board, Panipat - 132 105 Haryana
29.	M/s Panipat Co-op. Sugar Mills, (Distillery unit), Panipat, Haryana
30.	M/s Kashmir Distilleries Pvt. Ltd., Brahmana, Jammu
31.	M/s New India Distilleries, Vasayapur, Samba, Jammu
32.	M/s Dewan Modern Breweries, Talab Tilloo, Jammu & Kashmir

Karnataka

33.	M/s Hiranyakeshi S.S.K. Niyamit, Sankeswar, Belgaum Dist., Karnataka
34.	M/s Dakshina Kannhada S.S.K. Ltd., Brahmvur Udupi, S.K. Dist., Karnataka

Kerala

35.	M/s The Co-operative Sugars Ltd., (Distillery Unit) Chittur, Palakkad, Kerala
36.	M/s The Co-operative Sugars Ltd., (Sugar Unit) Chittur, Palakkad, Kerala

Madhya Pradesh

37.	M/s Cox Distillery Naugaon, Chattarpur, Madhya Pradesh
38.	M/s Chhatisgarh Distillery, Khapri, Kunhari Durg, Madhya Pradesh
39.	M/s Kediya Distillery, Bhilai, Durg, Madhya Pradesh
40.	M/s Orient Paper Mill, Amlai, Madhya Pradesh
41.	M/s Naval Singh Ka Sahkari Shakkar Kharkhana, Burhanpur, M.P.
42.	M/s Gwalior Sugar Co., Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh
43.	M/s Morena Mandal Sahakari Shakkar Karkhana, Morena, Madhya Pradesh

Maharashtra

44.	M/s Somaiya Organic Chemicals Ltd., Sakharwadi Konhegaon, Dopargaon Dist. Ahmednagar, Maharashtra
45.	Chemiequip Ltd., MIDC Plot Nos. 26-28, Kalyan, Badlapur Road, Ambemath - 421 505, Dist. Thane, Maharashtra

S.No.	Name and address of the industry
46.	Koradi Thermal Power Station, Maharashtra State Electricity Board, Koradi - 441 111, Dist. Nagpur, Maharashtra
47.	Bhusawal Thermal Power Station, Maharashtra State Electricity Board, Deep Nagar - 425 307, Maharashtra
48.	M/s Shri Vrudeswar S.S.K. Ltd., Adinath Nagar Taluka-Pathard, Dist. Ahmednagar, Maharashtra
49.	M/s Niphad S.S.K. Ltd., Bhausahenagar, Niphad Dist. Nasik, Maharashtra
50.	M/s Tilaknagar Distilleries, Ahmednagar, Maharashtra
51.	M/s Karanveer Kakasaheb Wagh SSK Ltd., Kakasaheb Nagar Niphad Dist, Nasik, Maharashtra
52.	M/s Chandrapur Super Thermal Power Station Maharashtra State Electricity Board, Dist. Chandrapur Maharashtra
53.	Nashik Thermal Power Station, Maharashtra State Electricity Board, P.O. Eklahare - 422 105, Maharashtra
54.	M/s. Larsen & Tubro, Awarpur Cement Works, Awarpur, Chandrapur (Distt.), Maharashtra - 442 917
55.	M/s Associated Cement Companies Ltd., Chanda Cement Works, Cement Nagar, Distt. Chandrapur, Maharashtra - 442 502
56.	M/s Endurance System (I) Ltd., MIDC, Waluj, Aurangabad
57.	M/s NRB Bearings Ltd., MIDC, Waluj, Aurangabad
58.	M/s Wockhdat Life Sciences Ltd., MIDC, Waluj, Aurangabad
59.	M/s Universal Luggage Manufacturing Company Ltd., MIDC, Waluj, Aurangabad

Meghalaya

60.	Mawmluh Cherra Cements Ltd., Mawmluh Cherrapunjee-793 108, Meghalaya
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Orissa

61.	Rourkela Steel Plant (Fertilizer Unit) Rourkela - 769 011, Orissa
62.	Paradeep Phosphates Ltd., P.O. PPL Township, Paradeep - 754 145, Dist. Jagatsinghpur
63.	M/s Rourkela Steel Plant (Iron & Steel), Rourkela, Dist. Sundargarh, Orissa

S.No.	Name and address of the industry
64.	M/s Talcher Thermal Power Station, P.O. Talcher Thermal, Dist. Angul, Orissa - 759 101
65.	M/s Rourkela Steel Plant (CPP-I & II), Rourkela, Sundergarh, Orissa
66.	M/s Cooperative Sugar Industries Ltd., Panipola (Formerly Dharani Sugars and Chemicals Ltd.), Nayagarh, Orissa
67.	M/s Aska Co-operative Sugar & Chemicals Ltd., Aska, Orissa
68.	M/s. J.K. Corporation Limited, Jaykaypur, Rayagada, Orissa - 765 017

Punjab

69.	M/s Janta Co-operative Sugar Mills Ltd., Bhogpur, Dist. Jalandhar Punjab
70.	M/s Bhagwanpura Sugar Mills Ltd., Dhuri, Dist. Sangroor, Punjab
71.	M/s Doaba Co-operative Sugar Mills Ltd., Nawanshahar, Punjab
72.	M/s Zira Co-Op. Sugar Mills Ltd., Zira, Ferozpur, Punjab

Tamil Nadu

73.	Ennore Thermal Power Station, Ennore, Madras - 600 057
74.	Tamil Nadu Chromates & Chemicals Ltd., 25, SIPCOT Industrial Complex, Ranipet

Uttar Pradesh

75.	M/s Obra Thermal Power Station, Unit (B) Obra, Sonbhadra, Uttar Pradesh
76.	M/s Obra Thermal Power Station, Unit (A) Obra, Sonbhadra, Uttar Pradesh
77.	Mohan Meakins Ltd., Mohan Nagar, Ghaziabad
78.	M/s Vam Organics, Gajraula, Uttar Pradesh
79.	Modi Distillery, Modi Nagar, Ghaziabad
80.	M/s Saravasti Kisan Sahakari Chini Mills, (Distillery Unit) Nanpara, Baharaich, Uttar Pradesh
81.	M/s Captanganj Distilleries, Deoria Uttar Pradesh
82.	M/s U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd., Panninagar, Bulandshahar, U.P.
83.	M/s U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd., Shahganj, Jaunpur, Uttar Pradesh
84.	M/s U.P. State Sugar Corp., Badhwal, Barabanki, Uttar Pradesh
85.	M/s The Kissan Sahkari Chini Mills Ltd., Satha, Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh

S.No.	Name and address of the industry
86.	M/s U.P. State Sugar Corporation, Malyana, Meerut, Uttar Pradesh
87.	M/s Kisan Sahkari Chini Mills Ltd., Sathiaon, Azamgarh, Uttar Pradesh
88.	M/s Chatta Sugar Company Ltd., Chatta, Mathura, Uttar Pradesh
89.	M/s Kisan Sahkari Chini Mills, Urai, Bhadoi, Uttar Pradesh
90.	M/s Kisan Sahkari Chini Mills, Rasara, Ballia, Uttar Pradesh
91.	M/s Hardwaranj Thermal Power Project, Kasimpur, Aligarh, U.P.
92.	M/s U.P. State Cement Corporation Ltd., Chunar, Mirzapur, U.P.
93.	M/s U.P. State Cement Corporation Ltd., Churk, Sonbhadra, U.P.
94.	M/s U.P. State Cement Corporation Ltd., Dala, Sonbhadra, U.P.
95.	M/s Kanoria Sugar & General Manufacturing Co. Ltd., Captainganj, Kashinagar, U.P.

West Bengal

96.	M/s Durgapur Steel Plant, Durgapur, W.B.
97.	M/s Durgapur Thermal Power Station, Damodar Valley Corpn., P.O. Durgapur - 713 207 Dist. Burdwan, W.B.
98.	M/s Durgapur Projects Ltd., Burdwan, West Bengal
99.	M/s Alloy Steel Plant, P.O. Durgapur-8, Dist. Burdwan, West Bengal
100.	M/s Indian Iron and Steel Company, Burnpur, Burdwan, West Bengal
101.	M/s Santaldihi Thermal Power Station, Purulia, West Bengal
102.	M/s Budge-Budge Generating Station, CESC Ltd., Pujali, 24 Parganas (S), W.B.
103.	M/s Southern Generating Station, CESC Ltd., Garden Reach, 24 Parganas(S), W.B.
104.	M/s Titagarh Generating Station, CESC Ltd., Titagarh, 24 Parganas (N), W.B.
105.	M/s Bandel Thermal Power Station, WBSEB, Triveni, W.B.
106.	New Cossipore Generating Station, CESC Ltd., Cossipore, 24 Parganas (N), W.B.
107.	M/s Rasoi Ltd., 1, Station Road, New Alipore, Calcutta.

[English]

Conversion of ESI Hospitals Into General Hospitals

550. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to convert some of the existing ESI hospitals ;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether ESI hospital in Navi Mumbai is also proposed to be converted into general hospital ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

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

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Buffer Zones for Leopards

551. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the project worked out by Maharashtra State Forest Department with regard to creation of buffer zones on forest boundaries for trapped leopards as reported in the "Indian Express" dated December 29, 2001;

(b) if so, the details of the project indicating its main objectives; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to introduce such schemes/projects in other areas of the country haunted by tiger, leopards, panthers and lions ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) Forest Department of Maharashtra Government has been trapping the panthers from the fringe forest areas abutting human habitation and translocating the same into suitable leopard habitats. This is done to reduce the number of panthers in the buffer area. The panthers that can not be rehabilitated in the wild are kept in rescue centres.

(c) Wildlife Institute of India has been organising courses on tranquilisation and translocation of wild animals for the field managers.

Collection of Copra by NAFED

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

(a) whether the Government are aware of the irregularities reported in the collection of copra of NAFED in Kerala; and

(b) 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) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of Kerala has reported that there are certain allegations of mal-practices against State MARKETED in the copra procurement, which are being enquired into. They have designated the Kerala State Cooperative Consumer Federation as a State level agency for copra procurement by NAFED in place of MARKETED. Accordingly, NAFED has appointed Kerala State Cooperative Consumer Federation as its State agency for copra procurement in Kerala.

New Agricultural Reforms

553. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ :

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to initiate new agricultural reforms; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken by the Government to have adequate storage facilities for the excess food stock ?

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

(b) Government have taken several major initiatives in the recent past to accelerate the pace of development such as introduction of the Macro Management Scheme, preparation of common guidelines for Watershed Development Programmes, creation of a Watershed Development Fund with a corpus of Rs. 200 crore, launching of a Technology Mission for the Integrated Development of Horticulture in North Eastern States, introduction of a Scheme for Seed Crop Insurance, establishment of a Seed Bank, measures for increasing the availability of farm credit, introduction of a subsidy linked credit scheme for construction/modernization and expansion of cold storages and storages for horticulture produce, expansion of the corpus of the Rural Infrastructure Development Fund, launching of a Market Information Network and promotion of value addition in agriculture through excise exemption and other interventions.

For the year 2002-03, the Government proposes to provide enhanced funds for Rural Infrastructure Development Fund, Kisan Credit Cards linked with insurance packages, separate corporation for agriculture insurance scheme, enhanced allocation for Accelerated irrigation Benefit Programme, decanalisation of export of

agricultural commodities, expansion of futures and forward trading to cover all agricultural commodities, micro credit programme through Self Help Groups, establishment of Agri Export Zones etc.

The Food Corporation of India, Central Warehousing Corporation and State Warehousing Corporations have taken up measures for augmenting storage capacity and have created a capacity of 2.78 lakh tonnes (up to December 2001) against the target of 3.61 lakh tonnes (2001-02). The Government has announced a National Policy on handling, storage and transportation of foodgrains to reduce storage and transit losses at farm and commercial level, and to modernize the system of handling, storage and transportation of foodgrains in India.

Shifting of National Institute of Rock Mechanics from KGF

554. SHRI R.L. JALAPPA : Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the date on which the National Institute of Rock Mechanics was established in Kolar Gold Fields (KGF);

(b) the investment made thereon;

(c) whether there is any proposal to shift the above institute to Nagpur in Maharashtra;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the estimated cost likely to be involved therein; and

(f) the steps proposed to be taken to ensure review of the said proposal since the equipment installed at KGF are extremely sensitive ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) and (b) The National Institute of Rock Mechanics was established on 27th January, 1988, with an investment of Rs. 2 Crores.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) to (f) Does not arise in view of the reply at (c) above.

National Botanical and Research Institute in Kerala

555. SHRI A.C. JOS : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have recieved any proposals regarding setting up of a National Botanical and Research Institute in Kerala during the Tenth Plan ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the Government have given its approval to the said proposal ;

(d) if so, the details thereof ; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

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

(b) to (e) Do not arise

[Translation]

Fruit Juice

556. SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to give direction to mix fruit juice with aerated drinks; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Fixation of Support Price for Agricultural Products

557. MOHD. SHAHABUDDIN :
DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have given up fixation of support price for agricultural products;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether certain agricultural products have been kept under the policy of fixing support price;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Agricultural Pricing Commission now renamed as Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices is proposed to be disbanded;

(f) if so, the details thereof ; and

(g) if not, the other works assigned to this Commission?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The existing major agricultural commodities continue to be covered under the existing Minimum Support Price Policy.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

(g) The Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices will continue to advice the Government on price policy for major agricultural commodities.

Diseased Prawns/Lobsters

558. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the prawns/lobsters in Western Coastal areas especially in Kerala are afflicted with certain disease;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the loss incurred to the State annually as a result thereof ;

(d) whether any study has been made in this regard; and

(e) if so, the findings thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir. There had been reports that cultivated shrimp in certain Western Coastal areas including Kerala were afflicted by certain diseases.

(b) 12 farms in Gujarat, 6 ha in Maharashtra and 7500 ha spread over in 7 coastal districts of Kerala were reportedly affected by White Spot Viral Disease (WSD) during last crop.

(c) A loss sustained by Kerala during last crop is estimated around 3000 tonnes valued at Rs. 45 crores.

(d) A high level Committee has been constituted by the Government of Kerala to study the problems and to suggest guidelines. The Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA), Kochi has also instituted a study availing the technical assistance of the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific (NACA), Thailand for evolving a strategy for control and prevention of shrimp diseases.

(e) As there is no definite cure for viral disease, the farmers have been advised to adopt scientific health management practices including precautionary measures such as PCR tests of broodstock and larvae.

[Translation]

Setting up of Export Oriented Consumer Food Processing Units

559. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications received from various States for setting up export oriented consumer food processing units during the last three years ;

(b) the number of applications approved by the Government during the said period, year-wise;

(c) the number of applications yet to be approved; and

(d) the time by which remaining applications are likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA): (a) to (d) No such proposals have been received from the States during the last three years.

[English]

Assistance for Tourism Projects

560. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY :
SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :

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

(a) whether certain irregularities have come to the notice of the Government in the release and utilisation of assistance for tourism projects;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) whether the funds released in favour of State Tourism Department have never been verified and grossly misutilised;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken to cross check the utilisation of funds released to State Governments for tourism projects?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) and (b) The Department of Tourism, Govt. of India extends Financial Assistance to the State Govts. / UT Administrations every year for indentified tourism projects as per the guidelines. Funds are sanctioned based on inter se priority of the proposal and availability of funds. Utilisation of funds for the projects is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments/UT Administrations. However, delay in implementation, if any, regarding utilisation of funds is taken up with the State Govt./UT Administrations for remedial measures.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The progress of old projects is monitored at the time of prioritisation of projects each year. Besides the Regional Directors and the Directors of the Govt. of India Tourist Officers also review the progress. Senior officers of the Deptt. of Tourism also review projects under construction during their visits to various States to monitor their implementation. In various other fora also the State Govts. are advised to complete the projects expeditiously and utilise the funds properly. Exclusive meetings to review the projects are also taken with the State Government officers.

[Translation]

Pilferage of Coal and Introduction of VRS in CIL

561. SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI :
SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI :

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of coal being pilfered annually from different coal mines ;

(b) the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard ;

(c) whether the Government propose to introduce Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) in the Coal India Limited (CIL) ; and

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be introduced ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) Theft/pilferage of coal is carried out clandestinely and as such it is not possible to exactly specify the quantity of coal being pilfered from different coal mines. However, as per raids conducted by security personnel as well as joint raids with the law and order authorities of the concerned State Governments about 23000 tonnes of coal was recovered in the subsidiary companies of CIL during 2000-01.

(b) Law and order is a State subject, hence the local police is approached by the coal companies frequently. Many FIRs (1505 in 2000-2001) have been filed in this connection in the various coal companies. In addition, the following steps are being taken by coal producing subsidiaries of CIL to prevent theft or pilferage of coal :

(i) Collection of intelligence reports about illegal coal depots and illegal movement of coal, and informing district authorities of the same for taking preventive action.

(ii) Installation of check-posts at vulnerable points to check transport documents.

(iii) Construction of watch towers and providing lighting arrangements around the coal stacking area.

(iv) Erection of barbed-wire/wall fencing around pit head depots, static security manning including deployment of armed guards during the night hours.

(v) Escorting of loaded rakes upto railway weighbridges by armed guards and joint patrolling with Railway Protection Forces in the long railway tracks which are prone to wagon looting.

(vi) Sealing of illegal mining spots.

(vii) Stringent action against transport vehicles caught in the act of theft or pilferage.

(viii) Engagement of lady security guards for preventing women and children indulging in theft/pilferage of coal, strengthening of the security discipline by reassessing the requirement of security personnel, horizontal movement of executives with aptitude for security work, and inducting qualified security personnel at junior, middle and senior levels.

(ix) Training of existing security personnel, refresher training of CISF personnel and basic training to new recruits in security discipline for strengthening the security set up.

(x) The coal companies maintain close liaison with the state authorities.

(c) In Coal India Ltd. a voluntary retirement scheme in respect of non-executives as formulated by the then BPE was introduced during 88-89 and is still in operation.

(d) does not arise in view of reply to (c) above.

Awareness Campaign for Forest Conservation

562. SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN :
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :

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

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme for creating awareness among public towards conservation of forests;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds being spent by the Government for implementation of above scheme every year; and

(d) the extent of success achieved in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) The Government has been

conducting a National Environment Awareness Campaign (NEAC) every year since 1986 for creating awareness among public towards various environmental issues including conservation of forests.

(b) Under this Campaign, which is conducted with the active participation of and in consultation with the NGOs, professional groups, academic institutions etc., various awareness activities like Padyatras/Rallies, Street Theatre, Folk Dances, Essay/Debate/Painting competitions, Seminars etc. are conducted for diverse target groups including general public, school children etc.

(c) During the current year, an amount of Rs. 3.25 crores is estimated to be spent on this Campaign.

(d) The Campaign has been quite successful in sensitizing the general public towards environmental issues including conservation of forests.

[English]

Private Investment In Agricultural Sector

563. SHRI ABUL HASNAT KHAN :
SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA :
SHRI SUBODH MOHITE :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the annual growth rate of GDP in agricultural and allied products plummeted during the last three years ;

(b) if so, whether the private investment in this sector doubled during the post reforms period ;

(c) if so, the volume of private investment in Agricultural Sector during the last three years ;

(d) whether the Government has evaluated the reasons for the negative trend in this sector ;

(e) if so, the details thereof ;

(f) whether the Government propose to remove restrictions on storage of agricultural products ;

(g) if so, the details thereof ; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (e) According to the estimates of GDP released by the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO) the growth rates of Gross Value Addition (GVA) in the Agricultural & Allied Sector for the years 1999-2000, 2000-01 and 2001-02 are 1.3% -

-0.2% and 5.7% respectively at 1993 - 94 prices. The growth rate of agriculture is unsteady due to aberrant weather conditions. There is no negative trend in the performance of Agriculture Sector. The investment in Agriculture & Allied Sector has been estimated by CSO for the years upto 2000-01, according to which the private investment in the sector has more than doubled to the level of Rs. 19648 Crore in the year 2000-01, from Rs. 9056 Crore in the year 1993-94. The volume of private investment in the sector for the three years, 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 are Rs. 16254 Crores, Rs. 18605 Crores and Rs. 19648 Crores respectively.

(f) to (h) Yes Sir. In order to facilitate free trade and movement of foodgrains, and to enable the farmers to get best prices for their produce, achieve price stability and ensure availability of foodgrains in deficit areas, a Central Order titled 'Removal of (Licensing Requirements, Stock Limits and Movement Restrictions) on specified foodstuffs Order, 2002 has been issued by Government under Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, vide GSR 104 (E), dated 15.2.2002 according to which any dealer can freely buy, stock, sell transport etc. any quantity of wheat, paddy/ rice, coarse grains, sugar, edible oilseeds and edible oils and shall not require any licence or permit therefor.

Rajasthan Districts Engulfed by Fluorosis

564. SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR :
SHRI P. MOHAN :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of districts affected by ground water contamination in like arsenic and fluorosis, State-wise; and

(b) the remedial steps taken by the Government and the funds earmarked for containing the menace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) (a) A Statement indicating names of States and Districts where ground water has been found contaminated with arsenic and fluoride is enclosed.

(b) The provision of drinking water supply is the responsibility of the State Governments. Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Governments and provide financial assistance under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) and Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY) . Under ARWSP, upto 20% of the allotted funds can be utilized to tackle water quality problems. In such quality affected areas, where ground water is unfit for drinking, the safe drinking water is supplied either through alternative sources, tapping surface water or treatment of quality problems through suitable removal unit. In urban areas, the Ministry of Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation assists the States for the provision of safe drinking water.

The Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) also provides technical services to the State Governments. The CGWB undertakes periodic monitoring of water quality. The data

thus collected is made available to concerned State agencies. The Board has sanctioned funds amounting to Rs. 59.78 lakh to the Government of West Bengal to study arsenic contamination in ground water in the State.

Statement

State-wise names of Districts where ground water has been found contaminated with fluoride and arsenic

State	Districts	
	Fluoride	Arsenic
Andhra Pradesh	Prakasam, Nellore, Anantapur, Nalgonda, Ranga Reddy, Adilabad	---
Assam	Karbi Anglong, Nowgaon	---
Bihar	Jamui	---
Chhattisgarh	Raipur	---
Gujarat	Kachch, Surendranagar, Rajkot, Ahmedabad, Mehsana, Banaskantha, Sabarkantha, Panchmahal, Kheda	---
Haryana	Rohtak, Jind, Hissar, Bhiwani, Mahendragarh, Faridabad	---
Jharkhand	Giridih, Dhanbad	---
Karnataka	Tumkur, Kolar, Bangalore, Gulbarga, Bellary, Raichur	---
Kerala	Palghat	---
Madhya Pradesh	Bhind, Morena, Guna, Jhabua, Chhindwara, Seoni, Mandla, Vidisha	---
Maharashtra	Bhadara, Chandrapur, Nanded, Aurangabad	---
Orissa	Bolangir	---
Punjab	Ludhiana, Faridkot, Bhatinda, Sangrur, Jalandhar, Amritsar	---
Rajasthan	Barmer, Bikaner, Ganganagar, Jalore, Nagaur, Pali, Sirohi	---
Tamil Nadu	Dharmapuri, Salem, North Arcot, Villupuram, Tiruchirappalli, Pudukkottai	---
Uttar Pradesh	Bulandshahar, Aligarh, Agra, Unnao, Rae Bareilly	---
West Bengal	Birbhum	Malda, South 24 Parganas, Nadia, Hooghly, Murshidabad, Bardhaman, Howrah
NCT of Delhi	City, Shahdara & Mehrauli blocks	---

[Translation]

Air Pollution by Lead Particles

565. SHRI P.R. KHUNTE :
SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE :

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

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to take stringent steps to control increasing level of lead particles in the air and its impact on human health ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) The Government has taken stringent steps with regard to control of lead levels in the air by phasing out leaded gasoline in the country.

(c) Does not arise.

Average Agricultural Yield

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

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether as per the official assessment the average agricultural yield in respect of wheat, paddy, sugarcane, oilseeds, pulses and cotton in the country during the year 2001 has been less than that of the year 1999-2000 ;

(b) if so, the average crop yield details of the said crops during the said years ;

(c) whether less yield adversely affects production cost; and

(d) if so, the assessment of the Government in this regard alongwith the details of the economic incentives given to the farmers in the event of rise in production cost ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) The average yield rates of wheat, paddy, sugarcane, oilseeds, pulses and cotton were lower during 2000-01

compared to those during 1999-2000. The details are given in Table below :

TABLE I

Crops	(Kg/Hect.)	
	1999-2000	2000-01
Wheat	2778	2743
Paddy	2978	2871
Sugarcane	70935	69636
Oilseeds*	853	791
Pulses	635	533
Cotton	225	191

* Includes groundnut, castorseed, nigerseed, sesamum, rapeseed & mustard, linseed, safflower, sunflower and soyabean.

(c) Yes, Sir, provided cost of cultivation remains the same.

(d) Data of effect of actual decline in yield, in the year 2000-01, on cost of production has not been processed so far. However, major agricultural commodities, including the commodities mentioned in Table above, are covered under the Minimum Support Price (MSP) scheme. Cost of production is an important variable that is taken into account while finalizing MSP for the specified agricultural commodities, so as to ensure remunerative prices to farmers for their produce.

Use of Minor Agriculture Watersheds

567. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY :
SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the minor agriculture watersheds are not being properly utilized in the country ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for proper and optimum utilization of small watersheds ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (c) The Government of India have accorded the highest priority for development of minor agriculture watersheds which is known as "micro watershed" in the technical terminology. The major initiative of the Ministry of Agriculture in this regard is the National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPRA) which was launched in VIII

Plan in 25 States and 2 Union Territories of Andaman & Nicobar and Dadra & Nagar Haveli and continues to be implemented during IX Plan. This scheme was being implemented as independent Centrally Sponsored Scheme till November 2000, after which it has been subsumed under the Macro Management mode of operation. This, however, continues to be a component of Macro Management.

During the VIII plan 2554 Watersheds were treated covering an area of 4.23 Million hectares all over the country. During the IX Plan, it is proposed to treat an areas of 2.25 million hectares at an estimated cost of Rs. 1020.00 crores. Impact evaluation conducted on random sample basis have shown that watershed based interventions have led to ground water recharge, enhancement of cropping intensity, changes in cropping pattern, higher yield of crops and reduction in soil losses.

VRS in Civil Aviation Sector

568. DR. BALI RAM : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether VRS / disinvestment process has started in his Ministry and its subordinate offices ;

(b) if so, the number of surplus officers/staff in various categories under his Ministries and subordinate offices ;

(c) whether the employees opting for VRS are also to get pension facility ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) No VRS/Disinvestment process has started in the Ministry of Civil Aviation and its attached/ sub-ordinate offices.

(b) Four surplus pilots of the erstwhile Directorate of Agricultural Aviation deputed to the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) are still awaiting redeployment through Central Surplus Cell. One Deputy Director (Communication) on mandatory deputation to the National Airports Authority, who was reverted to DGCA, has also been rendered surplus.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

[English]

Tourism Potential in Uttar Pradesh

569. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any plan to attract more tourists to Northern States of the country ;

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

(c) whether tourism potential of Uttar Pradesh has yet to be exploited fully ; and

(d) if so, the remedial steps being taken in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) and (b) State level plans to attract tourists are prepared by the respective State Governments. Department of Tourism, however, provides some financial assistance to State Governments/U.T. Administrations for tourism projects prioritised in consultation with them.

(c) Tourism potential of the State can be realised better by augmenting and upgrading facilities at tourist places and by providing clean and hassle free environment for movement of tourists.

(d) 98 tourism projects with Central component of Rs. 1909.44 lakhs have been sanctioned for Uttar Pradesh during the 1st four years of the Ninth Plan. State Government has also been advised at various fora to take steps to improve the conditions at tourist places.

Revision of Royalty on Coal

570. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :
SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMI GOWDA :
SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO :
SHRIMATI KUMUDINI PATNAIK :
SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL :

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Committee appointed by the Government on the revision of coal royalty has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the new royalty is likely to be announced and implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Committee constituted by the Government to look into the issue of revision of royalty rates has submitted its report to the Government. The report of the Committee contains recommendations on issues relevant to revision of royalty rates on coal. The new royalty rates can be notified only after a decision is taken by the Government on these recommendations.

Eco-Tourism in Orissa

571. SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the United Nations has declared the year 2002 as International year of Eco-Tourism;

(b) if so, the steps the Government have taken to encourage eco-tourism in the country;

(c) whether Orissa has been earmarked as a Eco-Tourism destination and funds have been provided to the State for the purpose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) and (c) The Central Department of Tourism promotes Eco-tourism in the country by extending Central financial assistance to eco-friendly tourism projects prioritised in consultation with the State Governments/ Union Territories. The Central Government encourages the States/Union Territories to develop Eco-tourism spots in their States/Union Territories. Besides this, eco-tourism attractions are given wide publicity in the country including that of Orissa as well as in the overseas to attract tourists.

(d) The Central Department of Tourism sanctioned the Rs. 45.00 lakhs during 2000-01 for Development of trekking base camp at Kuldiha- Distt. Balasore.

Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana

572. SHRI PRABODH PANDA : Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) the total funds provided for Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) for the year 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 indicating the sources from where these funds have been mobilized;

(b) the proposals cleared by the Government under PMGSY during the year 2000-2001; and

(c) the funds allotted to the States, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) to (c) A sum of Rs. 2500 crore was earmarked for the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) in the Budgets of the years 2000-2001 and 2001-2002. The source of funds is the 50% share of the Cess on High Speed Diesel (HSD). Value of proposals cleared and amount released to the States/Union Territory Administrations during the year 2000-2001 under PMGSY are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

The value of proposals cleared and amount released to the States/Union Territories under PMGSY in the year 2000-2001

S. No.	State	Value of cleared proposals (Rs. in crore)	Amount released (Rs. in crore)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	195.01	195.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	40.95	40.95
3.	Assam	75.00	75.00
4.	Bihar	149.90	149.90
5.	Chhattisgarh	93.58	92.41
6.	Goa	5.00	5.00
7.	Gujarat	59.81	59.81
8.	Haryana	25.67	25.18
9.	Himachal Pradesh	60.00	60.00
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	20.00	20.00
11.	Jharkhand	110.18	110.05
12.	Karnataka	100.57	100.57
13.	Kerala	19.71	19.71
14.	Madhya Pradesh	217.64	217.64
15.	Maharashtra	130.81	130.21
16.	Manipur	40.00	40.00
17.	Meghalaya	34.95	34.95
18.	Mizoram	19.93	19.93
19.	Nagaland	19.75	19.75
20.	Orissa	179.70	179.70
21.	Punjab	24.66	24.66
22.	Rajasthan	140.35	140.09
23.	Sikkim	13.16	13.16
24.	Tamil Nadu	153.49	99.25

1	2	3	4
25.	Tripura	24.75	24.75
26.	Uttar Pradesh	324.22	321.11
27.	Uttaranchal	60.63	60.63
28.	West Bengal	135.00	135.00
29.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	10.59	10.59
30.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0	0
31.	Daman & Diu	5.00	5.00
32.	Delhi	5.00	0
33.	Lakshadweep	0	0
34.	Pondicherry	5.00	5.00
Total		2500.01	2435.00

* A sum of Rs. 60.00 crore has been transferred to the Central Road Fund by the Ministry of Finance.

[Translation]

Visit of Foreign Tourists to Rajasthan

573. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of foreign tourists visited Rajasthan during the last three years ; and

(b) the amount of foreign exchange earned as a result thereof from the State during the said period ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) The number of visits of foreign tourists to Rajasthan during the last three years is as follows :

Year	Foreign Tourists Visits
1999	562685
2000	623100
2001	608283

(b) State-wise foreign exchange earnings are not maintained.

[English]

Diversion of Forest Land for Sabarimala Temple

574. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the action taken by the Government so far to hand over the forest land to Travancore Devaswom Board at Sabarimala, Kerala to facilitate primary amenities to crores of Lord Ayyappa Devotees on the basis of Joint Inspection Committee Report ; and

(b) the hectares of land handed over to the Board for construction of cardiology centre at Sabarimala ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BALLU) : (a) In pursuance of the recommendations of the Committee constituted by the Hon'ble Speaker of the Lok Sabha under the Chairmanship of Shri O. Rajagopal, Minister of State, Government of India, the State Government had submitted a proposal for diversion of 0.6 ha. of forest land at Pamba inside Periyar Tiger Reserve for Water Treatment Plant. Standing Committee of Indian Board for Wildlife has concurred with the proposal in its meeting on 26.2.2002.

(b) No forest land is proposed to be transferred to the Board for construction of cardiology centre at Sabarimala. The Interpretation Centre on Pamba-Sannidhanam route has been modified and upgraded by the State Government for use as Cardiology Centre.

Cess on Chemical Fertilizers and Pesticides

575. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether to boost organic cultivation the Government propose to levy cess on chemical fertilizers and pesticides, besides providing farmers with a single-window opportunity on export-related services;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the estimated funds likely to be collected thereby ; and

(d) the fields in which such funds are proposed to be utilized ?

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

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Decline in Ground Water Level

576. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any report on rapid decline in ground water level has been submitted by the Central Ground Water Board to the Union Government ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the steps taken to arrest the decline in ground water and to harness the same ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, the long-term observations made by the Central Ground Water Board have shown a situation of fall in the level of ground water in various parts of the country. The names of the districts having pockets where fall in the ground water level for more than 4 metre (1981-2000) has been observed in different States is given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) Water being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments to plan, finance and execute schemes for augmenting water resources. Government of India is also promoting rainwater

harvesting through Watershed Management Programme, artificial recharge of ground water and roof top rain water harvesting under various schemes. Various measures as initiated by the Central Government to arrest decline in ground water and to harness it are indicated below :

- (i) Constitution of Central Ground Water Authority under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for regulation and control of ground water management and development.
- (ii) Circulation of a Model Bill to all the States/Union Territories to enable them to enact suitable legislation for regulation and control of ground water development.
- (iii) Circulation of 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.
- (iv) Implementation of pilot Central Sector Scheme on "Studies on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water" in the country at an estimated cost of Rs. 25.00 crore. Recharging wells and rain water harvesting are integral part of this scheme. The results of the scheme have been found to be very encouraging.

Statement

Name of the State/UT/District having Pockets with fall in Ground Water Level of more than 4 Metre (1981-2000)

State/UT	Districts
Andhra Pradesh	Adilabad, Ananthapur, Chittoor, Cuddapah, East Godavari, Guntur, Hyderabad, Karimnagar, Khammam, Krishna, Kurnool, Mahabubnagar, Medak, Nalgonda, Nellore, Nizamabad, Prakasam, Rangareddi, Srikakulam, Vizianagaram, Visakhapatnam, Warangal, West Godavari.
Bihar (including Jharkhand)	Dhanbad, Purb Singhbhum, Darbhanga
Chhattisgarh	Bastar, Bilaspur, Durg, Raigarh, Raipur, Rajnandgaon, Satna, Sidhi
Gujarat	Ahmedabad, Amreli, Banaskantha, Bharuch, Bhavnagar, Jamnagar, Junagadh, Kheda, Kutch, Mehsana, Rajkot, Surat, Surendranagar
Haryana	Ambala, Bhiwani, Faridabad, Gurgaon, Hisar, Jind, Kaithal, Karnal, Kurukshetra, Mahendergarh, Panipat, Rewari, Rohtak, Sonapat, Yamunanagar
Karnataka	Bangalore (Rural), Bellary, Belgaum, Bidar, Bagalkot, Bijapur, Chitradurga, Devangiri, Dharwar, Gadag, Gulbarga, Haveri, Hassan, Kolar, Mysore, Chamarajanagar, Raichur, Shimoga, Kapol, Tumkur, Uttara Kannada
Madhya Pradesh	Betul, Bhind, Chhatarpur, Chhindwara, Damoh, Datia, Dewas, Dhar, Guna, Gwalior, Indore, Jabalpur, Katni, Khandawa, Kargone, Mandsaur, Moena, Narsingpur, Neemuch, Panna, Raisen, Raigarh, Ratlam, Sagar, Sehore, Shajapur, Shivpuri, Ujjain, Vidisha

State/UT	Districts
Maharashtra	Ahmednagar, Akola, Beed, Bombay, Dhule, Gadchiroli, Kolhapur, Nanded, Nashik, Osmanabad, Amravati, Aurangabad, Bhandara, Buldhana, Chandrapur, Jalgaon, Jalna, Latur, Nagpur, Parbhani, Pune, Ratnagiri, Sangli, Sindhudurg, Thane, Satara, Solapur, Wardha, Yavatmal
Orissa	Angul, Balasore, Bargarh, Bolangir, Dhenkanal, Gajapati, Ganjam, Jaipur, Kalahandi, Keonjhar, Khurda, Koraput, Malkangiri, Mayurbhanja, Nawapara, Nawarangpur, Sundargarh, Suvamapur
Punjab	Amritsar, Bathinda, Fatehgarh, Firozepur, Jalandhar, Kapurthala, Ludhiana, Moga, Nawan Shehar, Patiala, Ropar, Sangrur
Rajasthan	Ajmer, Alwar, Bhilwara, Dungarpur, Ganganagar, Jaipur, Jaisalmer, Jhalawar, Jhunjhunu, Jodhpur, Nagaur, Pali, Rajsamand, Sikar, Udaipur
Tamil Nadu	Coimbatore, Cuddalore, Dharmapuri, Kancheepuram, Kanyakumari, Madras, Pudukottai, Sivagangai, Tanjavur, Theni, Tirunelveli, Thiruvallur, Tiruvannamalai, Thiruvapur, Tuticorin
Uttar Pradesh (including Uttaranchal)	Agra, Aligarh, Allahabad, Budaun, Bijnor, Bulandshahar, Etah, Etawah, Farrukhabad, Fatehpur, Ghaziabad, Hardoi, Kanpur, Lucknow, Mathura, Meerut, Moradabad, Rai Bareli, Saharanpur, Unnao
West Bengal	Bankura, Bardhaman, Midnapur, N-24 Parganas, Purulia
NCT of Delhi	Mehrauli, Najafgarh and City block
Pondicherry	Pondicherry

Vehicular Pollution

577. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that even after phasing out two-stroke auto-rickshaws, diesel buses and in introduction of CNG vehicles, vehicular pollution in the Capital has increased from 64 per cent to 72 per cent in the past ten years ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to check the rising pollution in the Capital ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) According to the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), the ambient air quality trends in Delhi indicate the increase in Sulphur dioxide (SO₂), Nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) and Suspended Particulate Matter (SPM) concentrations from 1991 to 1995, whereas decreasing trends have been observed from 1995 to 2001 even though there is an increase in vehicle population and fuel consumption.

(c) The steps taken by the Government to check the rising pollution in the Capital include adoption of stringent emission norms for 4 wheeled automobiles known as Bharat State-II norms akin to Euro-II norms, introduction of commensurate quality of fuel, adoption of Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) and Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) as auto fuels and traffic management.

Deplorable Condition of Farmers

578. SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN
SHRI RAJO SINGH :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the condition of farmers in the country has become pitiable particularly in Bihar following decline in the prices of agricultural produce and that farmers are not getting remunerative prices for their produce ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the Government have formulated any policy to control the increasing prices of agricultural inputs ;

(d) if so, the details thereof ; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to bring down the agricultural cost and to provide remunerative prices to farmers for their produce ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) (a) and (b) The wholesale prices of certain agricultural commodities are ruling below the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) at some selected centres in the country including those in Bihar.

(c) to (e) The National Agricultural Policy (NAP) envisages, among other things, efficient use of inputs and their assured availability. In order to popularize the annually

released/identified varieties of rice, wheat and coarse cereals and also to acquaint the farmers with the latest production technologies, Central Sector Schemes of minikit programme of rice, wheat and coarse cereals are being implemented in the country. A Seed Bank has been established to meet the contingent requirements of seed in the wake of natural calamities. A series of steps have been taken to increase farm credit. To enable availability of fertilizers to farmers at reasonable prices, the Government fixes the farm-gate price of urea, which is the only controlled fertilizer, while in case of decontrolled fertilizers it indicates the Maximum Retail Price (MRP) under the Concession Scheme for Di-Ammonium Phosphate (DAP), Muriate of Potash (MOP) and Complex fertilizers. The indicative MRP in case of Single Super Phosphate (SSP) is fixed by the respective State Governments.

The Government has taken various steps to protect the interests of the farmers and these include fixation of MSPs for major agricultural commodities and undertaking procurement operations thereof; implementation of Market Intervention Scheme (MIS); and using instruments of trade to discourage imports and encourage exports, etc.

The wholesale prices of agricultural commodities are constantly monitored and instances of market prices ruling below the MSPs are referred to the respective designated central nodal agencies for undertaking procurement operations. The designated central nodal agencies are required to intervene in the market for undertaking price support operations in case the prices fall below the MSP level fixed by the Government. There has been record procurement of agriculture commodities in recent years.

[Translation]

Scheme for Harvesting of Rain Water

579. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to make it mandatory for the industrial establishments to ensure roof top rain water harvesting in the country ;

(b) if so, whether any action has been taken in pursuance of Government's instructions ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) The Central Ground Water Authority constituted under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 has issued directions to adopt roof top rain water harvesting system to various establishments including industrial establishments located in the 'Notified' areas of South and South West Districts of NCT of Delhi, Municipal Corporation of Faridabad and

Ballabhgarh, Haryana, Municipal Corporation of Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh and Gurgaon town and adjoining areas of Gurgaon district, Haryana in their premises by 31.3.2002.

(b) and (c) To facilitate adoption of the directions of the Authority, the Authority organized 8 training programmes and 12 mass awareness programmes for technical guidance about the roof top rain water harvesting system to public in the notified areas.

Introduction of Flight between Afghanistan and India

580. SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA :
SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA :
DR. ASHOK PATEL :
SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal is under consideration of the Government to start regular flight between Afghanistan and India ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether any agreement has been signed in this regard ;

(d) if so, the details thereof ;

(e) the number of flights proposed to be operated between the two countries ; and

(f) the time by which the regular flights are likely to commence?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) to (e) According to the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between the Government of India and the Government of Afghanistan on 25th January, 2002, the designated airlines of both countries are entitled to operate a maximum of 1600 seats per week in each direction with any type of aircraft on specified routes. Further, Mahan Air, a designated airline of Iran has also been permitted to operate upto 2 services per week between Tehran and Delhi via Kabul.

(f) Actual operations are matters of commercial judgement of the concerned airlines. Indian Airlines presently does not have any plans to operate services to Kabul.

Studies conducted under NRAP in H.P.

581. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL :
SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH :

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

(a) the number of studies undertaken by various institutions under National River Action Plan for the Beas, Satluj, Yamuna rivers and for the revival of the Rivalsar lake

in Mandi District and in regard to field testing laboratory and sanitation survey etc. in Himachal Pradesh during the last five years till date;

(b) the details of proposals lying pending with the Government for allocation of funds in this regard alongwith the time since when these are pending;

(c) the reasons for not allocating the required funds so far; and

(d) the time by which the funds are likely to be allocated by the Government for such proposals?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (d) Under the National River Conservation Plan, proposals received from Himachal Pradesh are as follows :

(i) Proposal for Rs. 78.60 lakhs for assessment of pollution load in river Satluj in Himachal Pradesh received in 1994.

(ii) Proposal for Rs. 78.41 cores for pollution abatement in 11 towns along river Beas received in 2000.

The proposal for river Satluj could not be undertaken as the water quality of the river stretch in Himachal Pradesh was within the prescribed standards. For river Beas, the Government of Himachal Pradesh was asked to prepare Detailed Project Reports with firm costs and following an integrated approach with 70:30 cost sharing between the Central and the State Government. During the X Plan, Ministry will take up the works in various States depending upon the prioritization and availability of funds. No proposals for Yamuna river and revival of Rivalsar lake have been received from the Government of Himachal Pradesh.

[English]

Female workers in Coal Mines

582. SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY :
SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA :

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the numebr of female workers working in coal sector as on June 30, 2001 subsidiary-wise ;

(b) whether there has been any decline in the number of female workers ;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(d) the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard ;

(e) whether Coal India Limited (CIL) and Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL) have stopped employing female candidates on compassionate ground ;

(f) if so, the number of applications of such candidates lying pending with the ECL and CIL as on date ; and

(g) the steps being taken by Government to ensure that CIL and ECL provide employment to such female candidates ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) The number of female employees working in Coal sector subsidiary-wise as on 30th June, 2001 is given as under :

Company	Strength of Female Employees as on 30/6/2001
Eastern Coalfields Limited	9084
Bharat Coking Coal Limited	8380
Central Coalfields Limited	5941
Western Coalfields Limited	3566
South Eastern Coalfields Limited	3276
Mahanadi Coalfields Limited	902
Northern Coalfields Limited	420
North Eastern Coalfields Limited	286
Coal Mines Planning & Design Institute Limited	143
Dankuni Coal Complex	21
Coal India Limited (HQ)	180
Total	32199

(b) Yes, Sir. The number of female workers has declined from 33871 as on 1.4.2000 to 32199 as on 30.06.2001.

(c) and (d) The work in Coal Industry is hazardous in nature, and therefore, there is limited scope for employment of female employees. Moreover, there are restrictions on their employment in underground operations as also in second and third shifts. Due to these reasons, intake of female employees is restricted to dependent employment in case of death of their spouse while in service.

(e) No Sir, CIL and ECL have not stopped employing female candidates on compassionate ground although female candidates are encouraged to opt for monetary compensation in lieu of employment, which is paid till they attain the age of superannuation.

(f) and (g) Do not arise in view of reply given to part (e) above.

Coconut Growers in Crisis

583. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the coconut growers in Kerala are facing serious crisis due to the unprecedented fall in prices of coconut, copra and coconut oil due to the increased import of these items ; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to resume procurement of copra under the Minimum Support Price Scheme through NAFED ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) Government of India is aware that the price of coconut, copra and coconut oil has fallen in recent years and one of the reasons for this is large scale import of palmolien in the country. The Government, however, has taken steps to increase the import duty upto 85% on RBD palmolien and 65% on crude palm oil. Government has already procured 85,410 MTs of Copra in Kerala during 2000 season. The procurement of Copra during the 2001 season has already commenced.

[Translation]

Ban on Cow Slaughter

584. DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the States which have banned cow slaughter and the States where cow slaughter continues ;

(b) whether the Directive Principles of State Policy prohibits cow slaughter ; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to ban cow slaughter completely ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (c) Article 48 of the Directive Principles of State Policy states that "The State shall endeavour to organize agriculture and animal husbandry on modern and scientific lines and shall, in particular, take steps for preserving and improving the breeds, and prohibiting the slaughter, of cows and calves and other milch and draught cattle."

However, under the distribution of legislative powers between the Union and the States and as enjoined by Article 246(3) of the Constitution, the preservation of cattle is a matter on which the Legislature of the State has exclusive power to legislate. The relevant entry viz. Entry 15 in List II of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution.

In pursuance of the above provision the following States/ Union Territories have enacted legislation for banning / restricting the slaughter of cow and its progeny :

States - Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Manipur.

Union Territories—Andaman & Nicobar Islands, National Capital Territory of Delhi, Chandigarh, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu and Pondicherry.

The following States/Union Territories have not banned the slaughter of cow and its progeny:

State - Arunachal Pradesh, Kerala, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura.

Union Territories - Lakshadweep.

[English]

Fish Production in Orissa

585. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO :
SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a vast scope to increase fish production in Orissa ;

(b) if so, the steps taken in that direction during the Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(c) the achievements made in this regard during the said period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir. Good scope exists in Orissa for increase in fish production. The State has a marine resource potential of 1.44 lakh tonnes against which the present production is 1.23 lakh tonnes per annum. Brackishwater area of about 9,000 ha suitable for shrimp culture, and 1,14,839 ha of ponds and tanks fit for freshwater aquaculture also exists in the State.

(b) Various Central/Centrally Sponsored Schemes such as (a) Development of Marine Fisheries with two components, namely, (i) Motorization of Traditional Crafts (ii) Reimbursement of Central Excise Duty of HSD oil supplied to small mechanized fishing vessels below 20m (b) Fishing Harbours at major and minor ports, (c) Development of Freshwater Aquaculture and (d) Integrated Coastal Aquaculture are under implementation besides State Plan Schemes to increase fish production in Orissa during Ninth Five Year Plan.

(c) During the Ninth Five Year Plan 2400 Nos. of boats have been given subsidy for central excise duty on HSD oil, 1540 boats have been sanctioned for motorization. An area of 7460 ha of freshwater and 125 ha of brackishwater has been brought under fish/shrimp farming. An amount of 679.72 lakh has been released as central share during the period.

Survey by ASI near Khajuraho

586. SHRI J.S. BRAR : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some smugglers have been reportedly found excavating hidden sculptures around Khajuraho ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the entire area around Khajuraho has not been surveyed so far by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) ; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and by when the ASI is likely to complete the Survey and tap the hidden treasure to boost tourism ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) and (b) No such incident has been reported from the Centrally protected monuments and sites around Khajuraho.

(c) and (d) The area around Khajuraho was extensively surveyed by the Archaeological Survey of India in 1980. Eighteen sites of archaeological importance were noted. Among these, Satdhara and Bijamandal were excavated between 1980 - 1986 and 1998 - 2000 respectively. The excavation of other mounds is not contemplated as they are preserved for future research.

Encroachment on Airport Land

587. SHRI Y.V. RAO : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the air bases are reported to have been encroached upon in some of the cities in the country ;

(b) if so, the particulars of such instances reported during the last three years ; and

(c) the action being taken by the Government to prevent such encroachment ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) However, no instances of encroachments have been reported from airports during the last three years.

(c) It is the constant endeavour of the Government to prevent such encroachments. Airports Authority of India (AAI) has taken up the following steps :

AAI has taken up the matter with various State Governments for removal and/or rehabilitation of the

encroachers from AAI land; fencing/boundary wall around the operational area of the airport has been constructed and breaches repaired / bridged to safeguard the AAI land from encroachers; construction of motorable road along the boundary wall for easy accessibility to the perimeter and keeping a continuous watch against encroachers; the process of shifting/removing/rehabilitating encroachers from the AAI land in Jari Mari (Rafiq Nagar) area at Mumbai is under progress with the help of State Government; encroachers on AAI land at Mumbai Airport which are security hazard are being identified to be shifted in the Salt Pan area with the assistance of Government of Maharashtra and about one acre of land belonging to AAI in Dag No. 220 at the LGBI Airport, Guwahati have been got cleared from the encroachers after following due legal process and PPE Eviction Proceedings.

[Translation]

Temples Preserved by ASI

588. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MAHSUKHLAL GANDHI :
SHRI RAMDAS RUPALA GAVIT :

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

(a) the details of the temples in the various States of the country particularly in Maharashtra preserved by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) ;

(b) the annual cost of maintenance of each temple, State-wise ;

(c) whether the temple situated at Shegaon in Ghoran Tehsil is in dilapidated condition ;

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to improve its condition ; and

(e) the funds proposed to be allocated for the preservation and maintenance of this temple ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) and (b) The number of temples, protected by the Archaeological Survey of India, under the Ancient Monument & Archaeological Sites and Remains Act 1958, circle wise, and the expenditure incurred thereon during the last 3 years, is given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) to (e) the temple situated at Shegaon in Ghoran Tehsil, Maharashtra State is not a centrally protected monument. As such it does not come under the purview of the Archaeological Survey of India for its maintenance.

Statement

S. No.	Name of Circles	No. of Temples	1998-1999	1999-2000	2000-2001
1.	Agra	110	5,91,100	8,36,495	2,69,310
2.	Aurangabad	99	14,37,981	10,50,674	9,57,485
3.	Bangalore	129	61,47,419	76,30,707	98,95,146
4.	Bhopal	103	1,02,64,449	96,17,542	78,76,410
5.	Bhubaneshwar	68	42,32,635	50,81,709	55,96,724
6.	Calcutta	41	17,45,333	22,34,334	14,00,399
7.	Chandigarh	27	48,10,511	46,59,382	39,23,422
8.	Chennai	103	76.64,005	74.66,167	76.97,958
9.	Delhi	--	--	--	--
10.	Dharwad	36	34,56,163	39,89,945	41,18,476
11.	Goa	2	51,836	1,78,773	2,95,539
12.	Guwahati	28	2,15,500	5,59,300	7,45,900
13.	Hyderabad	136	40,59,649	47,41,678	67,59,066
14.	Jaipur	54	30,99,730	54,94,435	47,21,051
15.	Lucknow	104	41,66,967	26,91,265	29,47,493
16.	Patna	4	95,967	1,14,311	4,75,938
17.	Srinagar	30	24,25,210	31,21,603	33,00,606
18.	Thrissure	16	36,87,119	37,89,986	42,44,480
19.	Vadodara	39	16,07,883	20,18,402	27,26,818
Total		1129	5,97,59,453	6,52,76,708	6,79,52,221

*[English]***Comprehensive Agriculture Development Project**

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

(a) whether the comprehensive Agriculture Development Projects including Ecological restoration, Reclamation of alkali soil, Coastal Salinity Ingress prevention Scheme of Gujarat State are pending with the Union Government ;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (c) The project proposal on "Ecological Restoration through Integrated Development Programme in Saraswati and Shetrunji river basin" of Gujarat State has been forwarded to Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance with recommendation to consider the project for financial assistance under Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC)".

The revised project proposals on "Reclamation of Alkali Soil in Gujarat State" and "Pilot Project for Prevention of Salinity Ingress in Coastal Areas of Saurashtra", have been examined and recommended to Planning Commission for their consideration.

Exclusion of Sugarcane Crop From NCIS

590. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a review in respect of National Crop Insurance Scheme for exclusion of sugarcane crop has since been completed ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the Government propose to make the scheme optional in case of sugarcane crop; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) There has been no proposal, at present, for the exclusion of Sugarcane crop in the review of National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS).

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Revamp of Co-operative Credit System

591. SHRI E. AHAMED : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the share of Co-operative system in the credit to agriculture sector ;

(b) whether the Government propose to revamp the Co-operative credit system ; and

(c) if so, the specific steps being taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) The share of Cooperative system in the credit support to agriculture sector was 41% in 2000-01.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The Government of India constituted a Task Force also known as "Capoor Committee" to suggest measures for revamping of the Cooperative Credit system. In order to operationalise the revamping package as suggested by the Capoor Committee, the Government of India has constituted a Joint Committee of Cooperation Ministers of select States under the Chairmanship of Minister of State for Finance.

Destruction to Mangroves in Orissa

592. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the inhabitants of villages located in and around the Bhitarkanika National Park in Kendrapara District

of Orissa had destroyed the mangroves to expand agriculture and to take up pisciculture in this area as reported in the "Economic Times" dated January 6, 2002 ; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to save the mangroves which protect these villages from the Cyclone?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) As per the information received from Government of Orissa, about 400 villages are located around Bhitarkanika National Park and Bhitarkanika Wildlife Sanctuary. Increasing demand on land for agriculture and non-agriculture use has resulted into heavy biotic pressure and exploitation of mangrove forests in these areas.

(b) Bhitarkanika had been declared as a Sanctuary in 1975 and National Park in 1998. Financial assistance is extended by Government of India to the State Government for Conservation and Management of Mangroves in Bhitarkanika, to cover plantation, regeneration and protection of mangroves in degraded mangroves areas. Patrolling has been intensified in and around the Bhitarkanika National Park and ecodevelopment activities are encouraged so as to reduce pressure on mangroves. Under the provisions of Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 1991, and the approved Coastal Zone Management Plan of Orissa, Mangrove areas in the State are categorized as CRZ-I under which agriculture, pisciculture and construction activities are prohibited.

International Flights from Hyderabad

593. SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether some International Airlines namely British Airways, Swiss Air, Singapore Airlines have expressed their willingness to introduce direct flights between London-Hyderabad, Geneva-Hyderabad and Singapore-Hyderabad for the NRIs residing in those countries since Hyderabad has developed into major Software and I.T. Industry ; and

(b) if so, the Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) Government of Singapore have been requesting for Hyderabad as an additional point of call for their designated airline. However British Airways and Swiss Air who had in the past shown interest to operate to Hyderabad have not followed it up.

(b) Hyderabad presently is not available as a point of call to these airlines. Such requests are considered during bilateral air services consultations with respective Governments as and when held.

Funds under SCP & TSP for Development of SCs/STs

594. SHRI A.K.S. VIJAYAN : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have been implementing various schemes and programmes under Special Component Plan (SCP) and Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) since 1978 for achieving overall development of scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes which live below poverty line;

(b) if so, the details of schemes/programmes formulated/being implemented by his Ministry under SCP and TSP since their commencement specifying nature, scope and target groups thereof ; and

(c) the amount of funds requisitioned and procured by his Ministry during Sixth, Seventh, Eighth and Ninth Five Year Plans for such schemes/programmes?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) to (c) The Department of Tourism, Government of India has various plan schemes for development and promotion of tourism in the country. All schemes are in the nature of strengthening of infrastructure and for publicity and marketing of tourism and Human Resource Development. There is no separate allocation of funds for welfare of SCs and STs under Special Component Plan and Tribal Sub Plan. However, SCs and STs are also benefited through the scheme like Development of infrastructure for which funds are allocated to the State Governments by the Central Department of Tourism.

Under the scheme of Human Resource Development, the Department of tourism imparts training to students through Hotel Management Institutes and Food Craft Institutes. The admissions to these Institutes are given on the basis of merit and reservation applicable to SC and ST candidates as per the Govt. policy. As far as the Department of culture is concerned, there are no specific schemes/programmes under Special Component Plan (SCP) and Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP). However, there is one scheme relating to financial assistance for promotion of Tribal Folk Arts. The amount of funds under this scheme are provided to individuals and organisations for carrying out Research and Studies in respect of Tribal Folk Arts.

Construction of Houses for Fishermen in Karnataka

595. SHRI G.J. JAVIYA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government had launched a scheme for construction of houses for fishermen in Karnataka at a ratio of 50:50 basis during the year 1997-98;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have released its share ;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ;

(d) whether there is any proposal to extend this scheme to other coastal States ; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Union Government has released Rs. 85.00 lakhs during 1997-98 and Rs. 12.50 lakhs during 1999-2000 as its share.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The Union Government has been implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on National Scheme of Welfare of fishermen with development of model fishermen villages as one of the components in all the States and Union Territories. Under this component the eligible fishermen in inland and marine sector would be provided with basic civic amenities like houses, drinking water and common places for recreation. It is the responsibility of the respective States and UTs to provide land for development of these amenities. A fishermen village may consist of not less than 10 houses. There is no upper limit for the number of houses to be constructed in a village which would depend on the number of eligible fishermen in that village. However, the State should ensure equitable distribution of houses among all villagers in proportion to the number of eligible fishermen, as far as possible. The plinth area and cost of construction of a house would be limited to 35 Sq. Mtrs. and Rs. 40,000 respectively. The ceiling on the land and construction indicate the upper limit. The cost of construction would be shared equally between the State and Central Governments. However, in case of Union Territories, the entire expenditure would be met by Government of India.

Irregularities in Kendriya Bhandar

596. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to the reply given to USQ. No. 8 dated November 19, 2001 regarding irregularities in Kendriya Bhandar and state :

(a) whether the inspecting officer has since completed the inspection and has submitted the report ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

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

(b) and (c) The inspection report has been submitted recently. After examination of the report, appropriate action would be taken as per the provisions of the Multi-State Co-operative Societies Act, 1984 and rules made thereunder.

Rehabilitation Package for Public Sector Coal Companies

597. SHRI AMBAREESHA :
SHRI KAMAL NATH :

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a proposal to rehabilitate the loss making public sector companies is under consideration of the Government ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the measures likely to be adopted to bridge the gap between the demand projected for coal in various Plans and actual production ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) and (b) The Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL), Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL) and Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) are the three subsidiaries of Coal India Limited (CIL) running under losses. Despite a number of measures taken to improve the financial position of the loss making companies, these companies continued to incur losses. Therefore, their net-worth having become negative, these companies have been referred to Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) under Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 as these have become sick within the meaning of Section 3(1)(O) of the Act. The Government is taking steps for revival of the company taking into account the possibility of revival of each of them.

(c) For augmentation of coal production in the country in order to bridge the gap between the projected demand and supply of coal at the end of X and XI Plan periods steps are taken to improve production and productivity in various coalfields of Coal India. Besides, Government of India has introduced the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Amendment Bill, 2000 in the Rajya Sabha to amend the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973. The Amendment Bill seeks to allow Indian companies to undertake non-captive coal mining in the new blocks of coal and lignite and also exploration of coal and lignite resources.

[Translation]

Irregularities Committed by NGOs

598. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) functioning under his Ministry in the country, State-wise ;

(b) whether the Government keep a watch on any irregularities, if committed by these NGOs ; and

(c) if so, the number of NGOs indulged in irregularities and the details of action taken by the Government against them ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) There are no NGOs functioning under this Ministry in the country.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Backlog of Reserved Vacancies

599. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether 'backlog/carried forward vacancies' reserved for SCs, STs and OBCs are required to be treated as a 'separate and distinct group' as provided under Article 16(4) B of the Constitution to overcome 50% ceiling limit on vacancies to be reserved in an year ;

(b) if so, the number of 'backlog/carried forward vacancies' ascertained as per para 5 of the DOPT OM No. 36012/2/96- Eastt. (Res) dated July 2, 1997 in respect of (1) SCs, (2) STs, and OBCs in Group A, B, C and D categories of services as on August 29, 1997 in his Ministry when Special Recruitment Drives etc. meant for filling such vacancies were stopped ;

(c) the number of such carried forward vacancies filled during each of the last four years and those which remain unfilled ; and

(d) the fresh vacancies/posts accrued to reserved classes in all categories of posts during the last four years as per 'post based rosters' ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Production of Cotton in Gujarat

600. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the production of cotton in Gujarat has come down ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(c) whether the farmers are not getting adequate support price of cotton ; and

(d) if so, the remedial steps being taken by the Government in this regard ?

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

(a) The production of cotton in Gujarat has come down in 1999-2000 and 2000-01 as may be seen from the Statement given below :

Year	Production ('000 bales of 170 kg. each)
1998-99	3903.0
1999-2000	2085.6
2000-01	1161.4

(b) During monsoon seasons of 1999 and 2000, Gujarat received deficient rains which resulted in drought-like situation and adversely affected the production of cotton in the State.

(c) During the current season, the prices of certain variety of cotton in Gujarat has been ruling below the Minimum Support Price ((MSP) and the Cotton Corporation of India (CCI), a central nodal agency, has been continuously purchasing cotton from 33 procurement centres opened in the State of Gujarat and has procured a total quantity of 199745 lint bales of Cotton of 170 kgs. each as on 26.2.2002. Further purchases are continuing.

(d) To protect the interest of cotton farmers, the Government have taken several steps which include the following :

(i) Hiking of import duty from 5% to 10% (effective from 9.1.2002) to restrict imports;

(ii) Fixing of Minimum Support Price (MSP) for different varieties of cotton during each season;

(iii) Undertaking price support operation through CCI;

(iv) Launching of the Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC) with four Mini-Missions having a total fund allocation of Rs. 593 crores with the objectives of increasing cotton production and productivity, transfer of technology, supply of certified seeds, improvement of marketing infrastructures and modernization/technological upgradation of existing ginning and pressing factories.

Import of Machineries by CIL

601. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the amount spent on import of machineries / appliances by Coal India Limited (CIL) and its subsidiaries during each of the last three years ;

(b) the foreign exchange involved therein ;

(c) whether these machineries/appliances were also available in the country ; and

(d) if so, the factors attributed to such import ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) to (d) The details of the amount spent as well as foreign exchange involved on import of machineries/ appliances by subsidiary companies of CIL during the last three years and availability of the machineries/ appliances in the country alongwith reasons of import are given in the Statement enclosed.

Statement

Machinery/ Appliances	Amount Spent (Rs.)*	Foreign Exchange (FOB)	Whether available in country	Reasons for Import
1998-99				
Filter Self Rescuer	4,26,30,267	US \$ 609630 1\$ = Rs. 42.10	Yes.	Global tender floated for competitive prices. Orders were placed on the lowest techno-commercially qualified tenderer.
10 cum elec. Rope shovel.	12,19,00,000	US \$ 22.00,000	Yes.	Do

Machinery/ Appliances	Amount Spent (Rs.)*	Foreign Exchange (FOB)	Whether available in country	Reasons for Import
1998-99				
320 HP Dozer	7,92,81,000	US \$ 13,60,521 1\$=Rs. 42.10	Yes	Global tender floated for competitive prices. Orders were placed on the lowest techno-commercially qualified tenderer.
Total	24,38,11,267	US \$ 41,70,151 Rs.17,55,63,357		
World Bank				
10 cum elec. Shovel. 120 T dumper, 250 mm drill, 300 KW wheel dozer 600 KW crawler dozer	11872890.000 (CIF value)	US\$ 184693051.92+ JPY 7440751395	Yes	Since procurement had been made against World Bank Loan, Global tender had to be invited as per terms and conditions. Procurement done on techno-commercially lowest basis.
1999-2000				
Self contained Breathing apparatus	1,68,61,785	DM 6,38,704 1DM = Rs. 24	Not available in India	Because of non-availability in India
Universal tester for above	15,89,394	DM 38,104 1 DM = Rs. 24	Do	Do
Total for 1999-00	1,84,51,179	DM 6,76,808 Rs. 1,62,43,392		
2000-01				
460 HP Wheel dozer	7,80,00,000	US \$ 12,03,600 1 \$ =Rs. 46.54	Not available in the country	Because of non-availability in the country.
Computerised testing device for testing Breathing apparatus	35,56,198	DM 85,256 1 DM = Rs. 24	Do	Do
Self contained Breathing Apparatus	1,20,71,500	DM 4,57,254 1 DM = Rs. 24	Do	Do

Machinery/ Appliances	Amount Spent (Rs.)*	Foreign Exchange (FOB)	Whether available in country	Reasons for Import
Chemical type Self Rescuer	46,71,744	DM 1,12,000 1 DM = Rs. 24	Not available in the country	Because of Non-availability in the country.
Filter Self Rescuer	5,23,08,580	US \$ 6,46,691 1 \$ = Rs. 46.54	Yes	Global tender floated for competitive prices. Orders were placed on the lowest techno- commercially qualified tenderer.
Total for 2000-01	15,06,08,022	US \$ 18,50,291 Rs. 8,61,12,543 DM 6,54,510 Rs. 1,57,08,240 Total Rs. 10,18,20,783		

*Rupee figure includes FOB value converted to rupee plus duty plus freight & insurance.

Note :

HEM Quantity :

98-99 : 10 cum shovel - 1, 320 HP dozer - 9

2000-01: 460 HP wheel dozer-4

World Bank 1998-99

10 cum shovel - 22,120 T dumper - 160,250 mm drill -
34, 300 KW wheel dozer - 35,600 KW crawler dozer - 5.

[Translation]

Import /Export of Agricultural Produces

602. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEH LOT : Will the Minister
of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the Import/Export details of agriculture based
products like onion, sugar, garlic, rice and wheat etc. during
the year 1998 to December 2001, State-wise ;

(b) the details of production in respect of self-reliance
in the country at present ;

(c) whether the import of agriculture based products
can be checked ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF
AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a)
The import/export details of onion, sugar, garlic, rice and
wheat are given in the Statement I enclosed.

(b) The details of production are given in the
Statement II enclosed.

(c) and (d) A Committee of Secretaries headed by the
Commerce Secretary has been set up to monitor the import
of 300 sensitive items including agricultural products. In
order to ensure that the farmers of the country are not put to
any hardship, the Government has put in place a suitable
mechanism for monitoring the import of sensitive items
and is committed to providing adequate protection to the
domestic producers by resorting to various WTO compatible
measures which include appropriate calibration of applied
tariffs within the bound levels, imposition of anti-dumping,
countervailing duties and safeguard action under certain
specified circumstances.

As a sequel to these measures, during the year 2001-
02, the import duty on edible oils (both crude and refined)
tea, coffee, copra and coconut and certain other agricultural
commodities has been increased. Presently, milk powder
and poultry meat and chicken legs attract an enhanced
import duty @60% and 100%, respectively.

Statement I**Import of various agricultural products**

Qty. (in ton) value (in Rs. Lakh)

	1998-99		1999-2000		2000-01		2001-02 (till Oct. 2001)	
	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
Wheat	1803700	116478.26	1365967	77434.69	4224	287.45	1351	83.84
Rice	6654	540.65	34991	2994.82	13203	1779.00	62	5.98
Sugar	900471	111122.49	1181183	111079.9	30612	3136.2	26529	3242.56
Onion	3799	604.45	-	-	-	-	-	-
Garlic	5189	929.55	11636	1962.13	2984	514.19	2224	451.10

Export of various agricultural products

Qty (in ton) Value (in Rs. Lakh)

	1998-99		1999-2000		2000-01		2001-02 (till Oct. 2001)	
	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
Wheat	1763	135.79	4	0.26	879480	44422.54	1236077	65986.70
Rice (Basmati)	597793	187690.2	638382	178033.83	848919	214194.32	297491	95492.82
Rice other than Basmati	436588	440364.53	1257793	134558.38	683194	78415.76	420507	49300.70
Sugar	12735	1735.93	12890	1813.5	331184	42773.53	1042193	123613.00
Onion	219943	20368.61	268395	24960.15	350479	31597.07	204795	15438.87
Garlic	3592	407.57	8066	1025.03	4443	516.36	198	45.3

Statement II

Agriculture Statistics Division
Directorate of Economics & Statistics
Department of Agriculture & Cooperation

Second Advance Estimates of Foodgrains Production for 2001-2002

As on 22.1.2002
(Million Tonnes)

Crop	Season	1990 -91	1991 -92	1992 -93	1993 -94	1994 -95	1995 -96	1996 -97	1997 -98	1998 -99	1999 -2000	2000 -2001	Targets 2001-02	2001-02@ (Advance Estimates)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Rice	Kharif	66.32	66.37	65.24	70.72	72.60	67.88	71.32	72.53	72.72	77.48	73.34	77.98	78.70
	Rabi	7.97	8.31	7.62	9.58	9.21	9.10	10.41	10.01	13.36	12.20	11.53	14.02	12.35
	Total	74.29	74.68	72.86	80.30	81.81	76.98	81.73	82.54	86.08	89.68	84.87	92.00	91.05
Wheat	Rabi	55.14	55.69	57.21	59.84	65.77	62.10	69.35	66.35	71.29	76.37	68.76	78.00	73.06
Jowar	Kharif	8.33	5.71	9.38	7.28	5.87	5.66	6.99	4.96	5.28	4.82	4.67	6.15	4.20
	Rabi	3.25	2.39	3.43	4.13	3.10	3.67	3.95	2.57	3.13	3.87	3.05	3.35	4.01
	Total	11.68	8.10	12.81	11.41	8.97	9.33	10.94	7.53	8.41	8.69	7.72	9.50	8.21
Bajra	Kharif	6.89	4.67	8.88	4.97	7.16	5.38	7.87	7.64	6.95	5.78	7.06	6.95	6.81
Maize	Kharif	8.96	6.96	8.94	8.53	7.64	8.34	9.18	9.43	9.54	9.71	10.48	10.00	10.60
	Rabi		1.10	1.05	1.07	1.24	1.19	1.59	1.39	1.61	1.80	1.59	2.00	1.84
	Total	8.96	8.06	9.99	9.60	8.88	9.53	10.77	10.82	11.15	11.51	12.07	12.00	12.44
Ragi	Kharif	2.34	2.58	2.53	2.60	2.34	2.50	2.34	2.09	2.61	2.29	2.74	2.40	2.34
Small Millets	Kharif	1.19	0.88	0.87	0.92	0.80	0.78	0.73	0.64	0.67	0.62	0.60	0.65	0.53
Barley	Rabi	1.64	1.70	1.51	1.31	1.73	1.51	1.46	1.68	1.54	1.45	1.43	1.50	1.58

Crop	Season	1990 -91	1991 -92	1992 -93	1993 -94	1994 -95	1995 -96	1996 -97	1997 -98	1998 -99	1999 -2000	2000 -2001	Targets 2001-02	2001-02 ^a (Advance Estimates)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Coarse Cereals	Kharif	27.71	20.80	30.60	24.30	23.81	22.66	27.11	24.76	25.05	23.22	25.55	26.15	24.48
	Rabi	4.99	5.19	5.99	6.51	6.07	6.37	7.00	5.64	6.28	7.12	6.07	6.85	7.43
	Total	32.70	25.99	36.59	30.81	29.88	29.03	34.11	30.40	31.33	30.34	31.62	33.00	31.91
Cereals	Kharif	94.03	87.17	95.84	95.02	96.41	90.54	98.43	97.29	97.77	100.70	98.89	104.13	103.18
	Rabi	68.10	69.19	70.82	75.93	81.05	77.57	86.76	82.00	90.93	95.69	86.36	98.87	92.84
	Total	162.13	156.36	166.66	170.95	177.46	168.11	185.19	179.29	188.70	196.39	185.25	203.00	196.02
Tur	Kharif	2.41	2.13	2.33	2.69	2.14	2.31	2.66	1.85	2.71	2.69	2.26	2.90	2.48
Other Kharif Pulses	Kharif	3.00	2.29	3.30	2.69	2.52	2.27	2.83	2.44	2.43	2.12	2.12	3.10	2.79
Gram	Rabi	5.36	4.12	4.42	4.98	6.44	4.98	5.57	6.13	6.80	5.12	3.52	6.00	4.49
Other Rabi Pulses	Rabi	3.49	3.48	2.77	2.95	2.94	2.75	3.19	2.55	2.97	3.48	2.68	3.00	3.39
Total Pulses	Kharif	5.41	4.42	5.63	5.38	4.66	4.58	5.49	4.29	5.14	4.81	4.47	6.00	5.27
	Rabi	8.85	7.60	7.19	7.93	9.38	7.73	8.76	8.68	9.77	8.60	6.20	9.00	7.88
	Total	14.26	12.02	12.82	13.31	14.04	12.31	14.25	12.97	14.91	13.41	10.67	15.00	13.15
Total Food- grains	Kharif	99.44	91.59	101.47	100.40	101.07	95.12	103.92	101.58	102.91	105.51	103.36	110.13	108.45
	Rabi	76.95	76.79	78.01	83.86	90.43	85.30	95.52	90.68	100.70	104.29	92.56	107.87	100.72
	Total	176.39	168.38	179.48	184.26	191.50	180.42	199.44	192.26	203.61	209.80	195.92	218.00	209.17

^a Second Advance estimates as on 22.01.2002.

[English]

Growing of Hybrid Rice

603. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to grow hybrid rice in every State;

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

(c) the steps taken in this regard in Madhya Pradesh during the Ninth Plan; and

(d) the Central assistance extended to that State for growing hybrid during the said period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) Hybrid Rice varieties have been developed for States of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Tripura, Punjab & Haryana only.

(c) and (d) The Jawahar Lal Nehru Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, State Agriculture University is working for development of Hybrid Rice for Madhya Pradesh. 9 Rice Hybrids are found promising of which multi location trials are being conducted for recording performance. Since no Hybrid rice variety has yet been notified/released for M.P., therefore, development programme could not be undertaken.

Appointment of Scheduled Castes / Scheduled Tribes

604. SHRI RAJIAH MALYALA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to post/appoint adequate number of persons from SCs/STs community, as Heads/Chief Executives/CMDs and Directors, Officials/ Non-official Members of the Boards of Management of various Public Sector Organisations and Statutory Bodies under his Ministry ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the total number of persons appointed/posted to the said posts in all the Public Sector Undertakings/ Autonomous/Statutory Bodies falling under his Ministry during each of the last three years ; and

(d) the number of SCs/STs persons among them and their percentage as compared to the total number of persons appointed during the said period ?

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

Unemployed persons living Below Poverty Line

605. SHRI MANSUKHBHAID. VASAVA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of unemployed persons especially those living below the poverty line in the country as on December 31, 2001 ;

(b) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of the Government to provide employment to them ;

(c) if so, the details thereof ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) As per the Survey carried out by National Sample Survey Organisation during 1999-2000, the estimated number of unemployed was of the order of 9 million as per Usual Principal and Subsidiary States Approach. The number of unemployed persons (out of 9 million) below the poverty line is not maintained. However, total number of persons (out of total population) below the poverty line as estimated by Planning Commission was of the order of 26%.

(b) to (d) The Approach to the Tenth Five Year Plan has recognized the importance of providing gainful high quality employment to the additions to the labour force and it is listed as one of the monitorable objectives for the Tenth Plan and beyond. The growth strategy of the Tenth Plan would lay emphasis on rapid growth of those sectors which are most likely to create high quality employment opportunities and deal with the policy constraints which discourage growth of employment.

Government is also implementing special programmes for eradication of poverty and generation of employment. The major poverty alleviation programmes, which provide employment in the rural areas, are Swarna Jayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana, Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana and Employment Assurance Scheme. In the urban areas, swarna Jayanti Shahari Rojgar Yojana (SJSRY) is in operation since 1.12.97, which also seeks to provide gainful employment to the poor. Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana is being implemented as a Central Plan scheme to provide employment opportunities to educated unemployed youths in both rural and urban areas.

Environment and Forestry Clearance to Projects/ Schemes

606. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN :

SHRI ANANTA NAYAK :

SHRI RAJO SINGH :

COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY :

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

(a) the details of different projects/schemes/industries cleared/started by the Government during each of the last

three years as well as current year, State-wise and location-wise;

(b) the funds allocated/released alongwith the extent of their utilization, State-wise and project-wise;

(c) whether the Government have reviewed the performance of these projects/schemes;

(d) if so, the achievements made alongwith the reasons for shortfall, under-utilisation/non-utilisation of funds during the said period, project/scheme-wise;

(e) the details of new projects/schemes/industries proposed for the Tenth Plan;

(f) the details of proposals/ projects received in this regard and pending with the Government for Environment and Forestry clearance alongwith the reasons for their pendency indicating the year since when these are pending State-wise; and

(g) the time by which these proposals are likely to be cleared and completed; project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) A total of 368 developmental schemes in the sectors of Industry, Thermal Power, Mining

and Infrastructure Projects were accorded environmental clearance during last three years and the current year under the provisions of Impact Assessment Notification of January, 1994. Similarly forestry clearances have been accorded to 2343 proposals during last three years under the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. As the detailed list of these proposals will be lengthy, year-wise and State-wise break-up of the number of approved proposals is given in the Statement-I enclosed.

(b) to (e) Projects accorded environmental and forestry clearances are implemented by the respective project proponents who also arrange for necessary funds. Conditions stipulated by the Ministry while according environmental/forestry clearances are monitored by the Regional Offices of the Ministry.

(f) Presently, 129 and 467 proposals are awaiting environmental and forestry clearances respectively due to non submission of complete information. State-wise break-up of number of pending proposals as on 25th February, 2002 given in the Statement-II enclosed.

(g) Usually, decisions on projects are taken within 90 days of receipt of complete information.

Statement I

State-wise number of projects accorded environmental and forestry clearance during last three years

A. Environmental Clearance

S.No.	State	1999	2000	2001
1.	Andhra Pradesh	12	16	16
2.	Assam	01	01	-
3.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	04	02	01
4.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	04	01
5.	Bihar	01	03	04
6.	Chhattisgarh	-	-	04
7.	Delhi	-	01	-
8.	Goa	05	05	05
9.	Gujarat	05	16	09
10.	Haryana	02	01	04
11.	Himachal Pradesh	01	02	02
12.	Jharkhand	-	-	-
13.	Karnataka	08	09	10

S.No.	State	1999	2000	2001
14.	Kerala	02	02	05
15.	Madhya Pradesh	01	03	01
16.	Manipur	-	-	-
17.	Maharashtra	07	16	17
18.	Meghalaya	-	-	02
19.	Mizoram	-	-	02
20.	Orissa	01	02	02
21.	Punjab	03	03	02
22.	Rajasthan	12	08	05
23.	Sikkim	01	-	-
24.	Tamil Nadu	21	19	30
25.	Tripura	-	-	01
26.	Uttar Pradesh	04	07	08
27.	Uttaranchal	-	-	01
28.	West Bengal	01	04	02
29.	Others	-	04	02
Total		92	128	136

B. Forestry Clearance

S.No.	State	1999	2000	2001
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11	15	09
2.	Assam	21	07	03
3.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	03	06	10
4.	Arunachal Pradesh	10	04	26
5.	Bihar	-	01	04
6.	Chandigarh	02	03	04
7.	Chhattisgarh	10	05	01
8.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	22	14	14
9.	Delhi	-	01	-
10.	Goa	02	01	03
11.	Gujarat	83	92	56
12.	Haryana	53	41	27

S.No.	State	1999	2000	2001
13.	Himachal Pradesh	38	50	20
14.	Jharkhand	03	03	03
15.	Karnataka	18	25	15
16.	Kerala	04	08	07
17.	Madhya Pradesh	11	30	16
18.	Manipur	01	01	-
19.	Maharashtra	67	68	54
20.	Meghalaya	06	10	11
21.	Mizoram	04	05	02
22.	Orissa	18	14	05
23.	Punjab	80	104	81
24.	Rajasthan	29	16	15
25.	Sikkim	03	13	14
26.	Tamil Nadu	24	15	09
27.	Tripura	30	44	15
28.	Uttar Pradesh	19	41	23
29.	Uttaranchal	174	276	232
30.	West Bengal	03	02	-
Total		749	915	679

Statement II

Statewise number of projects awaiting environmental and forestry clearances as on 25th February, 2002

S.No.	State	Number of proposals awaiting clearance	
		Environmental	Forestry
1.	Andhra Pradesh	16	19
2.	Assam	02	-
3.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	03	-
4.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	04
5.	Bihar	01	03
6.	Chandigarh	-	01
7.	Chhatisgarh	04	05

S.No.	State	Number of proposals awaiting clearance	
		Environmental	Forestry
8.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	-	04
9.	Delhi	-	05
10.	Goa	03	03
11.	Gujarat	05	39
12.	Haryana	02	11
13.	Himachal Pradesh	-	51
14.	Jharkhand	-	08
15.	Karnataka	10	31
16.	Kerala	03	04
17.	Lakshadweep	05	-
18.	Madhya Pradesh	04	22
19.	Manipur	-	-
20.	Maharashtra	22	83
21.	Meghalaya	-	01
22.	Mizoram	-	01
23.	Orissa	09	25
24.	Punjab	02	97
25.	Rajasthan	08	11
26.	Sikkim	-	-
27.	Tamil Nadu	24	04
28.	Tripura	-	01
29.	Uttar Pradesh	02	08
30.	Uttaranchal	-	23
31.	West Bengal	02	03
	Others	02	-
Total		129	467

Coal Mafias

607. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB : Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that coal mafias are demanding lakhs of rupees per railway rake from the consumers ; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to curb this menace by removing the coal mafias ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) and (b) CIL and its subsidiary companies have no information on date regarding coal mafia's demanding lakhs of rupees per railway rake, from the consumers. However, several measures, as below, are taken by the coal companies to check the irregularities :

(i) Specific cases of any irregularity are investigated by the Vigilance Departments of CIL and its subsidiaries. Appropriate departmental proceedings are initiated and penalties imposed on officials, where charges of irregularities are established ;

(ii) The CBI also initiates *suo moto* inquiries where cases of grave irregularities come to their notice. Based on their findings, either prosecution is launched or departmental proceedings are initiated ;

(iii) A drive has been launched, with the help of the concerned State Governments, to verify the antecedents of linked consumers in the non-core sector sponsored by State Governments ;

(iv) Steps have been initiated to streamline the functioning of ex-servicemen transport companies engaged in coal transportation ;

(v) Measures are being devised in consultation with the State Authorities to prevent misuse or multiple use of Delivery Orders ;

(vi) Escorting of loaded rakes upto railway weighbridges by armed guards and joint patrolling with Railway Protection Force in the long railway tracks which are prone to wagon looting ;

(vii) Stringent action against transport vehicle caught in the act of theft or pilferage ;

The following additional steps are also continuously being taken by the Coal Companies to check malpractices:

(i) Intensive patrolling by the Central Industrial Security Force and security personnel of coal companies ;

(ii) Close liaison with the State/district authorities ;

(iii) Raids by CISF and local police on illegal coal depots;

(iv) Surprise check/raids by security personnel;

(v) Handing over of miscreants to the police and lodging of FIRs.

[Translation]

Corruption in National Museum

608. DR. SANJAY PASWAN : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Sarvocha Niyalaya Ki Swarna Jayanti Pardarshni Mein Bhee Ghapala" published in 'Rashtriya Sahara' dated January 28, 2002;

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

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

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

(b) and (c) There is no truth in the alleged corruption charges in appointing Commissioner for Supreme Court Travelling Exhibition and for payment for organising the exhibition in Chennai and hence the question of holding an inquiry does not arise.

[English]

Utilisation of Funds under MPLADS

609. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken note of non-utilisation of funds allocated under Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) by some of the MPs;

(b) if so, the total amount which remained unspent/unutilised during each of the last three years, State-wise ;

(c) whether some of the Collectors kept the funds under MPLADS in Current Accounts with banks resulting loss of interest to the Exchequer;

(d) if so, the details thereof ;

(e) whether works have not been executed in some cases even after sanction of works and issue of Administrative approvals ;

(f) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor, and

(g) the remedial measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure strict compliance of the guidelines issued for utilisation of funds under MPLADS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per the information received from the District Heads about Rs. 1796 crores, Rs. 2445 crores and rs. 2410

crores remained unutilised as on 31.03.2000, 31.03.2001 and 31.01.2002 respectively under the Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme. Statements indicating the funds released by the Government of India, expenditure incurred, unspent balances and percentage utilisation over release under the Scheme on the above dates, State-wise, are enclosed.

(c) and (d) All the District Heads have been advised to keep funds of the Scheme in Savings Bank Accounts only in a Nationalised Bank.

(e) and (f) Works under the Scheme are taken up on recommendations of the Members of Parliament and are implemented by the District Heads following the established procedure of the concerned State. This is an ongoing and continuous process. The details of works sanctioned, implemented and under execution are available at District Headquarters.

(g) From time to time State Governments/District Heads are advised to strictly observe the Guidelines on the Scheme.

Statement

(As on 31/3/2000)

S.No.	State	Release by G.O.I. (Rs. Lakhs)	Expenditure Incurred (Rs. Lakhs)	Unspent Balance (Rs. Lakhs)	% Utilisation over Release
1.	Andhra Pradesh	40345	25948.1	14396.9	64.3
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1815	1315.6	499.4	72.5
3.	Assam	12905	8848.6	4056.4	68.6
4.	Bihar	46210	30541.5	15668.5	66.1
5.	Goa	1665	1041.3	623.7	62.5
6.	Gujarat	25185	14075.7	11109.3	55.9
7.	Haryana	9175	6710.6	2464.4	73.1
8.	Himachal Pradesh	4885	3599.6	1285.4	73.7
9.	J & K	3350	1264.4	2085.6	37.7

S.No.	State	Release by G.O.I. (Rs. Lakhs)	Expenditure Incurred (Rs. Lakhs)	Unspent Balance (Rs. Lakhs)	% Utilisation over Release
10.	Karnataka	28050	18056.5	9993.5	64.4
11.	Kerala	17595	9789.9	7805.1	55.6
12.	Madhya Pradesh	36975	25962.4	11012.6	70.2
13.	Maharashtra	43025	23771.9	19253.1	55.3
14.	Manipur	2165	1823.9	341.1	84.2
15.	Meghalaya	1815	1583.1	231.9	87.2
16.	Mizoram	1460	1214.1	245.9	83.2
17.	Nagaland	1260	1110.0	150.0	88.1
18.	Orissa	20250	11051.0	9199.0	54.6
19.	Punjab	11705	6323.4	5381.6	54.0
20.	Rajasthan	22875	13721.3	9153.7	60.0
21.	Sikkim	1610	1407.6	202.4	87.4
22.	Tamil Nadu	44485	32622.6	11862.4	73.3
23.	Tripura	1965	844.1	1120.9	43.0
24.	Uttar Pradesh	78045	53501.6	24543.4	68.6
25.	West Bengal	31685	19961.1	11723.9	63.0
26.	A & N Islands	405	327.1	77.9	80.8
27.	Chandigarh	555	320.4	234.6	57.7
28.	D & N Haveli	605	242.8	362.2	40.1
29.	Daman & Diu	505	429.6	75.4	85.1
30.	Delhi	7395	4239.5	3155.5	57.3
31.	Lakshadweep	655	217.2	437.8	33.2
32.	Pondicherry	1060	254.8	805.2	24.0
Total		501680	322121.3	179558.7	64.2

(As on 31/3/2001)

S.No.	State	Release by G.O.I. (Rs. Lakhs)	Expenditure Incurred (Rs. Lakhs)	Unspent Balance (Rs. Lakhs)	% Utilisation over Release
1.	Nominated MPs	7740	4462.6	3277.4	57.7
2.	Andhra Pradesh	58185	40386.5	17798.5	69.4
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	2765	1798.1	966.9	65.0
4.	Assam	18785	13336.8	5448.2	71.0
5.	Bihar	52520	34269.6	18250.4	65.3
6.	Goa	2265	1580.8	684.2	69.8
7.	Gujarat	33175	20977.6	12197.4	63.2
8.	Haryana	13515	10165.0	3350.0	75.2
9.	Himachal Pradesh	6485	4773.9	1711.1	73.6
10.	J & K	5400	2568.6	2831.4	47.6
11.	Karnataka	36800	25805.7	10994.3	70.1
12.	Kerala	26075	13955.3	12119.7	53.5
13.	Madhya Pradesh	38150	26775.0	11375.0	70.2
14.	Maharashtra	59965	33542.8	26422.2	55.9
15.	Manipur	2865	2146.6	718.4	74.9
16.	Meghalaya	2215	1880.2	334.8	84.9
17.	Mizoram	2010	1715.4	294.6	85.3
18.	Nagaland	1960	1510.0	450.0	77.0
19.	Orissa	28640	16474.2	12165.8	57.5
20.	Punjab	16705	8175.2	8529.8	48.9
21.	Rajasthan	32945	22649.3	10295.7	68.7
22.	Sikkim	1900	1654.1	245.9	87.1
23.	Tamil Nadu	56685	46891.6	9793.4	82.7
24.	Tripura	2665	1014.2	1650.8	38.1

S.No.	State	Release by G.O.I. (Rs. Lakhs)	Expenditure Incurred (Rs. Lakhs)	Unspent Balance (Rs. Lakhs)	% Utilisation over Release
25.	Uttar Pradesh	103090	69709.2	33380.8	67.6
26.	West Bengal	48605	26342.9	22262.1	54.2
27.	A & N Islands	505	327.1	177.9	64.8
28.	Chandigarh	655	392.9	262.1	60.0
29.	D & N Haveli	955	536.9	418.1	56.2
30.	Daman & Diu	705	471.4	233.6	66.9
31.	Delhi	9295	6039.8	3255.2	65.0
32.	Lakshadweep	755	716.4	38.6	94.9
33.	Pondicherry	2010	655.0	1355.0	32.6
34.	Chhattisgarh	13845	9466.2	4378.8	68.4
35.	Uttaranchal	5575	3910.2	1664.8	70.1
36.	Jharkhand	13030	7872.1	5157.9	60.4
Total		709440	464949.2	244490.8	65.5

(As on 31/1/2002)

S.No.	State	Release by G.O.I. (Rs. Lakhs)	Expenditure Incurred (Rs. Lakhs)	Unspent Balance (Rs. Lakhs)	% Utilisation over Release
1.	Nominated MPs	10210	7120.8	3089.2	69.7
2.	Andhra Pradesh	70085	52494.2	17590.8	74.9
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	3415	2801.7	613.3	82.0
4.	Assam	22435	16374.8	6060.2	73.0
5.	Bihar	64615	45286.4	19328.6	70.1
6.	Goa	2815	1955.7	859.3	69.5
7.	Gujarat	40625	28752.5	11872.5	70.8
8.	Haryana	16815	14225.4	2589.6	84.6
9.	Himachal Pradesh	7735	5736.5	1998.5	74.2

S.No.	State	Release by G.O.I. (Rs. Lakhs)	Expenditure Incurred (Rs. Lakhs)	Unspent Balance (Rs. Lakhs)	%Utilisation over Release
10.	J & K	7750	4345.1	3404.9	56.1
11.	Karnataka	44790	33689.7	11100.3	75.2
12.	Kerala	32575	20143.6	12431.4	61.8
13.	Madhya Pradesh	46540	36306.2	10233.8	78.0
14.	Maharashtra	75165	50021.7	25143.3	66.5
15.	Manipur	3415	2878.7	536.3	84.3
16.	Meghalaya	2915	2550.2	364.8	87.5
17.	Mizoram	2410	2465.3	55.3	102.3
18.	Nagaland	2410	2310.0	100.0	95.9
19.	Orissa	35170	21051.0	14119.0	59.9
20.	Punjab	21295	14054.7	7240.3	66.0
21.	Rajasthan	41095	32186.1	8908.9	78.3
22.	Sikkim	2400	1937.7	462.3	80.7
23.	Tamil Nadu	66735	56606.3	10128.7	84.8
24.	Tripura	3515	1725.3	1789.7	49.1
25.	Uttar Pradesh	127340	94010.1	33329.9	73.8
26.	West Bengal	58805	36995.9	21809.1	62.9
27.	A & N Islands	705	615.4	89.6	87.3
28.	Chandigarh	905	476.2	428.8	52.6
29.	D & N Haveli	1105	776.9	328.1	70.3
30.	Daman & Diu	1205	1058.3	146.7	87.8
31.	Delhi	10195	7090.7	3104.3	69.6
32.	Lakshadweep	805	755.4	49.6	93.8
33.	Pondicherry	2410	1620.9	789.1	67.3
34.	Chhattisgarh	16745	12842.8	3902.2	76.7
35.	Uttaranchal	7625	5438.5	2186.5	71.3
36.	Jharkhand	16675	11774.9	4900.1	70.6
Total		871450	630475.7	240974.3	72.3

Euro Norms

610. SHRIMATI MINATI SEN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the norms specified in Euro-I, Euro-II, Euro-III and Euro-IV ;

(b) the present situation in India to match the Euro norms;

(c) the likely repurcussion on motor vehicle industry for adhering to the norms ; and

(d) the additional investment required for upgrading refineries to produce Euro-III auto fuels (Petrol and diesel) by 2005?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T. R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) Euro-I, Euro-II, Euro-III and Euro-IV are based on progressive advancement of automobile technology and commensurate improved quality of fuel to comply with the prescribed/set standards including emission norms. The European Union proposes to implement Euro-IV norms from the year 2005 for which auto fuel specification and Engine technologies are yet to be finalised and evaluated. In Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata emission norms for 4 wheeled automobiles known as Bharat Stage-II norms akin to Euro-II norms were made effective. In India, in the case of 2 and 3 wheelers, specific norms, which are more stringent than in Europe are followed.

(c) According to Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM) a capital investment of around Rs. 25,000 crore would be required to be made by the automotive industry for adhering to the norms.

(d) An additional amount of around Rs. 18,000 crore would be required to produce Euro-III auto fuels (petrol and diesel) by 2005.

[Translation]

Effect of Terrorism on Tourism Industry of J & K

611. SHRIMATI RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the vital tourism industry of Jammu and Kashmir has been severely affected and is on the verge of collapse due to terrorist activities;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the remedial measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to improve tourism situation in the State?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) Tourism industry in Jammu & Kashmir has been adversely affected due to terrorist activities.

(b) and (c) The Department of Tourism continues to extend financial assistance for projects of Jammu & Kashmir. Forty-three projects with Central financial component of Rs. 1212.56 lakhs have been sanctioned in Jammu & Kashmir during the 1st four years of the Ninth Plan. However, revival of tourism industry depends largely on return of normalcy in the State.

[English]

Biosafety Protocol

612. SHRI N. T. SHANMUGAM : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have negotiated a draft protocol on biosafety under the aegis of Convention on Biological Diversity;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the stand taken by us in the international negotiations for biosafety protocol ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T. R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety was negotiated and adopted under the aegis of the Convention on Biological Diversity. India actively participated in these negotiations.

The protocol provides for protection in the field of safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms resulting from modern biotechnology that may have adverse effects on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity taking also into account risks to human health and specifically focussing on transboundary movement.

(c) During the negotiations, India along with the other developing countries insisted for inclusion of provisions related to precautionary principle, advance informed agreement, capacity building etc.

*[Translation]***National Forestry Action Plan**

613. SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ambitious National Forestry Action Plan (NFAP) to provide thirty three percent forests cover in the country has been discontinued,

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether his Ministry have proposed for transfer of the said scheme to some other Ministries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

**Clearance to Hirma Thermal Power
Project in Orissa**

614. SHRIMATI KUMUDINI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether environmental hazards are going to be occasioned by the construction of the Hirma Thermal Power Project in Orissa ;

(b) if so, whether the Government have given their approval in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;

(d) if not, whether the Government are likely to consider the opinion of the concerned State and the inhabitants of the area regarding the menace of pollution and ensure measures to address the problem as a pre-condition of clearance and approval; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) 6 x 720 MW coal based Thermal Power Project in Jarsuguda District, Orissa of M/s Consolidated Electric Power Asia (CEPA) Limited has not been accorded environmental clearance due to inadequate Environmental Management Plan envisaged for mitigation of the impacts due to the project.

(d) and (e) While apprising the project from environmental angle, views of the concerned State Departments and Orissa Pollution Control Board would be kept in view for evolving necessary safeguard measures to minimize the likely impacts.

Eco-Tourism Projects in Kerala

615. SHRI. V.S. SIVAKUMAR : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Eco-Tourism projects approved by the Government for Kerala; and

(b) the assistance provided to the State Government for the said projects?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) One Eco-Tourism Project namely Thenmala Eco-Tourism Project in Kerala has the approval of the Government.

(b) Central Department of Tourism sanctioned the following schemes for Thenmala Eco-Tourism Project in Kerala.

Name of the Scheme	Year of sanction	Amount sanctioned (Rs. in Lakhs)
Procurement of Trekking and Rock climbing equipment	1999-2000	7.15
Purchase of a Double Hull Boat in Shenduruney Wild Life Sanctuary Reservoir	2000-01	31.75

Coconut Technology Mission

616. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH :
SHRI T. GOVINDAN :
SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR :
PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM :
SHRI GEORGE EDEN :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to form a Coconut Technology Mission;

(b) the details of the aims and objectives thereof;

(c) the total funds required and amount already allocated for this project; and

(d) the present status of the project and the time by which it is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) Government of India has agreed to implement a Central Sector Scheme for Technology Mission on Coconut during 2001-2002 as part of the IX Plan, in all coconut producing States, through the Coconut Development Board. The schemes for Technology Mission on Coconut envisages to address issues relating to technology development, demonstrations and adoption in the field of the insect /pest and disease management; processing and product diversification; and market research and promotion. The aims and objectives of the scheme on Technology Mission on Coconut are :

- (i) to establish convergence and synergy among numerous ongoing governmental programmes in the field of coconut development in order to bring in horizontal and vertical integration of these programmes;
- (ii) to ensure adequate, appropriate timely and concurrent attention to all the links in the production, post harvest and consumption chain;
- (iii) to maximize economic, ecological and social benefits from the existing investment and infrastructure created for coconut development;

(iv) to promote economically desirable diversification and value addition to generate skilled employment; and

(v) to disseminate technologies using participatory approach through demonstration and promotion to address the gaps in the mission mode.

(c) The total funds required for implementing the scheme during last three months of the year 2001-2002 is Rs. 400.00 lakh. Accordingly Rs. 400.00 lakh has been earmarked for the purpose. It is proposed to implement the scheme during X Plan also. For the year 2002-2003 an outlay of Rs. 2000.00 lakh has been proposed.

(d) The Project Approval Committee to sanction projects under the scheme has been constituted. The Coconut Development Board has already initiated preliminary necessary action and released the "Operational Guidelines" to implement the scheme. Before projects are sanctioned under the scheme and funds released, approval of token supplementary in the last batch of supplementary grant is required, as the scheme attracts provision of New Service. Ministry of Finance, however, has approved the proposal in principle.

National Programme to Eradicate Rinderpest

617. SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have launched a National Programme to eradicate rinderpest,

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of cases of rinderpest detected so far, State-wise; and

(c) the allocation made for the National Project on rinderpest eradication?

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

(b) Last outbreak of Rinderpest was reported in Tamil Nadu in September, 1995. At present, the country is

provisionally free from Rinderpest with effect from 1st March, 1998.

(c) An amount of Rs. 48 crore has been allocated under National Project on Rinderpest Eradication during 9th Five Year Plan. The outlay for the current year (2001-02) is Rs. 11 crore.

Factors Impeding Tourist Arrivals

618. DR. B.B. RAMAIAH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any diagnostic exercise on impediments facing tourists arriving in the country;

(b) if not, whether there is any proposal to undertake such an exercise;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to assess the loss potential due to these impeding factors; and

(d) if so, the step the Government propose to take to resolve the same?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A number of corrective

measures have been taken up in this regard by the Government *inter alia* as under :

- (i) Providing better quality facilities at the airports.
- (ii) State Government has been requested to have tourism legislation and tourist police to improve security. Some of the State Governments like Goa, Kerala, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Rajasthan etc. have already done the needful.
- (iii) Liberal visa regime.
- (iv) Relaxation in restricted area/protected area permits to facilitate travel.

(c) and (d) Government of India in consultation with the State Government, Travel Trade and other tourism related services is trying to deal with the impediments by formulating a tourism policy which will take care of removal of all the impediments faced in developing tourism in the country.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet on Thursday, the 7th March, 2002 at 11.00 a.m.

11.10 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, March, 7, 2002/Phalguna 16, 1923 (Saka).

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