

# LOK SABHA DEBATES (English Version)

Thirteenth Session  
(Thirteenth Lok Sabha)



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 Shashi Kumar, Shri (Chitradurga)  
 Shervani, Shri Saleem I. (Badaun)  
 Shukla, Shri Shyamacharan (Mahasamund)  
 Sikdar, Shri Tapan (Dumdum)  
 Singh Deo, Shri K.P. (Dhenkanal)  
 Singh Deo, Shrimati Sangeeta Kumari (Bolangir)  
 Singh, Capt. (Retd.) Inder (Rohtak)  
 Singh, Ch. Tejveer (Mathura)  
 Singh, Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad (Vaishali)  
 Singh, Dr. Ram Lakhan (Bhind)  
 Singh, Dr. Raman (Rajnandgaon)  
 Singh, Kunwar Akhilesh (Maharajanj, U.P.)  
 Singh, Kunwar Sarv Raj (Aonla)  
 Singh, Sardar Buta (Jalore)  
 Singh, Shri Ajit (Baghpat)  
 Singh, Shri Bahadur (Bayana)  
 Singh, Shri Balbir (Jalandhar)

Singh, Shri Brij Bhushan Sharan (Gonda)  
 Singh, Shri C.N. (Machhlisshahar)  
 Singh, Shri Chandra Bhushan (Farrukhabad)  
 Singh, Shri Chandra Pratap (Sidhi)  
 Singh, Shri Chandra Vijay (Moradabad)  
 Singh, Shri Charanjit (Hoshiarpur)  
 Singh, Shri Chhatrapal (Bulandshahar)  
 Singh, Shri Digvijay (Banka)  
 Singh, Shri Jai Bhadra (Sultanpur)  
 Singh, Shri Khel Sai (Sarguja)  
 Singh, Shri Lakshman (Rajgarh)  
 Singh, Shri Maheshwar (Mandi)  
 Singh, Shri Prabhunath (Maharajganj, Bihar)  
 Singh, Shri Radha Mohan (Motihari)  
 Singh, Shri Rajo (Begusarai)  
 Singh, Shri Ram Prasad (Arrah)  
 Singh, Shri Ramanand (Satna)  
 Singh, Shri Ramjivan (Balla, Bihar)  
 Singh, Shri Rampal (Domariaganj)  
 Singh, Shri Th. Chaoba (Inner Manipur)  
 Singh, Shri Tilakdhari Prasad (Kodarma)  
 Singh, Shri Vishvendra (Bharatpur)  
 Singh, Shrimati Kanti (Bikramganj)  
 Singh, Shrimati Rajkumari Ratna (Pratapgarh)  
 Singh, Shrimati Shyama (Aurangabad, Bihar)  
 Sinha, Shri Manoj (Gazipur)  
 Sinha, Shri Yashwant (Hazaribagh)  
 Sivakumar, Shri V.S. (Thiruvananthapuram)  
 Solanki, Shri Bhupendrasinh (Godhra)  
 Somalya, Shri Kirit (Mumbai North East)  
 Sorake, Shri Vinay Kumar (Udupi)  
 Soren, Shri Shibu (Dumka)  
 Sreenivasan, Shri C. (Dindigul)

Srikantappa, Shri D.C. (Chickmangalore)  
 Srinivasulu, Shri Kalava (Anantapur)  
 Subba, Shri M.K. (Tezpur)  
 Sudarsana Natchiappan, Shri E.M. (Sivaganga)  
 Sudheeran, Shri V.M. (Alleppey)  
 Suman, Shri Ramji Lal (Firozabad)  
 Sunil Dutt, Shri (Mumbai North West)  
 Suresh, Shri Kodikunnil (Adoor)  
 Swain, Shri Kharabela (Balasore)  
 Swami, Shri Chinmayanand (Jaunpur)  
 Swami, Shri I.D. (Karnal)

### T

Thakkar, Shrimati Jayaben B. (Vadodara)  
 Thakar, Shri Punjaji Sadaji (Mehsana)  
 Thakur, Dr. C.P. (Patna)  
 Thakur, Shri Chunni Lal Bhai (Bhandara)  
 Thakur, Shri Ramsheth (Kulaba)  
 Thirunavukkarasar, Shri Su (Pudukkottai)  
 Thomas, Shri P.C. (Muvattupuzha)  
 Tiwari, Shri Lal Bihari (East Delhi)  
 Tiwari, Shri Sunder Lal (Rewa)  
 Tomar, Dr. Ramesh Chand (Hapur)  
 Topdar, Shri Tarit Baran (Barrackpore)  
 Tripathee, Shri Ram Naresh (Seoni)  
 Tripathi, Shri Prakash Mani (Deoria)  
 Tripathy, Shri Braja Kishore (Puri)  
 Tur, Shri Tarlochan Singh (Tarantaran)

### U

Uma Bharati, Kumari (Bhopal)

### V

Vaghela, Shri Shankersinh (Kapadvanj)  
 Vaiko, Shri (Sivakasi)  
 Vajpayee, Shri Atal Bihari (Lucknow)

Varma, Shri Ratilal Kalidas (Dhandhuka)

Vasava, Shri Mansukhbhai D. (Bharuch)

Veerappa, Shri Ramchandra (Bidar)

Venkataswamy, Dr. N. (Tirupati)

Venkateswarlu, Shri B. (Warangal)

Venkateswarlu, Prof. Ummareddy (Tenali)

Venugopal, Dr. S. (Adliabad)

Venugopal, Shri D.(Tiruppattur)

Verma, Dr. Sahib Singh (Outer Delhi)

Verma, Prof. Rita (Dhanbad)

Verma, Shri Beni Prasad (Kaisarganj)

Verma, Shri Rajesh (Sitapur)

Verma, Shri Ram Murti Singh (Shahjahanpur)

Verma, Shri Ravi Prakash (Kheri)

Vetriselvan, Shri V. (Krishnagiri)

Vijaya Kumari, Shrimati D.M. (Bhadrachalam)

Vijaya Kumari, Shrimati G. (Amalapuram)

Vijayan, Shri A.K.S. (Nagapattinam)

Virendra Kumar, Shri (Sagar)

Vukkala, Dr. Rajeswaramma (Nellore)

Vyas, Dr. Girija (Udaipur)

## W

Wadlyar, Shri S.D.N.R. (Mysore)

Wanaga, Shri Chintaman (Dahanu)

Wangcha, Shri Rajkumar (Arunachal East)

## Y

Yadav, Dr. (Shrimati) Sudha (Mahendragarh)

Yadav, Dr. Jaswant Singh (Alwar)

Yadav, Shri Akhilesh (Kannauj)

Yadav, Shri Balram Singh (Mainpuri)

Yadav, Shri Bhal Chandra (Khalilabad)

Yadav, Shri Devendra Prasad (Jhanjharpur)

Yadav, Shri Devendra Singh (Etah)

Yadav, Shri Dinesh Chandra (Saharsa)

Yadav, Shri Hukumdeo Narayan (Madhubani)

Yadav, Shri Mulayam Singh (Sambhal)

Yadav, Shri Pradip (Godda)

Yadav, Shri Ramakant (Azamgarh)

Yadav, Shri Sharad (Madhepura)

Yerrannaidu, Shri K. (Srikakulam)

## Z

Zahedi, Shri Mahboob (Katwa)

Zawma, Shri Vanlal (Mizoram)

**OFFICERS OF LOK SABHA**

**THE SPEAKER**

**Shri Manohar Joshi**

**THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

**Shri P.M. Sayeed**

**PANEL OF CHAIRMEN**

**Shri Basu Deb Acharia**

**Shrimati Margaret Alva**

**Dr. Laxminarayan Pandeya**

**Shri P.H. Pandian**

**Shri Shrinivas Patil**

**Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh**

**Shri Beni Prasad Verma**

**Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav**

**Shri K. Yerrannaidu**

**SECRETARY GENERAL**

**Shri G.C. Malhotra**

## COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Shri Kariya Munda

The Minister of Coal

## CABINET MINISTERS

Shri Ram Naik

The Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas

Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee

The Prime Minister and also incharge of the Ministries /Departments not specifically allocated to the charge of any Minister viz :

Shri Nitish Kumar

The Minister of Railways

1. Ministry of Planning

Shri Jual Oram

The Minister of Tribal Affairs

2. Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation

Shri Kashiram Rana

The Minister of Rural Development

3. Department of Atomic Energy

Shri Arjun Charan Sethi

The Minister of Water Resources

4. Department of Space

Shri Arun Shourie

The Minister of Communications and Information Technology and Minister of Disinvestment

Shri L.K. Advani

The Deputy Prime Minister and Incharge of the Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions

Shri Jaswant Singh

The Minister of Finance and Company Affairs

Shri Rajnath Singh

The Minister of Agriculture

Shri T.R. Baalu

The Minister of Environment and Forests

Shri Shatrughan Sinha

The Minister of Shipping

Shri Yashwant Sinha

The Minister of External Affairs

Shri Sukh Dev Singh Dhindsa

The Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers

Shrimati Sushma Swaraj

The Minister of Health and Family Welfare and Minister of Parliamentary Affairs

Shri George Fernandes

The Minister of Defence

Dr. C.P. Thakur

The Minister of Small Scale Industries and Minister of Department of Development of North Eastern Region

Shri Anant Gangaram Geete

The Minister of Power

Shri Syed Shahnawaz Hussain

The Minister of Textiles

Dr. Sahib Singh Verma

The Minister of Labour

Shri Jag Mohan

The Minister of Tourism and Culture

Maj. Gen. (Retd.) B.C. Khanduri

The Minister of Road Transport and Highways and Minister of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation

Shri Vikram Verma

The Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports

Shri Sharad Yadav

The Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution

Shri Arun Jaitley

The Minister of Law and Justice and Minister of Commerce and Industry

## Ministers of State (Independent Charge)

Dr. Satyanarayan Jatiya

The Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment

Shri Ramesh Bais

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Mines

Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi

The Minister of Human Resource Development, Minister of Science and Technology and Minister of Ocean Development

Shri Sangh Priya Gautam

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries

Shri Murasoli Maran

The Minister without Portfolio

Shri M. Kannappan

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources

Shri Subodh Mohite

The Minister of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises

Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting

Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy	The Minister of State of the Ministry of Civil Aviation	Shrimati Jas Kaur Meena	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Human Resource Development
Shri N. T. Shanmugam	The Minister of State of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries	Shri Kallash Meghwal	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
Shri Braja Kishore Tripathy	The Minister of State of the Ministry of Steel	Shrimati Jayawanti Mehta	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Power
<b>MINISTERS OF STATE</b>			
Shri Anandrao Vithoba Adsul	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance and Company Affairs	Shri Satya Brata Mookherjee	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Planning, Minister of State in the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Minister of State in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and Minister of State in the Departments of Atomic Energy and Space.
Shrimati Bijoya Chakravarty	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Water Resources	Shri A.K. Moorthy	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways
Shrimati Bhavnaben Devrajbal Chikhalla	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of State in the Ministry of Tourism and Culture	Shri Nagmani	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
Shri Bandaru Dattatraya	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways	Shri Shripad Yesso Naik	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways
Shri Dilipkumar Mansukhlal Gandhi	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Shipping	Dr. Sanjay Paswan	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Human Resource Development
Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Labour and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs	Shri Prahlad Singh Patel	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Coal
Shri Vijay Goel	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports	Shri Harin Pathak	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs and Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions
Prof Chaman Lal Gupta	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence	Shri Annasaheb M.K. Patil	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Development
Shri Dilip Singh Judev	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Environment and Forests	Shri Basangouda R. Patil (Yatnal)	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Textiles.
Dr. Vallabhbal Kathiria	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Human Resource	Shri Ashok Pradhan	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology
Shri Vinod Khanna	The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs	Shri Pon Radhakrishnan	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation
Shri Krishnamraju	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Development	Shri A. Raja	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
Shri Faggan Singh Kulaste	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Tribal Affairs		
Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas		
Shri Subhash Maharia	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution		

Shri O. Rajagopal	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.	Shri Digvijay Singh	The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs
Shri Ch. Vidyasagar Rao	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry	Shri V. Sreenivasa Prasad	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
Shri Bachi Singh Rawat 'Bachda'	The Minister of State in the Department of Science and Technology of the Ministry of Science and Technology	Shri Chinmayanand Swami	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs
Shri Tapan Sikdar	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Small Scale Industries and Minister of State in the Department of Development of North Eastern Region	Shri I.D. Swami	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs
Shri Chhatrapal Singh	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers	Shri Su Thirunavukkarasar	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology
		Shri P.C. Thomas	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Law and Justice
		Shri Hukumdeo Narayan Yadav	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture

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# LOK SABHA DEBATES

Vol. XXXV, First day of the Thirteenth Session of Thirteenth Lok Sabha

## LOK SABHA

Monday, July 21, 2003/Asadha 30, 1925 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at  
Eleven of the Clock*

(MR. SPEAKER in the Chair)

### NATIONAL ANTHEM

*(The National Anthem was played.)*

11.01 hrs.

### MEMBERS SWORN

Shri Alakesh Das (Nabadwip)

*[English]*

11.02 hrs.

### INTRODUCTION OF MINISTERS

MR. SPEAKER: Now we go to introduction of Ministers.

*[Translation]*

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE): Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your permission I introduce my new colleagues included in the Council of Ministers of the House.

Maj. Gen. (Retd.) B.C. Khanduri, has been promoted to the rank of Cabinet Minister as the Minister of Road Transport and Highways and has been given the additional charge of the Minister of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation. After Shri Khanduriji I introduce other Ministers:-

#### Cabinet Ministers

Shri Rajnath Singh	The Minister of Agriculture
Shri Subodh Mohite	The Minister of Heavy industries and Public Enterprises

#### Ministers of State

Shri Chinmayanand Swami	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs
Shri Kailash Meghwal	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
Shri Nagmani	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
Shri Prahlad Singh Patel	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Coal
Shri P.C. Thomas	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Law and Justice

11.06 hrs.

### OBITUARY REFERENCES

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, as we meet today after an interval of about two months, it is my sad duty to inform the House about the passing away of six of our former colleagues, namely Shri B.M. Mensinkai, Shrimati Sheila F. Irani, Shri Faquir Ali Ansari, Shri T. Kiruttinan, Shri Bhagatram Rajaram Manhar and Shrimati Premalabai Chavan.

Shri B.M. Mensinkai was a Member of the Twelfth Lok Sabha from 1998 to 1999, representing Dharwad South parliamentary constituency of Karnataka.

Earlier, Shri Mensinkai was a Member of the Karnataka Legislative Council from 1988 to 1994.

Shri Mensinkai was an able parliamentarian. He was a member of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation and Standing Committee on Commerce from 1998 to 1999. He was also a member of Consultative Committee of Ministry Human Resource Development; and Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority of Ministry of Commerce, from 1998 to 1999.

Shri Mensinkai actively participated in India's freedom struggle.

He was an active social worker. He also served as President of the Municipal Council, Haveri; Karnataka Rajya Nagar Purasabhegala Maha Mandal; and Karnataka State City and Town Municipal Corporation, Karnataka.

Shri B.M. Mensinkai passed away on 17 January, 2003 at Haveri District, Karnataka at the age of 77.

Shrimati Sheila F. Irani was a nominated Member of the Tenth Lok Sabha from 1995 to 1996.

Earlier, she served as a nominated Member of the Karnataka Legislative Assembly also from 1969 to 1978.

Shrimati Irani, one of the stalwarts of the All-India Anglo-Indian Association, did a yeoman's service for the uplift of the Anglo-Indian community and also for society in general.

She was honorary Principal of Ideal Jawa Rotary School. A teacher by profession, she was also a member of the governing bodies of many schools. She also served as a member of the Mysore University Senate from 1993 to 1995.

Shrimati Irani was a well-known social worker. She was associated in various capacities, with many social organisations and their advisory committees. She also served as a member of the National Committee for National Cadet Corps; National Advisory Committee for Speech and Hearing, New Delhi; Advisory Board for Tibetan Refugees on their entry to India; and as the Vice-Chairperson, Karnataka Handicrafts Development Corporation.

Shrimati Irani was a recipient of the Viceroy's Certificate of Merit for Service in the St. John's Ambulance Corps as a nurse during the Second World War. She also received the Jean Harris Award from Rotary International in 1999.

Shrimati Sheila F. Irani passed away on 10 April, 2003 at Mysore, Karnataka at the age of 71, after a brief illness.

Shri Faquir Ali Ansari was a Member of the Sixth Lok Sabha from 1977 to 1979, representing Mirzapur parliamentary constituency of Uttar Pradesh.

Shri Ansari was also a member of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table from 1978 to 1979.

Shri Ansari was an active social worker. He was associated with several social organisations and educational institutions in various capacities. He helped in setting up the Bhadohi Balika Junior High School and was also member of its Managing Committee. He served on the Management Board of the Girls Inter College, Bhadohi. He was also a member of the Bhadohi Welfare Academy.

Shri Faquir Ali Ansari passed away on 18 May, 2003 at Bhadohi, Uttar Pradesh at the age of 65, after a brief illness.

Shri T. Kiruttinan was a Member of the Fourth and the

Fifth Lok Sabha from 1967 to 1977, representing Sivaganga Parliamentary Constituency of Tamil Nadu.

Shri Kiruttinan was also a Member of the Rajya Sabha from 1989 to 1996 and Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly from 1996 to 2001. He also served as a Minister for State Highways and Port from 1998 to 2001 in the Tamil Nadu Government.

Shri Kiruttinan was an active Parliamentarian. He was a Member of the Committee to Review the Rate of Dividend Payable by Railway Undertaking to General Revenues from 1973 to 1977; Committee on Subordinate Legislation in 1990; and Standing Committee on Petroleum and Chemicals from 1993 to 1996.

Shri Kiruttinan was an agriculturist by profession. He served as president and member of several agrarian and co-operative societies. He worked relentlessly for the uplift of the poor and downtrodden sections of the society. He had keen interest in serving and educating the villagers. He was instrumental in educating public through social dramas and cultural programmes and participated in the Dravidian Students' Conferences in various districts.

Shri Kiruttinan was a widely travelled person. He was a Member of the Parliamentary Delegation to the erstwhile West Germany in 1972 and the Indian Delegation to the United Nations Organisation in 1990.

Shri T. Kiruttinan died on 20th May, 2003 at Madurai, Tamil Nadu, at the age of 66.

Shri Bhagatram Rajaram Manhar was a Member of the Fifth Lok Sabha from 1974 to 1977, representing Janjgir Parliamentary Constituency of Madhya Pradesh, which is now in Chhattisgarh.

Shri Manhar was a sitting Member of the Rajya Sabha. He had served as a Member of the Rajya Sabha earlier also, from 1978 to 1990.

Shri Manhar was an able Parliamentarian. He was a Member of the Committee on Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes from 1976 to 1977. As a Member of the Rajya Sabha, he served on the Committee on Railways from 2001 to 2002; the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table from 2002; and the Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture from January, 2003, till his death.

An agriculturist by profession, Shri Manhar was also an active social worker. He was Member, State-level Twenty-Point Programme Committee; President, Public Participation, Government Arts and Commerce College, Jarhabhatta, Bilaspur; and President, Nagarik Sahkari Bank.

Shri Manhar also served as a Member of the Rashtriya Koyala Khadan Mazdoor Sangh, South-Eastern Coal Field; Zonal Railway Users' Consultative Committee, South-Eastern Railway; Regional Direct Taxes Advisory Committee, Jabalpur and Hindi Salahakar Samiti, Ministry of Surface Transport, Government of India.

He also served as the Secretary of the Madhya Pradesh Harijan Students' Organisation and Anusuchit Jatiya Parishad. He was Trustee Member of Guru Ghasidas Smarak Samiti, Raipur; and Patron of Anusuchit Jatiya Parishad, Chhattisgarh.

Shri Bhagatram Rajaram Manhar passed away on 19th June, 2003 at New Delhi at the age of 65.

Shrimati Premalabai Chavan was a Member of the Fifth and the Sixth Lok Sabha from 1973 to 1979 and the Eighth and Ninth Lok Sabha from 1984 to 1991, representing Karad Parliamentary Constituency of Maharashtra.

Shrimati Chavan was also a Member of the Rajya Sabha from 1980 to 1984.

Shrimati Chavan was a Member of the Business Advisory Committee from 1985 to 1987; Rules Committee from 1987 to 1990; Consultative Committee, Department of Atomic Energy, Space, Electronics, Ocean Development and Ministry of Science and Technology during 1990. Shrimati Chavan was an active social worker. She had keen interest in rural development and welfare of women and children.

She was the founder of Polytechnic Engineering College, Karad and was also instrumental in the setting up of the first Montessori School in Karad in 1951. She started Mahila Mandal Movement in Karad in 1950. She served as President, Indian Federation of Business and Professional Women's Association; and Hospital Welfare Society, Delhi.

She was also a sports enthusiast. She was the founder President, All India Women's Cricket Association.

Shrimati Chavan, a person with a literary bent of mind, was a regular contributor of short stories to Marathi magazines.

Shrimati Premalabai Chavan passed away on 8 July, 2003 at Karad, Maharashtra at the age of 85.

We deeply mourn the loss of these friends and I am sure the House would join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved families.

As the hon. Members are aware, a devastating earthquake struck Algeria on 21 May, 2003.

The House expresses its heart-felt sympathies and condolences to the friendly people of Algeria affected by strong earthquake on May 21, 2003 that, caused over 2000 deaths and widespread injuries and dispossession.

The House notes that the Government of India has committed one million US Dollars for aid in disaster relief to the victims of the earthquake.

As the hon. Members are also aware, during the past two months, there have been three major train accidents that is at Ludhiana, Punjab on 15 May; in Sindhudurg District, Maharashtra on 22 June; and at Warangal, Andhra Pradesh on 2 July, 2003 in which more than 100 people were killed and several others injured.

Recently, on 16 July, 2003 several people were killed and many others injured in flash floods caused due to cloudburst in Kullu District of Himachal Pradesh.

We deeply mourn the loss of lives of these people. The House may place on record its profound sorrow on these tragedies.

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

11.19 hrs.

*(The Members then stood in silence for a short while.)*

11.20 hrs.

## RE: SUSPENSION OF QUESTION HOUR AND MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

*[English]*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (RAIGANJ): Sir, we have given a notice for Adjournment Motion. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. I have received 31 notices of Adjournment Motion and also five notices for suspension of Question Hour.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down for a minute.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have received notices on many subjects and, therefore, I think, all the subjects are not only important but the priority is always given to notice of suspension of Question Hour.

I have received five notices for suspension of Question Hour and, therefore, I would first like to know from the Members as to why they want the Question Hour of the House to be suspended.

Shri Ram Vilas Paswan's subject for suspension of Question Hour is 'Demonstration in front of Parliament House on 21.7.2003 against the atrocities on Dalits in various parts of the country'.

I am only asking him the reason for suspension of the Question Hour.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (HAJIPUR): Mr. Speaker, Sir, nearly three thousand 'Dalits' cycle-marched from Samta Sthal to the Parliament House. I was also one among them. The journey started from Talhan and reached here via Jhajjar. I would like to submit that the atrocities and crime against Scheduled Castes and the people belonging to the weaker sections are increasing all over the country since last couple of years. It is not the problem of one Government alone. No action is being taken by the State Government against such crimes. Discussions in this regard were held thrice in the House. Six Dalits were burnt alive in Jhajjar on 15th October, 2002 on the pretext that they were skinning a cow. This matter was discussed thrice in the House. The hon'ble Prime Minister is sitting here and I am sorry to say that despite this neither a single officer was punished nor any person was sent to jail in this connection. All the guilty persons were spared. This incident took place near the Jhajjar police station, merely 7 km. away from it. Five Dalits were burnt alive under the pretext that they were skinning a cow. Neither there is any cow nor there is any hide. In spite of that even a single person was not punished. The Congress people are sitting here. The Chief Minister gave his judgement after the Jhajjar incident. It is not a matter concerning any religion. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, you can only discuss on the particular issue as to why the suspension of the Question House is needed.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: I am concluding. I am submitting that this issue is not related to any one party. The hon'ble Chief Minister of Punjab Shri Amrendra Singh assured the family members of the deceased that Dalits would be included in the Managing Committee. However, it was not done and they were included in Sewadar Committee. ... (Interruptions) Thereafter, not a single person was convicted.

Further, people belonging to our party were killed in Bihar. Four members of Shri Devan Paswan's family were killed in Gaya, but after the incident no one has been convicted till now. In Western Uttar Pradesh, the incidents of rape of Dalit women are taking place daily. I would like to congratulate the Maharashtra Government that it applied POTA in such incident. I would like to request you that somehow you please manage to hold discussion on this issue. Today at least three thousand persons have come here by bicycle. Our people are being arrested daily. It is not a matter of anyone Government. I have given notice for the suspension of Question Hour and discussion on this issue. It is the responsibility of the Central Government to look into the matter. They talk about Dalits. I want an immediate action in this regard.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: This cannot become a matter for suspension of Question Hour. Shri Ram Vilas Paswan can raise the issue any time for a discussion in the House and he might be permitted.

Now, I go to the next notice for suspension of Question Hour. Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmuni to speak. His notice is on the reported misuse of CBI in dropping the charges against the Union Ministers and others.

... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: You have also given a notice and there is his notice too. Shri Dasmuni has given a notice for Suspension of Question Hour and that is why I have given him permission to speak.

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, I gave the notice for suspension of the Question Hour because the most important question today is whether the prime institutions of the country, be it the Judiciary, be it any part of the Executive, be it any investigative agency, could be deliberately misused to demolish the whole concept of our parliamentary system, to demolish the independence of the Judiciary and to demolish the honour of the Parliament.

Sir, on 29th November, 1999, in this very House, in reply to an Unstarred Question by me, the Ministry of Home Affairs, represented by Shri I.D. Swamr, where they made it abundantly clear in their own reply that the charge sheet was not only filed on the accused of Babri Masjid demolition but *prima facie* charges were found by the court and the list of the persons was there. Thereafter the report says that the Ayodhya Prakaran passed an order on 9.9.1997. ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SHRICHAND KRIPLANI (CHITTORGARH): Mr. Speaker, Sir, he is making false allegations. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, what is this? You asked me to explain on the suspension of the Question Hour. They can reply later. ...*(Interruptions)* There are competent people to reply. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: This is on suspension of Question Hour. The issue raised by hon. Member Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi is an important issue. Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: I have given him permission to speak. I would like to know whether suspension of Question Hour should take place or not and that is why I have given permission.

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, the special judge of Ayodhya Prakarana passed an order on 9.9.1997, when they were not Ministers, holding that there is a *prima facie* case. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (SOUTH DELHI): What is the relevance of things that occurred in 1999. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, the conspiracy on 6th November, before the demolition, in a house was recorded. The charge of conspiracy prevailed till the special judge passed the interim order. Later on, while on the revision petition, the Allahabad High Court adjourned the proceedings and the revision petition correction was not recorded by the then Chief Minister Shri Rajnath Singh and the present Chief Minister Kumari Mayawati, the Supreme Court direction prevailed to file the charge sheet. Then, suddenly, the belated wisdom of the CBI took out the conspiracy angle from the whole document at the behest of the hon. Prime Minister

who is holding the charge of CBI. ...*(Interruptions)* This is nothing but gross manipulation and abuse of the institution as an investigative agency. ...*(Interruptions)* Therefore, this is the prime question of the day to be taken up in an Adjournment Motion keeping aside all other questions and that is why I took it up.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ramji Lal Suman to speak now.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR (FAIZABAD): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this matter pertains to us and so we should be given permission to speak. He is saying that the C.B.I. was misused and the structure was demolished there. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL (KANPUR): Sir, the accused cannot be given chance to speak. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, those who are accused should not speak here. Let them go to the court. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (MIRYALGUDA): Sir, Shri Vinay Katiyar is an accused. He cannot speak here. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Let me conduct the proceedings as per the procedure, as per the rules prevailing today.

[Translation]

I need to understand as to why you are demanding the suspension of Question Hour. They would finish in two minutes each as they have to speak only on this subject, I would not allow anything to be spoken beyond this.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (FIROZABAD): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a very serious issue. After the demolition of Babri Masjid. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please let me listen.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Cases were registered under case Number 197/92 and 198/92 against the accused persons. Most important point after this is that the CBI in its initial enquiry conducted on 5th October, 1993 made the allegation of hatching of conspiracy under Section 120 B against Shri Lal Krishna Advani, Shri Murlidhar Manohar Joshi, Kumari Uma Bharati and eight other people. Subsequently special Judge, Justice J.P. Srivastava on 9.9.1997, during the hearing, observed that it was appropriate to frame charges under section 120 B. The prosecutor of CBI had stated during the earlier hearing that the agency had plenty of evidence against Shri Lal Krishna Advani, Shri Murlidhar Manohar Joshi, Kumari Uma Bharati and other people

for delivering provocative speeches and inciting the 'Karse-waks' to demolish the Babri Masjid structure. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: This is not needed. You may only state that why debate on this issue should be held.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the CBI is being used by the Union Government as its tool. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You are required to tell me about the urgency and nothing else.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: The Union Government is using the CBI as per their own wish. ...*(Interruptions)* CBI is a reliable organisation and this is a well planned conspiracy to undermine its credibility.

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. Stick to your notice.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a very serious issue. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. Now Shri Raghuvansh Prasad Singh.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I need your protection. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIASHOK KUMAR SINGH CHANDEL (HAMIRPUR, UP): Sir, kindly listen to me too. I have also given notice. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Discussion on why Question Hour should be suspended is being held. Please sit down. Four hon. Members have given notices for suspension of Question Hour.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have given permission to Shri Raghuvanshji and only his statement would go on record. No other hon. Member's speech would go on record.

*(Interruptions)\**

MR. SPEAKER: You have not given notice, so how can you speak?

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (VAISHALI): Mr. Speaker. Sir. I have asked for your permission for initiating discussion on 'Adjournment Motion'. The incident is specific

and two accused in the Babri Masjid incident have been dropped from the Cabinet, but two Shri Lal Krishna Advani and Shri Murli Manohar Joshi, who hatched conspiracy of demolishing the Babri Masjid are still there. CBI had earlier charged these people of hatching conspiracy, making provocative speeches, inciting violence and demolishing the Babri Masjid. Later on, the Hon. Prime Minister coerced the CBI. ...*(Interruptions)* The Hon. Prime Minister misused the CBI to save the Members of his Cabinet and coerced the CBI to drop charges in the Court. ...*(Interruptions)* In this way the CBI is being misused and conspirators are being saved. No justice can be expected until Shri Advani and Shri Murli Manohar Joshi remain in the Cabinet. The Hon. Prime Minister is making mockery of Law. Proceedings of Lok Sabha can never go on like this, nor can we ever get justice. Investigation would be jeopardised if such kind of intervention would occur in the functioning of Courts. We need your protection. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Banatwalla, please speak.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: The Hon. Prime Minister may kindly clarify as to why he tried to put pressure on the C.B.I. to protect two guilty Ministers. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Arun Jaitley ji is giving reply. Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, I am sorry to say that our notice is for suspension of Question Hour. Its disposal can be ruled only by you, whether it is admitted or not, and not by the Law Minister. The Law Minister has no business here. You have to dispose it of on merit. It is not a debate for which he replies. He cannot intervene. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (PONNANI): Mr. Speaker, Sir, we all work under the Constitution and we find a serious denigration of various institutions. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER: Raghuvansh ji, please sit down. I gave you chance and you have also put forth your point. Now, let Banatwalla ji speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Sir, narcotics and

fake documents were seized from the residence of U.S. Biswas and Shri Arun Jaitley and Shri George Fernandes made him witness. In this manner C.B.I. is being misused. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Mr. Speaker Sir, we all work under the Constitution, and there is a serious dereliction of the various institutions. Sir, the CBI dropped charges of criminal conspiracy against a select few or the privileged few, including high personalities like Shri L. K. Advani, Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi and various others in the Babri Masjid demolition case. It is a serious fraud. It is a fraud on the criminal justice system in our country.

Sir, we cannot be a silent spectator when such a fraud is being played on the criminal justice system in our country. Sir, the credibility of the CBI is at stake. We, here, have been demanding the resignations of those Cabinet Ministers who are involved in this case and now we come to know that the CBI is dropping these serious charges of criminal conspiracy against them. Sir, at various judicial levels, courts have found sufficient evidence on these charges. Now, in the Special Raebareli court the charges of criminal conspiracy have been dropped.

Sir, you will remember that it was on 29 November 2002 that the Supreme Court ordered that they may be tried in the Raebareli court.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Banatwalla, you cannot go in detail on this issue. Those details cannot be given at this stage. These can be given only when the discussion starts on this issue.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Now, the important charges are being dropped and the select few are being sheltered.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Banatwalla, please sit down now.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: When there is the question of credibility of the CBI, when there is such a national crisis with respect to our criminal justice system, it is necessary that we set aside all matters and discuss this question on top priority. I therefore, plead that the Question Hour should be suspended and our notices on the Adjournment Motion may be taken up so that this may enable us to censure the Government on the misuse and abuse of the CBI. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have received.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER: Now I am speaking, please listen.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: ...*(Interruptions)*  
There are some ethical standards that should be followed. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you have not listened to both the sides and not even a single word of mine. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Please listen to the Chair. As you have the right to speak, I also have every right to speak from the Chair. Please, do not try to take away the right of the Speaker to speak. I have heard those Members who had given the notices. I gave them enough opportunity to speak and make us understand the issue. In the meantime...

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR: MR. Speaker, Sir, please give me permission to speak. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: The rule is applicable to you also. When the Chair is speaking, please sit down. So, when I received notices on this very important issue, the issue on which the entire nation is interested to know, I thought that I must ask the Law Minister as to where the matter stands.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I wanted to confirm from him whether the information given is factually correct or not. The Law Minister has today given his opinion. I want him to say on this issue.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I can always take his advice whether the information is factually correct or not. The Law Minister is going to...

...*(Interruptions)*

11.39 hrs.

*At this stage, Kunwar Akhilesh Singh and several other hon. Members came and stood near the Table.*

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please go back to your seats. Please listen to me.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I referred the notices of Adjournment Motion, immediately on their receipt today, to the Government for their comments.

Shri Arun Jaitley, hon. Law Minister has sent me just now a letter, in response to this, which is as under:

"The Government has received notice of Adjournment Motion filed by several Members of this House on the alleged abuse of power by the CBI and the Government in relation to the charge-sheet in the Ayodhya case.

Besides dealing with a subject matter, which is *sub judice*, the CBI has not diluted any case, dropped any charge against any accused person. Section 120 B was never a charge in the Raebareli charge-sheet, and the question of dropping it does not arise."

Since the matter has not been dropped by the Government, the information with the Members is not correct. Therefore, I do not agree to suspend the Question Hour.

I will now take up the Adjournment Motion, if you want.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: T.V. relay should be discontinued.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I would request the Members to go back to their seats. They can tell me as to how this Adjournment Motion should be taken up. I am prepared to listen to the Members.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please go back to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: I am allowing you, please speak on the Adjournment Motion.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI (SITAMARHI): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given notice of 'Adjournment Motion'. More than 100 people died due to floods in Assam and Bihar. This is a very important matter. ...(Interruptions) People of Northern Bihar are on the verge of ruination. Last year also 1.68 lakh cusecs of water was released from Nepal, which resulted in severe floods in Bihar. ...(Interruptions) I wish that this subject may be taken up by suspending the listed Business of the House. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I have received notices of Adjournment Motion on reported misuse of CBI in dropping the charges against three Union Ministers and other functionaries of BJP in the Babri Masjid demolition case from Shri Ramji Lal Suman and 25 others; on reported flood situation in the country, particularly in Bihar and Assam, from Shri Naval Kishore Rai; on reported killing of dalits by police in Jalandhar from Shri Ashok Kumar Singh Chandel; on the situation arising out of reported anomalies in construction of Taj Heritage Corridor in Agra from Prof. S.P. Singh Baghel; on illegal construction by the Karnataka Government of certain projects from Shri K. Yerranna and Shri N. Janardhana Reddy;

All these notices of Adjournment Motion have been rejected by me.

...(Interruptions)

11.50 hrs.

## ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

MR. SPEAKER: Now I go to 'Question Hour'.

Question No.1, Shri Rajo Singh. He is under detention therefore, his Question is not being taken up.

Now I go to Question No. 2, Shri Dinesh Chandra Yadav.

...(Interruptions)

### **Diversion of Fire Safety Funds**

+

\* 2. SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV:

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether funds running into crores of rupees meant for fencing and fire safety measures at the airports are being diverted to other plans with no budgetary provision;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the estimated amount of the funds so far diverted for plans having no budgetary provision;

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

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

[Translation]

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know whether the funds earmarked for floods and fire safety are being misappropriated. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: No slogan should go on record.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: I would like to inform the hon. Member that no money has been diverted from any of the schemes proposed. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ram Vilas Paswan.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Q. No.3, Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Bhan Singh Bhaura.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2 p.m.

11.52 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till  
Fourteen of the Clock.*

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

### Ongoing Irrigation Projects

[Translation]

\*1. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of ongoing major and medium irrigation projects in the country at present, State-wise;

(b) the estimated cost incurred on these projects so far, project-wise;

(c) the irrigation capacity of each project;

(d) the funds sanctioned/released by the Government so far to the State Governments for the purpose; and

(e) the steps taken for completion of these projects expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) to (c) As per the review of ongoing projects it has been found that 159 major and 242 medium irrigation projects are ongoing in the Tenth Five Year Plan. State-wise details of these projects alongwith estimated cost, expenditure incurred and irrigation potential are given in the statement-I enclosed.

(d) and (e) Irrigation being a State subject, the responsibility of planning, investigation, funding alongwith priority execution, operation and maintenance of irrigation projects, including irrigation and flood control primarily rests with the concerned State Governments themselves.

Concerned with a large number of major and medium irrigation projects spilling over into Ninth Five Year Plan, the Central Government launched the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) during 1996-97 for accelerating implementation of such ongoing irrigation/multipurpose projects on which substantial progress has been made and which are beyond the resources capability of the State Governments and for other major and medium irrigation projects which are in advanced stage of completion and could yield irrigation benefits in next four agricultural seasons. Since inception of AIBP in 1996-97 an amount of Rs. 11541.732 crore has been released to 172 major/medium and about 5000 minor irrigation schemes up to March, 2003. The State-wise details of Central Loan Assistance released under AIBP is given in the statement-II enclosed.

**Statement-I***Details of Ongoing Major Irrigation Projects of X Plan*

(Rs. Crore/Th. ha.)

S.No.	Project's Name	Started in Plan	Estd. Cost	Exp. upto end of the IXth Plan	Spillover Cost	Likely Achievement of Potential upto end of IXth Plan	Xth Plan Out lay	Likely Year of Completion	Original Cost
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>									
1	Jurala (Priyadarshni)*	VI	710	492.25	217.75	36.17	265.9	2006-07	
2	Nagarjuna Sagar*	II	1184	1056.4	127.6	839.58	155.8	2006-07	91.29
3	Pulivendula Branch Canal	IV	98	50.25	47.75	16.65	58.3	2006-07	2.98
4	Singur	V	190	169.62	20.38	0	24.88	2006-07	29.75
5	Somasila*	V	467	397	70	14.74	85.47	2006-07	17.28
6	Sriram Sagar St.I*	III	242.5	1967.3	457.7	342.2	558.9	2006-07	41.1
7	Srisaïlam LBC	VI	1260	487.26	772.74	0	671.6	Beyond X Plan	
8	Srisaïlam RBC	VI	1850	1252.32	597.68	40.22	729.8	2006-07	220.22
9	Telgu Ganga	VI	2470	1477.36	992.64	29.52	1212	2006-07	
10	Vamsadhara St.I	IV	109	104.49	4.51	58.26	4.73	2006-07	8.78
11	Vamsadhara St.II (Niradi Barrage)	VI	749.89	26.39	723.5	0	883.3	2006-07	
12	Yeleru Res. (Water Supply Scheme)	VI	489.16	344.04	145.12	Water Supply Scheme	177.2	2006-07	107.35
13	Chagalnadu	IX	85	42.65	42.35	10.12	51.71	2006-07	
14	Galaru Nagari Ph. II	IX	392.11	36.36	355.75	0	434.4	2006-07	
<b>Assam</b>									
15	Borikerai*	V	52.8	43.61	9.19	30.75	9.65	2006-07	3.56
16	Champavati*	VI	88	59.82	28.18	4.18	34.38	2006-07	15.32
17	Dhansiri*	V	246	171.99	74.01	34.65	90.29	2003-04	15.83
18	Intd. Kollong*	V	88.59	67.51	21.08	29.078	22.13	2003-04	4.57

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>Bihar</b>									
19	Bagmati	V	170.2	36.74	133.46	0	101.8	2010-11	5.78
20	Barnar	V	253.47	46.1	207.37	0	158.3	2009-10	03 Aug
21	Batehwarthan Pump Ph.I	V	274.49	29.65	244.84	0	186.7	2009-10	13.88
22	Durgawati*	V	195.54	218.96	&	23.69	-	2009-10	26.3
23	Eastern Kosi canal Ph.II	VII	171.95	95.48	76.47	0	93.29	2006-07	
24	Gandak Ph.II	VII	636.1	97.02	539.08	7.5	411.1	2009-10	
25	Western Koshi canal*	III	990	696.03	293.97	51.1	324.3	2004-05	13.49
26	Upper Kiul project (under residual payment)*	V	120.92	113.78	7.14	27.67	7.14	2002-03	8.07
<b>Jharkhand</b>									
27	Ajoy Barrage	V	227.58	209.63	17.95	0	17.95	2002-03	115.24
28	Auranga	VII	769.3	24.29	745.01	0	649.2	2008-09	125.4
29	Konar	V	410.3	105.03	305.27	0	265.9	2008-09	
30	North Koel	V	896.19	512.92	383.27	66	334	2008-09	439
31	Punasi	VII	204.4	85.72	118.68	0	103.4	2008-09	
32	Suberanrekha*	V	1652.44	1078.18	574.26	0	500.4	2008-09	1428
33	Tilaiya	V	331.97	78.22	253.75	0	221.1	2008-09	
<b>Goa</b>									
34	Salauli*	IV	164.34	157	7.34	14.33	7.71	2004	9.61
	Tillari (IS)*	V	510.73	350.73	160	2.17	176.5	2005	141.22
<b>Gujarat</b>									
35	Sardar Sarovar*	VI	25963.3	16300.42	9662.88	235.72	11811	Beyond X Plan	6406.04
36	Zankari	VI	90	4.99	85.01	0	6.1	Beyond X Plan	18.7
37	Sidumber	IX	30.53	0.21	30.32	0	6.1	Beyond X Plan	
<b>Haryana</b>									
38	Gurgaon Canal (III)*	III	60.61	34.74	25.87	61	-	Beyond X Plan	2.88

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
39	J.L.N. Lift Irrigation	V	245.75	189.74	56.01	95	68.38	2006-07	40
40	Loharu Lift	IV	79.63	43.7	35.93	0	43.87	2006-07	4.13
41	S.Y.L. Project (Punjab Portion)	V	601	432.88	168.12	0	83.3	Beyond X Plan	59.7
42	Rewari Lift St. II	III	39.6	32.01	7.59	20	7.97	2003-04	
<b>Himachal Pradesh</b>									
43	Shahnahar Irrigation Project*	VIII	165.86	83.23	82.63	0.5	86.76	2003-04	143.32
<b>Karnataka</b>									
44	Bennithore	V	221	203.75	17.25	10.18	18.11	2003-04	73.25
	Dudhganga (IS)*	VI	124	13.2	110.8	0	135.3	2006-07	
45	Harangi	III	373	338.47	34.53	48.37	-	2006-07	
46	Hemavathi	AP 66-69	3710	1665.61	2044.39	198.19	-	2006-07	
47	Hippargi Barrage	V	901	57.2	843.8	0	1030	2006-07	418.77
48	Kabini (NP)	II	1102.5	406.71	695.79	41.13	-	2006-07	
49	Karanja*	V	385	301.13	83.87	18.98	102.4	2006-07	98
50	Malaprabha*	III	816	640.4	175.6	172.76	214.4	2006-07	19.91
51	Tungabhadra HLC (IS)	II	105	54.15	50.85	74.47	62.08	2006-07	2.57
52	Upper Krishna Stage*	IV	10630.13	8354.04	2276.09	318.7	2779	2006-07	
53	Upper Tunga	VIII	915.36	177.72	737.64	0	900.7	2006-07	
54	Varahi	VIII	122.5	30.3	92.2	0	112.6	2006-07	
55	Yagachi	VIII	250.54	139.64	110.9	3	-	2006-07	
56	Markandeya	IX	223	110.13	112.87	0	137.8	2006-07	
57	Bhima Lift	IX	187.58	16.3	171.28	0	209.1	2006-07	
58	Singatlur	IX	595	49.6	545.4	0	665.9	2006-07	
<b>Kerala</b>									
59	Idamalayar	VI	412	112	300	0	366.3	2006-07	17.85
60	Kallada*	III	760	706	54	53.61	66	2006-07	13.28
61	Kuriarkutty (Karappara)	VIII	158.3	15	143.3	0	97.68	XI	
62	Muvattupuzha*	V	515	332	183	0	223.4	2006-07	48.08

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>Madhya Pradesh</b>									
63	Bansagar (IS) Unit-I*	V	1151.41	481.22	670.19	0	388.9	2006	91.31
	Bansagar (IS) Unit-II*	V	1245	186.63	1058.37	5	1368	XI	344.66
64	Bargi Div.*	VIII	1709.95	24.88	1685.07	0.67	857.3	2004	1001.23
65	Bariarpur LBC	V	231.65	71.29	160.36	-	91.58	XI	18.40
66	Mahan	VI	155.1	51.83	103.27	0	126.1	2007	39
67	Indira Sagar*	VI	1731.4	610.78	1120.62	0	570.1	2004	752.16
68	Jobat	VI	129.2	37.92	91.28	0	100.7	2005	30.75
69	Kolar	IV	195	178.68	16.32	35	17.14	2004	130.14
70	Mahi*	VI	265.77	74.93	190.84	0	122.1	XI	61.52
71	Man	VI	118.93	106.61	12.32	0	13.32	2003	44.1
72	Omkareshwar (NVDA)	VIII	830.5	15.36	815.14	0	497.5	2002	350
73	Pench Diversion	VIII	549.65	9.5	540.15	0	122.1	XI	19.6
	-Rajghat (IS) Unit-I*	V	143.5	143.33	0.17	0	0.17	2003	61.61
	-Rajghat (IS) Unit -II*	V	523.41	436.74	86.67	18.8	93.42	2005	309.21
74	Rani Avanti Bai Sagar (Bargi)	V	534.9	560.08	&	25.68	303.2	2005	566.34
75	Sindh Ph.I*	IV	84.51	59.43	25.08	40.2	26.33	2004	4.95
76	Sindh Ph.II*	VI	607.67	188.15	419.52	8.7	183.2	XI	5110.94
77	Upper Wainganga*	V	369.72	239.74	129.98	81	146.5	2007	50.6
78	Urmil (IS)*	V	31.8	26.7	5.1	3.8	5.63	2005	6.41
	-Bawanthadi Unit-I	V	82.8	60.33	22.47	0	27.44	2007	74.06
	-Bawanthadi Unit-II	V	149.19	45.17	104.02	0	91.58	XI	52.75
<b>Chhattisgarh</b>									
79	Mahanadi Reservoir	IV	629.2	494.42	134.78	135.4	164.6	2007	15.34
80	Jonk Diversion*	IV	64.33	40.39	23.94	10.1	23.94	2003	4.13
81	Hasdeo Bango*	78-80	1122	709.72	412.28	186.9	454.9	2005	115.3
<b>Maharashtra</b>									
82	Arunavati	VI	224.16	194.26	29.9	23.97	31.4	2004	66.48
83	Bawanthadi (IS)	78-80	188.7	108.62	80.08	0	91.51	2008	34.77

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
84	Bhatsa	V	358.25	246.42	111.83	8.93	136.5	2007	164.11
85	Bhima*	III	1216.01	858.6	357.41	214.53	436.4	2007	32.58
86	Chaskman*	V	357.77	289.25	68.52	21.21	75.6	2005	22.48
87	Dudhganga (IS)*	V	798.65	372.12	426.53	22.39	520.8	2007	204.58
88	Gosikhurd*	VI	2344.23	1134.11	1210.12	15.01	867.1	2012	461.19
89	Human	VI	370.04	37.48	332.56	0	161.9	2009	
90	Jayakwadi St. I & II*	V	788.24	779.32	8.92	236.93	9.37	2004	127.36
91	Kadwa*	VI	76.07	64.47	11.6	7.92	12.18	2004	
92	Khadakwasia*	II	343.87	322.21	21.66	62.15	23.9	2005	11.62
93	Koyna Krishna LIS	VI	1321.12	921.49	399.63	4.52	427.4	2009	259.1
94	Krishna*	III	559.01	388.97	170.04	89.95	207.6	2007	27.66
95	Kukadi*	66-69	1147.56	1052.45	95.11	94.88	116.1	2007	17.9
96	Lendi (IS)	VI	177.62	55.6	122.02	0	122.1	2010	
97	Lower Dudhna	VIII	474.06	130.62	343.44	0	236.2	2010	531.21
98	Lower Penganga (IS)	VIII	1696.94	156.66	1540.28	0	659.7	2012	
99	Lower Tirna	VI	283.55	230.57	52.98	26.6	64.69	2007	
100	Lower Wardha	VI	540.14	278.41	261.73	0	286.9	2009	
101	Lower Wunna	VI	287.46	274.08	13.38	21.48	14.05	2004	
102	Nondur	V	606	371.99	234.01	0	224.68	2009	72.66
103	Nira Deoghar	VIII	588.65	418.26	170.39	1.99	165	2008	
104	Punad	VI	115.81	93.8	22.01	0	24.28	2005	29.92
105	Surya*	78-80	276.15	228.2	47.95	22.55	58.55	2007	19.35
106	Talamba	VI	388.19	78.06	310.13	0	134.5	2011	289.09
107	Tillari (IS)	78-80	649.73	484.16	165.57	1.33	202.2	2008	76
108	Tultuli	VI	189.4	46.84	142.56	0	73.94	2010	
109	Upper Godavari	66-69	189.99	116.94	73.05	66.17	-89.19	2007	14.2
110	Upper Penganga	V	867.46	548.44	319.02	73.97	389.5	2007	84.48
111	Upper Parvara	V	512.88	120.03	392.85	4.83	479.7	2007	15.87
112	Upper Tapi	IV	230.78	170.11	60.67	37.37	70.37	2006	12.09

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
113	Upper Wardha	V	754.26	618.03	136.23	73.33	166.3	2007	39.88
114	Vishnupuri	78-80	252.77	184.1	68.67	18.54	83.85	2007	78.93
115	Waghur*	V	189.32	145.17	44.15	0	53.91	2007	12.28
116	Wan*	VI	228.4	211.7	16.7	18.17	17.54	2004	46.85
117	Warna	66-69	1291.15	429.55	861.6	18.81	562.9	2010	31.08
118	Bembla	VIII	363.35	206	157.35	5.82	152.6	2009	
119	Bhama Askheda	VIII	393.29	287.74	105.55	0.75	109.9	2008	
120	Urmodi	VI	478.18	360.82	117.36	2	122.1	2009	18.85
121	Gunjawani	VIII	286.78	145.33	141.45	0	158.7	2008	
122	Janaishirsi	VIII	144.24	99.03	45.21	5	51.89	2008	
123	Khadakpurna	VIII	336.34	126.2	210.14	11.58	192.9	2009	
124	Sina Kolegaon	VIII	228	142.09	85.91	2	97.68	2008	
125	Sina Madha LIS	VIII	197.7	93.68	104.02	1.5	116	2008	
126	Temghar	IX	267.64	234.52	33.12	1	36.54	2005	
<b>Manipur</b>									
127	Khuga*	VI	176.21	152.21	24	8	24	2002-03	
128	Thoubal*	78-80	429	235.97	193.03	4	212.9	2004-05	
<b>Orissa</b>									
129	Potteru*	IV	162.88	150.27	12.61	102.62	15.4	2003-04	
130	Rengali Irrigation*								
	i) Rengali Dam	IV	40.77	41.01	&	0	0	Completed	
	ii) Irr. OECF	IX	49.47	299.3	&	0	183.1	2006-07	
	iii) Irr. Without F.A.	IV	1751.48	506.92	1244.56	3.25	1520	2006-07	
	iv) WRCP Component		212.53	-	-	0	-	2006-07	
131	Subernarekha (IS)*	VIII	1397.55	542.32	855.23	9.32	793.7	Beyond X Plan	
132	Upper Indravati*	78-80	984.35	672.6	311.75	78.11	380.7	2006-07	
133	Kanupur Irrigation	VIII	428.32	22.22	406.1	0	219.8	Beyond X Plan	
134	Deo Irrigation Project	VI	135.91	64.69	71.22	0	86.96	2006-07	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
135	Manjore	VIII	89.34	33.85	55.49	3	67.75	2006-07	
136	Lower Indra*	IX	211.7	34.22	177.48	0	216.7	2006-07	
137	Lower Suktel*	IX	217.13	13.53	203.6	0	248.6	2006-07	
138	Bagh Barrage	IX	49.19	27	22.19	3	27.09	2006-07	
<b>Rajasthan</b>									
139	Bisalpur Irrigation*	VII	325	201.66	123.34	49.5	150.6	X Plan	
	Gurgaon Canal (IS)	III	35.4	28.1	7.3	22.78	8.91	X Plan	
140	IGNP Stage-II*	V	2494.18	1957.16	537.02	794	655.7	X Plan	
141	Mahi Bajaj Sagar (IS)*	IV	1060.42	499.84	560.58	94.01	684.5	X Plan	
-	Narmada (SSP) (IS)*	VI	1462	178.88	1283.12	0	976	Beyond X Plan	
142	Sindhमुख Nahar	90-92	309	296.58	12.42	33.74	13.7	X Plan	
143	WRCP (Rajasthan)*	IX	2000	0.66	1999.34	0	854.7	Beyond X Plan	
<b>Tamil Nadu</b>									
144	WRCP (Tamil Nadu)*	IX	1062	996.02	65.98	Stabilisation	65.98	2002-03	
<b>Uttar Pradesh</b>									
145	Chambal Lift	78.8	97.76	97.76	0	59	5	2002-03	
146	Eastern Ganga*	V	579	347.97	231.03	51.36	282.1	2006-07	
147	Jarauli P.C.	90-92	52.35	35.09	17.26	0	16.12	2003-04	
148	Kanhar Irrigation	V	341.45	64.02	277.43	0	338.7	2006-07	
149	Madhya Ganga*	V	716	672.62	43.38	172.58	43.38	2002-03	
150	Providing Kharif Chennals in Hindon Krishi Doab*	78-80	125.3	96.65	28.65	11.8	28.85	2002-03	
151	Rajghat Dam*	V	150	133.09	16.91	-	17.76	2002-03	
	Rajghat (canal UP)	V	329	287.23	41.77	97.57	43.86	2003-04	
152	Saryu Nahar*	V	3463	1173.12	2289.88	443.7	2784	2006-07	
-	Bansagar Dam*	V	287.85	240.34	47.51	-	58	2006-07	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
-	Bansagar Canal	91-92	691.34	203.23	488.11	-	596	2006-07	
153	Tehri Dam (Irrigation share)*	78-80	1054	748.29	305.71	0	373.4	X Plan	
<b>Uttaranchal</b>									
154	Lakhwar Vyasi*	V	578.4	217.49	360.91	0	220.3	Beyond X Plan	
155	Jamrani Dam	V	433	26.32	406.68	21	248.3	Beyond X Plan	
156	Kishau Dam	IX	864	8.1	855.9	0	522.5	Beyond X Plan	
<b>West Bengal</b>									
157	Barrage Irrigation DVC*	I	72.49	82.33	&	407.96	-		
158	Kangsabati*	II	308	307.84	0.16	398.2	0.16	2001-02	
159	Teesta Barrage St.I*	V	1294.7	979.13	315.57	153.19	274.5	2008-09	
-	Subernarekha (IS)*	90-92	654.5	32.88	621.62	0	474	2009-10	
<b>Grand Total</b>		-	134130	74446.2	59780	-	-	-	

\* Covered under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) & Latest Estimate Cost needs revision

*Details of Ongoing Medium Irrigation Projects of X Plan*

(Rs Crore/Pot. Th.ha.)

S.No.	Name of Projects	Plan Started	Latest Estd. Cost (Rs. Cr.)	Likely Expenditure (Rs. Cr.)	Spillover Cost	Likely Achievement ('000 ha)	Proposed Outlay in X Plan	Original Cost (Rs. Cr.)	Likely Year of Completion
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>									
1	Thandava Res.	III	17.28	13.24	4.04	14.83	4.98	1.99	2006-07
2	Kanupur Canal*	III	27.58	20.54	7.04	7.08	8.60	0.70	2006-07
3	Madduvalasa*	V	115.23	108.07	7.16	0.00	7.52	8.45	2003-04
4	Cheyzeru*	V	60.45	54.80	5.65	2.02	5.85	6.04	2002-03
5	Gundaivagu*	V	21.58	1.05	20.53	0.00	25.07	1.16	2006-07
6	Yerrakaiva*	V	81.20	38.76	42.44	3.08	51.82	10.40	2006-07
7	Maddileru	VIII	50.28	45.98	4.32	5.21	4.54	17.00	2003-04
8	Maddigedda*	VIII	10.90	5.90	5.00	1.10	6.10	1.55	2006-07
9	Pedderu	IX	38.67	30.00	8.67	0.45	9.10	-	2003-04

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
10	Jhanhavathi (IS)	V	103.62	31.64	71.98	0.00	87.89		2006-07
11	Palemvagu	IX	82.51	10.07	72.44	0.00	88.45		2006-07
12	Pennal Delta System	IX	5.74	4.00	1.74	0.00	1.83		2003-04
		Sub-total 1	615.04	364.03	251.01				
<b>Assam</b>									
13	Rupahi*	1978-80	12.70	7.03	5.67	0.70	5.95	1.83	2003-04
14	Pahumara*	1978-80	54.00	32.09	21.91	5.10	23.00	5.00	2003-04
15	Buridehing*	1978-80	24.40	15.59	8.81	2.54	9.25	1.14	2003-04
16	Borolla*	1978-80	60.05	42.99	17.06	4.00	19.78	6.77	2005-06
17	Hawalpur Lift*	VI	16.43	15.08	1.35	3.04	1.35	1.99	2002-03
		Sub-total 2	167.58	112.78	54.80				
<b>Bihar</b>									
18	Bilasi*	1978-80	21.57	22.00	&	4.05		1.46	
19	Bateshwarasthan Ph II	V	41.66	1.97	39.69		48.42	2.97	2006-07
20	Dhakaranala Pump Ph II	VII	12.63	5.43	7.20		7.56	4.76	2003-04
21	Malal	VII	13.29	2.96	10.33		10.85		2003-04
22	Orni*	V	55.13	55.81	&	9.60		2.96	
23	Sindwarni	VI	37.51	10.73	26.78		32.67	4.45	2006-07
24	Dhakaranala Pump Ph-I	1978-80	190.96	61.39	129.57		112.91	8.43	2007-08
		Sub-total 3	372.75	160.29	213.57				
<b>Jharkhand</b>									
25	Bhairawa	VII	45.01	16.51	28.50	-	34.77	20.19	2006-07
26	Batane*	V	44.07	47.11	&	9.87		4.01	Completed
27	Basuki	VIII	29.74	0.16	29.58		36.09		2006-07
28	Dhansingoli	VII	24.01	26.73	&	2.99			2001-02
29	Jharjhara	V	43.36	1.96	41.40		50.50	4.47	2006-07
30	Katri	VII	50.31	43.44	6.87	4.97	6.87		Completed
31	Kanjore*	VII	41.15	47.07	&	6.26		8.86	Completed

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
32	Kansjore*	V	48.60	44.61	3.99		3.99	1.37	2002-03
33	Keso	VII	21.74	8.54	13.20		13.86	16.14	2003-04
34	Latratu*	VII	50.29	39.79	10.50	5.00	11.03	10.98	2003-04
35	Natki	VII	35.67	13.92	21.75		25.23	0.71	2006-07
36	Panchkhora	VII	34.41	28.28	6.13		6.13	9.55	2002-03
37	Ramrekha	VII	32.00	5.24	26.76		32.65		2006-07
38	Sakrigali	V	13.07	11.72	1.35		1.35	0.61	2002-03
39	Surangi*	VII	28.60	29.81	&	2.60		2.15	2001-02
40	Sonua*	VI	65.20	52.74	12.46	3.00	13.08	8.92	2003-04
41	Suru	VI	23.56	6.77	16.79		17.63	3.12	2003-04
42	Salaiya	VII	24.98	0.11	24.87		30.34		2006-07
43	Satpoka	VIII	29.38	0.15	29.23		35.66		2006-07
44	Toral*	V	68.83	35.25	33.58		40.97	2.75	2006-07
45	Upper Sankh	VII	81.39	20.40	60.99		52.98	9.18	2008-09
46	Gumani*	V	92.09	82.94	9.15		9.15	3.84	2002-03
		Sub-total 4	927.46	563.25	377.10				
<b>Gujarat</b>									
47	Aji-IV*	IX	98.00	85.47	12.53	1.00	12.60		2003-04
48	Bakrol	IX	23.86	3.55	20.31	0.00	6.10		XI Plan
49	Bhadar-II	IX	107.00	65.66	41.34	6.77	45.24		2004-05
50	Demi.III (NABARD)	IX	32.50	27.32	5.18	0.25	5.25		2003-04
51	Goma (P)	VIII	47.59	10.15	37.44	0.50	6.10	47.59	Beyond X Plan
52	Gunda (Matvali)	IX	37.00	30.59	6.41	0.50	7.33		X Plan
53	Koliyari	VIII	26.00	16.33	9.67	1.15	9.45		2003-04
54	Limdi-Bhogavo-II	VIII	43.00	35.24	7.76	0.62	7.35		2003-04
55	Men	IX	8.72	0.58	8.14	0.00	6.10		Beyond X Plan
56	Mukteshwar	VI	52.50	41.49	11.01	4.69	11.00	19.37	2002-03
57	Ozat-T-II*	VIII	82.00	73.16	8.84	4.50	8.00		2002-03

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
58	Singore	IX	20.00	2.10	17.90	0.00	6.10		Beyond X Plan
59	Und-II (Guntali)	VII	64.00	58.43	5.57	4.72	5.00		2002-03
60	Varansi	IX	24.00	3.65	20.35	0.00	24.42		2006-07
61	Vartu-II	VIII	59.00	51.62	7.38	3.50	7.35		2003-04
62	Kuntali	IX	43.98	4.44	39.54	0.00	39.00		Beyond X Plan
63	Brahmani -II	IX	41.50	27.45	14.05	0.00	14.05		2006-07
64	Chinchair Lift Irr.	IX	18.10	8.90	9.20	0.00	9.00		2003-04
		Sub-total 5	828.75	546.13	282.62				
<b>Himachal Pradesh</b>									
65	Sidhata Irr.*	IX	36.98	9.11	27.87	0.20	30.75	33.62	2004-05
66	LI Project in Changer Area*	IX	31.21	9.95	21.26	0.00	24.67	28.37	2005-06
		Sub-total 6	68.19	19.06	49.13				
<b>Jammu &amp; Kashmir</b>									
67	Marwal Lift*	IV	25.16	14.16	11.00	4.26	13.43	2.41	2006-07
68	Lethpura Lift*	IV	12.18	7.22	4.96	1.71	6.06	0.95	2006-07
69	Niu - Karewa Storage	IV	13.00	3.35	9.65		11.78	0.94	2006-07
70	Raipora Lift*	1978-80	29.13	4.88	24.25		29.61	2.13	2006-07
71	Tral Lift*	1978-80	70.33	9.15	61.18		74.70	6.13	2006-07
72	Rafiabad High Lift*	VII	35.6	20.28	15.32		18.70		2006-07
73	Dadi Canal	VII	11.86	5.74	6.12	2.44	7.47		2006-07
		Sub-total 7	197.26	64.78	132.48				
<b>Karnataka</b>									
74	Maskinala*	V	41.30	38.99	2.31	3.00	2.42	3.11	2003-04
75	Votehole	V	52.50	41.75	10.75	6.46	13.13	2.05	2006-07
76	Lower Mullamari	V	124.05	112.07	11.98	3.87	14.63	8.37	2006-07
77	Chulkinala	V	65.70	61.65	4.05	1.99	4.94	3.80	2006-07
78	Hirehaila*	VI	151.53	124.91	26.62	8.33	32.5	6.35	2006-07
79	Harinala	IX	41.62	30.62	11.00	0.89	13.43		2006-07

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
80	Gandhorinala*	VIII	132.96	70.70	62.26	0.00	76.02	7.71	2006-07
81	Basapur Lift	IX	14.03	1.30	12.73	0	15.54		2006-07
82	Hodiraya Nahlla	IX	9.20	0.61	8.59	0	10.49		2006-07
83	Itagi Sasalawad	IX	8.00	0.83	7.17	0.0	8.75		2006-07
84	Iggalur	IV	70.00	55.08	14.92	4.05			2006-07
85	Arkavathy	V	110.00	80.26	29.74	1.75		0.65	2006-07
86	Uduthorehalla	V	156.1	132.59	23.51	0.46			2006-07
87	Hutchanakoplu	VIII	27.50	15.44	12.06	1.80			2006-07
88	Kamasamudra (NP)	VIII	30.00	20.74	9.26	0.71			2006-07
89	Nanjapura LIS	IX	34.56	11.65	22.91	0.39			2006-07
90	Kanchanhalla	IX	30.60	3.54	27.06	9.16			2006-07
		Sub-total 8	1099.65	802.73	296.92				
<b>Kerala</b>									
91	Karapuzha	V	253.00	190.00	63.00		76.92	7.60	2006-07
92	Attapady	V	161.00	13.00	148.00		180.71		2006-07
93	Vamanapuram	VIII	335.00	115.00	220.00		109.89	36.4	XI Plan
94	Banasura Sagar	VIII	50.00	10.00	40.00		48.84		2006-07
		Sub-total 9	799.00	328.00	471.00				
<b>Madhya Pradesh</b>									
95	Banjar*	V	16.75	16.44	0.31	2.40	0.31	2.09	2003
96	Bandia Nalla	VI	23.13	20.13	3.00	1.20	3.15	1.08	2004
97	Bahula*	VI	54.30	3.72	50.58		54.95	19.38	XI Plan
98	Kunwari Lift	VI	5.31	0.31	5.00		6.11	1.03	XI Plan
99	Mahuar	VI	57.68	4.39	53.29		34.54		XI Plan
100	Sagar	VI	31.99	1.29	30.70		30.53		XI Plan
101	Dudhi	AP 78-80	37.50	27.50	10.00	1.70	11.03		2005
102	Kallasofe	AP 78-80	69.52	60.79	8.73	3.80	5.73		2003
103	Gopad Lift	VII	18.40	18.04	0.36	5.70	0.36		2003

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
104	Barchhar	VIII	20.87	19.68	1.19	2.40	1.19		2003
		Sub-total 10	335.45	172.29	163.16				
<b>Chhattisgarh</b>									
105	Bilaspur Div.	V	13.84	0.48	13.36	0.00	15.50	0.96	2006
106	Shivnath Div.*	V	24.20	20.33	3.87	4.45	3.87	0.42	2003
107	Barmai	VI	25.32	23.00	2.32	2.00	2.32		2003
108	Gej	VI	58.30	55.22	3.08	4.00	3.08		2003
109	Koserteda*	VI	58.31	11.39	46.92	0.00	57.29	6.01	2007
110	Sutiapat	IX	19.05	0.28	18.77	0.00	22.93		2007
111	Upper Jonk*	IX	2.08	0.70	1.38	0.00	1.69		2007
		Sub-total 11	201.10	111.40	89.70				
<b>Maharashtra</b>									
112	Anjana Palsi	V	50.81	39.48	11.33	2.03	13.83		2007
113	Aram (Pimpari)	V	71.28	62.22	9.06	10.07	10.00	2.89	2005
114	Babula*	V	44.04	38.84	5.20	2.81	5.46	5.92	2004
115	Chenna Nadi	V	17.10	6.35	10.75	0.00	13.11		2007
116	Chikotra	V	137.94	92.34	45.60	4.81	47.88	4.28	2004
117	Erdha	V	31.90	3.16	28.74	0.50	35.09		2007
118	Hivra	V	16.29	14.17	2.12	2.57	2.23	3.44	2004
119	Kadvi*	V	69.74	57.21	12.53	9.22	14.54	11.28	2006
120	Jamgamhatti	V	32.00	31.52	0.48	3.70	0.48	11.28	2003
121	Jawaigaon	V	26.75	23.64	3.11	5.24	3.27	2.39	2004
122	Kasari	V	28.95	26.33	2.62	9.46	2.75	6.15	2004
123	Kumbhi	V	48.63	44.06	4.57	6.68	4.80	5.16	2004
124	Mangrulpur	V	24.20	22.29	1.91	1.68	2.01		2004
125	Mor	V	36.18	35.41	0.77	1.64	0.77	0.91	2003
126	Pandhari Nalla	V	11.70	1.27	10.43	0.00	12.74	0.83	2007
127	Purna Neupur	V	14.94	14.83	0.11	1.47	0.11	1.89	2003

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
128	Tajani	V	8.00	7.06	0.94	0.00	0.99		2004
129	Tembhapuri	V	33.93	31.55	2.38	4.78	2.50	18.09	2004
130	Amravati	VI	43.10	36.33	6.77	2.88	8.27	4.63	2007
131	Bordahegaon	VI	28.70	26.72	1.98	1.28	2.08	16.27	2004
132	Bori	VI	44.58	37.18	7.40	0.50	8.59		2005
133	Dehali	VI	39.66	20.49	19.17	0.00	23.41	6.48	2007
134	Deogad	VI	168.32	97.35	70.97	0.00	79.37	24.64	2008
135	Dongergaon (C)	VI	24.15	19.91	4.24	2.80	4.92	2.15	2006
136	Hatwane	VI	203.82	145.39	58.43	1.50	68.38	18.55	2008
137	Jam	VI	66.70	63.04	3.66	3.20	4.25	42.63	2006
138	Karwappa Nalla	VI	26.54	4.96	21.58	0.00	26.35	4.70	2007
139	Kasarsai*	VI	32.99	32.40	0.59	0.00	0.59	2.70	2003
140	Masalga	VI	22.70	22.21	0.49	1.36	0.49	10.51	2003
141	Mun	VI	55.26	47.82	7.44	8.71	9.08	5.35	2007
142	Nagyasakya (Panjam)	VI	20.83	20.28	0.55	3.30	0.55	2.50	2003
143	Pakadigudam	VI	25.55	22.72	2.83	3.71	2.97	7.64	2004
144	Patgaon	VI	82.20	62.97	19.23	8.10	23.48	7.39	2007
145	Sakol	VI	13.61	12.83	0.78	2.00	0.78	10.88	2003
146	Sankh	VI	45.09	39.33	5.76	3.10	6.36	31.53	2005
147	Shivna Takali	VI	65.05	61.22	3.83	3.20	4.23	34.76	2005
148	Sonwad	VI	31.37	29.19	2.18	2.15	2.29	3.14	2004
149	Tajnapur Lift Irr.	VI	25.86	23.14	2.72	0.50	2.86		2004
150	Upper Manar	VI	145.28	108.67	36.61	2.97	44.70	26.18	2007
151	Umarzani	AP 78-80	22.00	21.82	0.18	2.03	0.18		2003
152	Wadiwale	AP 78-80	31.03	29.30	1.73	5.00	1.82	3.30	2004
153	Andhali	VIII	19.29	16.69	2.60	1.50	2.73		2004
154	Madan Tank	VIII	50.56	26.63	23.93	0.50	24.42	3.08	2009
155	Jambre	VIII	63.04	54.48	8.56	1.78	9.93		2006

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
156	Katangi LIS	VIII	31.00	21.50	9.50	1.32	11.60		2007
157	Lower Chulband	VIII	60.82	18.27	42.55	0.00	43.96		2009
158	Mohamadwadi	VIII	189.90	113.09	76.81	0.00	91.58		2008
159	Sandya Tola LIS	VIII	29.18	22.10	7.08	0.00	8.64		2007
160	Utavali	VIII	43.95	28.31	15.64	2.30	18.24	35.78	2007
161	Akkalpada	VIII	131.40	30.11	101.29	0.00	123.68		2007
162	Anjani	VIII	79.97	28.37	51.60	0.00	63.00		2007
163	Chandrabhaga	VIII	122.01	114.26	7.75	2.20	8.99		2006
164	Chapdoh	VIII	11.00	1.30	9.70	0.00	11.25	6.08	2006
165	Chitri	VIII	79.94	69.14	10.80	4.31	11.92		2005
166	Dara	VIII	37.38	3.55	33.83	0.00	29.10		2007
167	Gadnadi	VIII	112.80	75.08	37.72	0.00	43.96		2008
168	Godavari Nadi	VIII	27.74	18.00	9.74	0.00	10.23		2004
169	Gul	VIII	55.94	28.54	27.40	0.53	33.46		2007
170	Kamkhedi	VIII	26.94	18.22	8.72	0.39	10.65		2007
171	Kajala	VIII	17.68	16.55	1.13	1.05	1.13		2003
172	Kalpathri	VIII	27.44	18.56	8.88	0.50	10.84		2007
173	Kar	VIII	65.87	42.18	23.69	4.00	28.93	44.71	2007
174	Karajkheda LIS	VIII	39.46	23.85	15.61	0.00	19.06		2007
175	Kashyapi	VIII	49.33	44.19	5.14	5.09	5.67		2005
176	Koradinalla	VIII	21.25	6.65	14.60	0.00	17.83	17.83	2007
177	Lal Nalla	VIII	49.70	39.22	10.48	0.50	12.21		2008
178	Morna Gureghar	VIII	101.50	40.13	61.37	0.60	71.20		2006
179	Nagari	VIII	59.94	34.97	24.97	0.00	30.49		2007
180	Nagewadi	VIII	48.20	44.11	4.09	1.56	4.29		2004
181	Narangi Sarangi	VIII	22.05	21.59	0.46	0.85	0.46		2003
182	Nawargaon	VIII	44.95	42.45	2.50	2.81	2.90	5.28	2006
183	Pen Takli	VIII	135.65	116.82	18.83	5.98	22.99	31.41	2007

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
184	Prakash Bandhara	VIII	124.30	39.69	84.61	0.00	103.31		2007
185	Purna	VIII	143.46	89.71	53.75	2.00	65.63		2007
186	Renapur	VIII	68.00	65.35	2.65	2.25	2.92	7.36	2005
187	Sakat	VIII	21.91	20.66	1.25	2.35	1.31		2004
188	Sonapur Tomta	VIII	17.65	17.40	0.25	0.00	0.26		2004
189	Sutwade Bandhara	VIII	131.48	47.20	84.28	0.00	102.91		2007
190	Syaki	VIII	19.02	18.41	0.61	2.44	0.61		2003
191	Torna	VIII	14.94	14.10	0.84	1.43	0.88		2004
192	Upper Manjra	VIII	57.27	54.90	2.37	2.50	2.49		2004
193	Virchek	VIII	28.89	13.10	15.79	0.00	19.28		2004
194	Wadi Shewadi	VIII	98.44	24.27	74.17	0.00	90.56		2007
195	Wagholi Buti	VIII	26.79	26.43	0.36	0.00	0.38		2004
196	Wakod	VIII	23.37	30.94	&	23.37	9.24		2007
197	Andhrakhore	IX	51.35	41.35	10.00	0.00	11.60		2006
198	Dhapewada LIS	IX	78.05	60.28	17.77	4.50	18.66		2007
199	Ghat Prabha (Phatakwadi)	IX	34.92	23.90	11.02	3.99	12.16		2005
200	Haranghat LIS	IX	44.10	36.07	8.03	0.00	9.80		2007
201	Kirmiri	IX	27.89	26.39	1.50	2.44	1.83		2007
202	Pimpalgaon (Dhale)	IX	42.78	41.11	1.67	0.50	1.75		2004
203	Uttarmand	IX	95.65	60.16	35.49	1.10	43.33		2007
204	Wang	IX	174.13	110.37	63.76	1.10	77.85		2007
205	Zashinagar	IX	14.43	9.25	5.18	0.00	6.32		2007
		Sub-total 12	5137.92	3564.23	1581.26				
<b>Manipur</b>									
206	Singda	V	74.95	69.23	5.72	4.20	5.72		2002-03
207	Dolaithabi*	VIII	69.41	43.51	25.90	-	25.90		2002-03
		Sub-total 13	144.36	112.74	31.62				
<b>Meghalaya</b>									
208	Rangai Valley*	VIII	66.39	16.30	50.09	-	61.10		2006-07
209	Dzuzza	IX	147.14	12.41	134.73	-	164.00		2006-07
		Sub-total 14	213.53	28.71	184.82				

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>Orissa</b>									
210	Baghalati	VI	90.26	53.42	36.84	5.23	44.98		2006-07
211	Titagarh*	VII	59.81	19.54	40.27	0.00	49.17		2006-07
212	Rakura	IX	91.41	12.42	78.99	0.00	96.45		2006-07
213	Rajua	IX	14.31	3.00	11.31	0.00	13.81		2006-07
		Sub-total 15	255.79	88.38	167.41				
<b>Punjab</b>									
214	Providing Irrigation to HP below Talwara*	IX	88.49	25.50	62.99	Benefit in H.P.	62.99		2003-04
215	Construction of Hithar Project	IX	53.02	0.25	52.77	0.00	61.21		2005-06
		Sub-total 16	141.51	25.75	115.76				
<b>Rajasthan</b>									
216	Panchana*	V	85.00	82.48	2.52	9.48	2.52		X Plan
217	Chhapli*	VI	78.00	73.39	4.61	7.00	4.80		X Plan
218	Chauli*	VIII	45.00	44.92	0.08	6.24	0.08		X Plan
219	Bethali	VIII	40.00	39.59	0.41	4.32	0.43		X Plan
		Sub-total 17	248.00	240.38	7.62				
<b>Tamil Nadu</b>									
220	Irukkangudi	VIII	37.36						2006-07
221	Nanganijlyar	VIII	72.00						2006-07
		Sub-total 18	109.36						
<b>Tripura</b>									
222	Gumti*	V	63.80	39.65	24.15	3.50	29.48		2006-07
223	Khawai*	VI	65.73	50.75	14.98	1.05	18.27		2006-07
224	Manu*	VI	48.68	37.52	11.16	0.60	13.62		2006-07
		Sub-total 19	178.21	127.92	50.29				
<b>Uttar Pradesh</b>									
225	Pathrai Dam	VII	55.07	55.07	0.00	1.00	5.00		2003-04
		Sub-total 20	55.07	55.07	0.00				

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>West Bengal</b>									
226	Hinglow	III	15.95	11.49	4.46	12.38	4.68		2003-04
227	Barabhum	V	3.77	2.95	0.82	2.73	0.82		2002-03
228	Sali Reservoir	V	2.48	2.17	0.31	0.59	0.31		2002-03
229	Golemarjore	V	4.31	2.68	1.63	1.00	1.63		2002-03
230	Ramchandrapur	VII	6.82	5.89	0.93	2.56	0.93		2002-03
231	Sali Diversion	III	4.11	3.51	0.60	2.17	0.60		2002-03
232	Mountejore	V	2.09	1.06	1.03	1.08	1.03		2002-03
233	Hanumanta*	VII	9.02	6.49	2.53	2.78	2.53		2002-03
234	Tatko*	V	13.85	8.05	5.80	2.01	6.09		2003-04
235	Patloi*	V	9.50	8.18	1.32	1.80	1.32		2002-03
236	Beko	V	6.49	4.43	2.06	1.59	2.06		2002-03
237	Lipanjore	V	3.80	2.71	1.09	1.59	1.09		2002-03
238	Parga	V	3.30	2.74	0.56	0.92	0.56		2002-03
239	Karrior	VII	3.69	3.01	0.68	0.51	0.68		2002-03
240	Khairabera	VII	3.87	3.18	0.69	0.37	0.69		2002-03
241	Futyara	VII	18.74	12.00	6.74	8.56	7.43		2002-03
242	Panichak Pump	VII	5.40	5.54	&	-	-		2004-05
		Sub-total 21	117.19	86.08	31.25				
		Grand Total	12213.170	7413.710	4337.950				

\* Covered under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) & Latest Estimated Cost needs revision

### Statement-II

*Central Loan Assistance Released under AIBP to States from 1996-97 to 2002-03*

(Rs. in crores)

S.No.	State	CLA Released during							Total CLA Released
		1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	Andhra Pradesh	35.250	74.000	79.670	65.015	95.020	281.660	33.186	663.801
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0.000	0.000	0.000	7.500	7.500	15.000	1.500	31.500

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
3	Assam	5.230	12.400	13.950	14.540	24.077	14.521	16.274	100.992
4	Bihar	13.500	5.150	36.185	129.695	148.440	3.420	14.481	350.871
5	Chhattisgarh	0.000	4.500	9.500	10.520	13.930	48.200	104.000	190.650
6	Goa	0.000	5.250	0.000	3.500	61.650	58.000	0.000	128.400
7	Gujarat	74.773	196.900	423.820	272.700	421.850	581.690	1000.330	2972.063
8	Haryana	32.500	12.000	0.000	0.000	0.00	0.000	18.000	62.500
9	Himachal Pradesh	0.000	6.500	5.000	11.047	18.015	3.244	8.150	51.956
10	Jammu & Kashmir	1.300	0.000	0.000	4.680	10.460	11.070	34.999	62.509
11	Jharkhand	0.000	8.890	11.640	14.345	9.050	10.820	9.670	64.415
12	Karnataka	61.250	90.500	94.500	157.140	171.000	492.500	620.850	1687.740
13	Kerala	3.750	15.000	0.000	0.000	22.400	11.275	5.665	58.090
14	Madhya Pradesh	63.250	110.000	81.250	95.325	151.328	215.410	220.000	936.563
15	Maharashtra	14.000	55.000	50.860	49.875	97.020	39.100	133.134	438.989
16	Manipur	4.300	26.000	10.780	21.810	1.500	9.360	19.500	93.250
17	Meghalaya	0.000	0.000	0.000	2.694	5.512	4.470	1.500	14.176
18	Mizoram	0.000	0.000	0.000	1.433	1.433	2.000	0.750	5.616
19	Nagaland	0.000	0.000	0.000	2.730	5.000	5.000	2.659	15.389
20	Orissa	48.450	85.000	71.500	90.250	100.320	168.475	179.570	743.565
21	Punjab	67.500	100.000	0.000	42.000	55.620	113.690	36.660	415.470
22	Rajasthan	2.675	42.000	140.050	106.665	78.467	96.315	174.385	640.557
23	Tripura	3.773	5.100	3.975	34.653	13.883	21.063	13.395	95.842
24	Tamil Nadu	20.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	20.000
25	Uttar Pradesh	43.500	78.000	76.500	286.000	315.900	354.690	359.000	1513.590
26	Uttaranchal	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	25.163	25.163
27	West Bengal	5.000	20.000	10.000	25.000	26.825	38.608	28.133	153.566
28	Sikkim	0.000	0.000	0.000	1.360	0.000	2.400	0.750	4.510
	Total	500.001	952.19	1119.18	1450.477	1856.2	2601.981	3061.703	11541.732

[English]

### Linking of Rivers

\*3. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL:

SHRI BHAN SINGH BHAURA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Task Force set up by the Government on inter-linking rivers of India has since started functioning;

(b) if so, the issues taken up, difficulties identified and response of the States;

(c) whether feasibility studies regarding this project have been taken up by the National Water Development Agency;

(d) if so, the results thereof; and

(e) the time by which the actual work of linking of rivers is likely to be taken up and completed?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) and (b) The Central Government has set up a Task Force on Interlinking of Rivers on 13.12.2002 under the chairmanship of Shri Suresh P. Prabhu, Hon'ble Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) The terms of reference of Task Force are as under:

- (i) Provide guidance on norms of appraisal of individual projects in respect of economic viability, socio-economic impacts, environmental impacts and preparation of resettlement plans;
- (ii) Devise suitable mechanism for bringing about speedy consensus amongst the States;
- (iii) Prioritize the different, project components for preparation of Detailed Project Reports and implementation;
- (iv) Propose suitable organizational structure for implementing the project;
- (v) Consider various modalities for project funding; and
- (vi) Consider international dimensions that may be involved in some project components.

Besides, the Task Force was required to submit Action

Plan I by 30.4.2003 giving an outline of the time schedules for the completion of the feasibility studies, detailed project reports, estimated cost, implementation schedule, concrete benefits and advantages of the project, etc. Meeting with the Chief Ministers to deliberate over the project and to elicit their cooperation by the Task Force was also scheduled during May-June, 2003.

The Task Force has held four meetings upto June, 2003. The Task Force has also submitted Action Plan I on 30th April, 2003. The Chairman of the Task Force has held meetings with the Chief Minister of Assam, Gujarat and Maharashtra so far.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. National Water Development Agency has taken up the feasibility studies of 30 identified link projects, 14 under Himalayan Component and 16 under Peninsular Component of the National Perspective Plan. Feasibility reports in respects of 7 link projects under Peninsular Component and 1 link under Himalayan Component have already been completed. The feasibility studies, prima facie, are to establish the technical feasibility of the Link Proposals on the ground through field surveys and investigations.

(e) The initiation and completion of actual work of linking of rivers depends on various important issues such as completion of detailed Project Report, Cooperation from all the concerned States well as neighbouring countries particularly Nepal and Bhutan and availability of funds.

[Translation]

### Drought Conditions

\*4. SHRI BHUPENDRASINH SOLANKI:

SHRI ANADI SAHU:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are formulating any concrete scheme to tackle the drought conditions in the country in future; and

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

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAJNATH SINGH): (a) and (b) Droughts are complex aberrations of nature caused not only by failure or insufficiency of rains but also due to degradation of local environment, injudicious use of water for irrigation and inappropriate cropping pattern etc. Given the variety of causes and ramifications of drought, it is

unlikely that a single scheme could be formulated for the purpose.

At present, there are a number of initiatives and schemes which seek to tackle the various facets of drought. Reference may, in particular, be made to:

- (i) Massive extension of coverage in irrigation through investments under the Plan Schemes bringing the total irrigated area to around 40% of the cultivated land;
- (ii) Treatment of more than 100 lakh hectares area under schemes of Department of Land Resources under the Ministry of Rural Development viz. Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP), Desert Development Programme (DDP) and the Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP).
- (iii) Scheme like the National Water-shed Development Project for Rainfed Areas and Water-shed Development in catchment areas of River valley Projects & Flood Prone Rivers as also the Integrated Afforestation and Eco-Development Project of the Ministry of Environment for optimum use of water to increase productivity and conserve soil.
- (iv) Promotion of crop diversification from high water requiring to low water consuming crops particularly in vulnerable areas alongwith introduction of a large varieties of drought resistant early maturing crops.
- (v) The Plan to link rivers for inter-Basin transfer etc.

Besides, to deal with inevitable droughts, there are standing arrangements like the Calamity Relief Fund (CRF), the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) and the Contingent Crop Plan for various States etc.

*[English]*

#### **Killing of Peacocks**

\*5. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI:

SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADODA MANDLIK:

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

(a) whether the Government are aware of the killing of hundreds of peacocks in Greater Noida villages by poachers using poisoned bird feed over the past year;

(b) if so, whether the Government have enquired into the matter;

(c) if so, the details and outcome thereof;

(d) the details of such killings which took place in the country during the last three years and thereafter, State-wise;

(e) the details of poachers arrested in various parts of the country during the said period; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to save the national bird from poachers?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) The incident of killing of peafowls in Greater Noida has come to the notice of the Government.

(b) and (c) Inquiry conducted by the Forest and Police Officials of Uttar Pradesh have revealed that five peafowls died on 1st July, 2003 after eating poisoned wheat grains. One accused, Shri Suresh, son of Shri Kallu Patel, resident of Garhikariaha, District Panna, Madhya Pradesh has been arrested by Police. A case has been registered against the accused under Sections 9 and 51 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.

(d) and (e) Peafowls are found both inside and outside forest areas including habitations. Therefore, country wide information in respect of killing of the birds is not compiled and collated at the level of Central Government. The details of cases of poaching and arrests as received from State Governments are given in the statement enclosed.

(f) The steps taken by the Government to save the national bird from poaching are:

(i) Peafowl is included in the Schedule I of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, thereby giving it highest protection. Hunting of peafowl is prohibited under the provisions of the Act.

(ii) Provisions have been made in the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 for establishing Community and Conservation Reserves outside the National parks and Sanctuaries to provide protection to birds including peafowl that inhabit natural habitats outside the Protected Areas.

(iii) The penalty for poaching of peafowl and illegal trade in its parts and products has been enhanced from minimum of one year to three years and maximum of six years to seven years. Provision has also been made for forfeiture of property of the habitual offenders.

- (iv) Export of peacock tail feathers is prohibited under the EXIM Policy, 2002-2007.
- (v) The Central Bureau of Investigation has been empowered under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 to apprehend and prosecute wild life offenders.
- (vi) Awareness is being generated amongst the farmers to adopt organic farming methods and use bio-pesticides to save their crops from the ravages of pests and diseases.

#### Statement

*Details of killing of Peafowls and the poachers arrested in various parts of the country from year 2000 to 2002, Statewise*

S.No.	Name of the State	Year	No. of Peafowl killed	No. of Poachers arrested
1	2	3	4	5
1	Madhya Pradesh	2000	84	40
		2001	6	6
		2002	-	-
		Total	90	46
2	Rajasthan	2000	-	-
		2001	64	-
		2002	2	-
		Total	66	-
3	Tamil Nadu	2000	-	-
		2001	3	7
		2002	-	-
		Total	3	7
4	Uttar Pradesh**	2000	-	-
		2001	3	-
		2002	2	-
		Total	5	10

1	2	3	4	5
5	Gujarat	2000	-	-
		2001	5	8
		2002	10	1
		Total	15	9
6	Maharashtra*	2000	4	-
		2001	-	-
		2002	-	-
		Total	4	-
7	Haryana	2000	17	-
		2001	-	-
		2002	-	-
		Total	17	-
Grand Total		200	72	

\* Financial yearwise

# The States/UTs of Andaman & Nicobar, West Bengal, Kerala, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Goa, Kanataka and Andhra Pradesh have reported Nil deaths

\*\* Uttar Pradesh has reported 10 arrests between 2001 and 2003 (III 15 7 2003)

[Translation]

#### Theft of Antiques

\* 6. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH:

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:

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

(a) whether a number of cases of theft/smuggling of antique items from National Museum and other places in the country have been reported recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to prevent theft/smuggling of religious statues and other artefacts; and

(d) if so, the details of the said scheme?

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

(b) Recently the theft of a pistol from National Museum, New Delhi has been reported and the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has reported recent thefts of 4 items from the protected monuments/sites, as given in the statement-I enclosed. In all these cases First Information Reports (FIRs) have been lodged with the Police authorities for investigation. Recently, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has also registered two cases relating to theft/smuggling of antique items as per the statement-II enclosed. Besides, various state governments also take action in cases of thefts/smuggling in their respective states.

(c) and (d) In the museums and monuments administered by the government, adequate security measures by way of deployment of security personnel and installing security

equipment are provided. The Government has enacted the 'Antiquities and Art Treasures Act, 1972' with a view to prevent the smuggling of antiquities and art objects. As per the provisions of this Act, export of antiquities is prohibited. Any export in violation of this Act is an offence for which assistance of Interpol can be obtained. Only the Central Government or an authority or an agency authorised by the Central government may temporarily export any antiquity or art treasure and such export shall be made in accordance with the terms and conditions of a "Temporary Export Permit" issued for the purpose by the Director General, ASI.

Further, under the United Nations "Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit export, Import and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property" assistance of UNESCO can be sought for restitution of the smuggled cultural property of the Nation. India is a signatory to this convention.

#### Statement-I

Sl.No.	Description of Objects	Name of Monuments & Location	Date of Theft	Status
1.	Three Stone sculptures	Kadambarkoil Narthamalai Distt. Pudukkottai, Tamil Nadu	27.01.2003	FIR lodged. Under investigation
2.	Stone Sculpture	Temples of Akona, Distt. Mahoba, Uttar Pradesh	02 02.2003	FIR lodged. Under investigation
3.	(i) Head of female (ii) Icon of Jain Tirthankar Mahavir	Sculpture shed Gyarpur Distt. Vidisha, Madhya Pradesh	02.03.2003	FIR lodged. Under investigation
4.	Small stone sculpture of Nandi	Sri Kapoteswara Swamy temple, Guntur Distt. Andhra Pradesh	11/12.03.03	FIR lodged. Under investigation

#### Statement-II

Sl.No.	Description of Objects and crime	Location	Date of Registration of case	Status
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Attempt to export 12 Terracotta panels, two stone idols, and two pitchers of terracotta from IGI Airport, Delhi to Zurich, Switzerland	New Delhi	30.01.2003	Accused persons arrested and cases under active investigation

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Stocking of 12 stone idols dating back to 10th and 14th Century A.D. in a godown at Mahipalpur, Delhi	New Delhi	30.01.2003	Accused persons arrested and cases under active investigation

### BT Cotton Crop

\*7. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have sought report from the six cotton producing States regarding the result of the BT cotton crop;

(b) if so, the details of the report thus received;

(c) whether this crop requires less pesticide as compared to the indigenous variety;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the details regarding the extent of loss to BT cotton crop in the six States as a result of bull worm; and

(f) the decision arrived at by the Government as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAJNATH SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) Details of reports received from these States are enclosed in the statement-I.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The requirement of pesticides for Bt cotton hybrids registered reduction by 2 to 6 sprays.

(e) The details are enclosed in the statement-II.

(f) The Committee constituted by the Ministry of Environment & Forests found the performance of Bt Cotton to be satisfactory.

### Statement-I

*The details of the performance of Bt cotton crops in six States as reported by the State Governments*

#### Andhra Pradesh:

Incidence of bollworm was less during the year, hence advantage of Bt Cotton could not be assessed correctly.

#### Karnataka:

- Incidence of Bollworm in Bt cotton is less compared to other hybrids. Trials of Bt cotton should be continued for at least two more years to assess its performance.

#### Tamil Nadu:

- Sucking pests incidence in Bt cotton was below economic thresh hold.

- Less incidence of bollworms.

- Pesticide spray for bollworms has been reduced.

- Number of bolls, boll weight and lint weight is more in Bt cotton.

The performance of Bt cotton should be observed for two more years before a judgement is pronounced.

#### Madhya Pradesh:

- Better for heavy and black soil.

- Not suitable for light soils.

- Resistance to bollworm.

- Heavy soil with good drainage is required for Bt cotton.

#### Maharashtra:

- Percentage yield increase of Bt over non Bt counter part ranges between 16-60%.

- Performance of Bt over its non Bt counter parts is better but its performance as compared with other popular non Bt hybrids is not better.

- The staple length of Bt cotton hybrids is short compared with other popular hybrids.

- The Bt cotton hybrid shows more susceptibility to wilting under heavy rains compared to other popular varieties.

#### Gujarat:

- farmers who cultivated the Hybrid cotton Bt Mech-184 complained of wilt in the cotton crop during Kharif, 2002.

- Bt Mech-162 was also found to be vulnerable to boll worm menace.
- Bt Mech-12 was found to susceptible to sucking pest.

### Statement-II

*Details regarding extent of loss to Bt cotton crop as a result of bollworm as reported by the State Governments.*

#### Andhra Pradesh:

- incidence of bollworm was less during the year, hence advantage of Bt cotton could not be assessed correctly.

#### Karnataka:

- the incidence of Bollworm in Bt cotton is less compared to other hybrids.

#### Tamil Nadu:

- less incidence of Bollworm.

#### Madhya Pradesh:

- Less incidence of bollworm.

#### Maharashtra:

- Bollworm infestation between 5-7% in Bt cotton and 7-12% in non Bt cotton.

#### Gujarat:

- Bt. Mech-162 found to be vulnerable to boll worm menace.

*[English]*

### Theft of Patent by Monsanto

\*8. SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that an American multinational seed organization, Monsanto, has obtained the patent of an improved quality of wheat developed in India from European patent office at Munich;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action contemplated by the Union Government against this theft of patent by Monsanto?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAJNATH SINGH): (a) to (c) M/s Plant Breeding International, a Unilever company which was acquired by Monsanto in 1998, has

obtained a patent for a new variety of wheat designed for use in Europe. This variety incorporates some characteristics of the Nap Hal land race of wheat from India. The Nap Hal land race is not covered by the European patent and continues to be available to Indian farmers and researchers.

### Taj Heritage Corridor Project

\*9. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY:

SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:

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

(a) whether construction of the Taj Heritage Corridor Project has been undertaken on the bank of Yamuna just behind the Taj Mahal;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the estimated cost of the project;

(c) whether the Union Minister, in his recent visit has observed that the project was in contravention of Environmental laws as well as Protection of Archaeological Sites and Remains Act;

(d) if so, whether the requisite clearance was obtained by the Government of Uttar Pradesh from the concerned ministries;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether the Union Government have instructed the Government of Uttar Pradesh to stall the project and undo the damage caused; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and the action proposed to be taken against the State Government and the officers involved?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (g) The Government of U.P. has taken up reclamation work in river Yamuna without any approval of the Taj Heritage Corridor Project from the Ministry of Environment and Forests. On 16th July, 2003 the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India has ordered Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) to inquire into the entire issue and submit an Interim Report to the Hon'ble Court within a period of four weeks and has given two months time for the submission of the final report by CBI whereafter appropriate orders will be passed. The matter is, therefore, sub-judice.

**Investment of EPF in PSUs**

\*10. DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether thousands of crores of rupees from EPF have been invested in various Companies/Public Sector Undertakings by the Board of EPF;

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

(c) the rate of interest at which the fund was invested;

(d) whether the Board of EPF has now requested the various companies/PSUs to return the money;

(e) if so, the reasons for the same and response of companies/PSUs in this regard;

(f) whether EPFO has made substantial investment in IFCI who have defaulted in making payment of interest;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The details are provided in the statement enclosed.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise in view of (d) above.

(f) and (g) Yes, Sir. The total investment by EPFO in the IFCI as on 31.03.2003 was Rs. 1048.80 crores.

(h) IFCI had approached the CBT, EPF for restructuring of its debts. The CBT, EPF in its 162nd meeting held on 27th June 2003 decided that IFCI be asked to meet its payment obligations at the contracted rates till 31.03.2003 along with overdue interest and @ 10% per annum subsequently. CBT, EPF further decided that existing investment be rolled over for a further period of 10 years.

**Statement**

*Investment of CBT EPF in various PSUs/companies as on 31.03.2003*

Sl. No.	Rate (%)	Particular	Employees' Provident Fund	Employees' Pension Fund	Employees Deposit Linked Insurance Fund	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	7.1	NHAI Bonds (30.11.07)	65,00,00,000.00	78,00,00,000.00	10,00,00,000.00	153,00,00,000.00
2	7.1	NHAI.OPT-3 (31.12.07)	45,00,00,000.00	155,00,00,000.00	00,000.00	200,00,00,000.00
3	7.15	OBC Bonds 2008	45,63,50,000.00	123,00,00,000.00	5,00,00,000.00	173,63,50,000.00
4	7.25	Bank of India 2010	81,00,00,000.00	154,60,00,000.00	12,56,00,000.00	248,16,00,000.00
5	7.25	Canara Bank 2012 SR IV A	106,00,00,000.00	134,00,00,000.00	10,00,00,000.00	250,00,00,000.00
6	7.5	Power Fin Co 2009	72,79,00,000.00	85,64,00,000.00	2,80,00,000.00	161,23,00,000.00
7	7.6	NHAI Bonds 2007 OPT-3	00,000.00	225,00,00,000.00	00,000.00	225,00,00,000.00
8	8.15	NHAI Bond 2007 OP-III	68,00,00,000.00	172,25,00,000.00	6,45,00,000.00	246,70,00,000.00
9	8.85	Bharat Heavy Elec. Ltd.	22,00,00,000.00	155,00,00,000.00	00,000.00	177,00,00,000.00
10	9	IDFC 2006	37,00,00,000.00	103,00,00,000.00	00,000.00	140,00,00,000.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
11	9.55	NHPC 2007	55,11,00,000.00	107,27,00,000.00	4,08,00,000.00	166,46,00,000.00
12	9.9	REC 2008 TXNP 57 SR	25,60,00,000.00	104,43,00,000.00	3,65,00,000.00	133,68,00,000.00
13	10	REC 2008 56 SR	37,16,00,000.00	93,02,00,000.00	5,92,00,000.00	136,10,00,000.00
14	10.65	IOC 2003 IV	64,00,00,000.00	69,50,00,000.00	1,00,00,000.00	134,50,00,000.00
15	10.8	SBI 2005	109,29,00,000.00	259,59,00,000.00	6,89,00,000.00	375,77,00,000.00
16	10.8	IDFC 2006	64,87,00,000.00	71,36,00,000.00	2,55,00,000.00	138,78,00,000.00
17	10.85	BOB 2006 SR III OP 63	23,06,00,000.00	112,45,00,000.00	4,70,00,000.00	140,21,00,000.00
18	10.85	IOC 2007 III	164,60,00,000.00	319,10,00,000.00	8,40,00,000.00	492,10,00,000.00
19	10.9	IR FCI 2007 20th SR	76,50,00,000.00	116,85,00,000.00	1,60,00,000.00	194,95,00,000.00
20	11.3	Power Fin Co 2008	63,57,00,000.00	165,07,00,000.00	1,39,00,000.00	230,03,00,000.00
21	11.55	SBI 2006	160,09,50,000.00	242,28,50,000.00	4,95,00,000.00	407,33,00,000.00
22	11.89	Power Fin Co 2007 VII	111,80,00,000.00	242,12,00,000.00	8,71,00,000.00	362,63,00,000.00
23	11.89	Power Fin Co 2007	84,41,00,000.00	86,80,00,000.00	5,57,00,000.00	176,78,00,000.00
24	12.5	IDBI 2004 OMNI I	128,50,00,000.00	304,00,00,000.00	6,30,00,000.00	438,80,00,000.00
25	13.25	ICICI 2004 D 97	10,00,00,000.00	175,00,00,000.00	6,00,00,000.00	191,00,00,000.00
26	13.25	IDBI 2004 OMNI I	00,00,000.00	200,00,00,000.00	00,00,000.00	200,00,00,000.00
27	13.95	PNB 2005 III-1999	56,90,00,000.00	87,25,00,000.00	5,75,00,000.00	149,90,00,000.00
28	14	IDBI 2005 OMNI 98 D	113,01,00,000.00	189,50,00,000.00	6,50,00,000.00	309,01,00,000.00
29	14	IDBI 2005 OMNI 98 E	64,00,00,000.00	190,00,00,000.00	3,50,00,000.00	257,50,00,000.00
30	14	IDBI 2005 OMNI 98 F	140,10,50,000.00	162,00,00,000.00	4,00,00,000.00	306,10,50,000.00
31	14	IDBI 2006 OMNI I	67,83,90,000.00	68,00,00,000.00	00,00,000.00	135,83,90,000.00
		Others	34,38,28,95,000.00	6180,06,00,000.00	190.43,00,000.00	9808,77,95,000.00
		Total	56,01,13,35,000.00	10931,14,50,000.00	328,70,00,000.00	16860,97,85,000.00

### Harvesting of Rain Water

111. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken for rain water harvesting in the cities;

(b) if so the progress made so far in this regard; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to promote rain water harvesting?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) to (c) The Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) is promoting rain water harvesting in cities by carrying out mass awareness programmes and training programmes in addition to providing technical guidance to Group Housing Societies, industrial units, individuals to adopt

suitable recharge techniques. The CGWA has issued directions to Group Housing Societies, institutions, schools, hotels, industrial establishments and farmhouses located in areas notified by it to adopt roof top rain water harvesting systems. The Ministry of Water Resources has also advised the Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation to make roof top rain water harvesting mandatory. Accordingly, the Ministry of Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation has amended Building Bye-laws, 1983 making provision for water harvesting through storing of water run-off including rain water in all new buildings on plots of 100 square meters and above in Delhi mandatory. Besides, the State Governments of Haryana and Tamil Nadu have also issued amendments to municipal building bye-laws to make roof top rain water harvesting mandatory for specified category of buildings. The CGWA has organised 135 mass awareness programmes and 69 training programmes upto 31.03.2003 in various parts of the country. During 2003-04, the CGWA has a programme to organise 51 mass awareness programmes and 51 training programmes on rain water harvesting in the country including cities.

#### Relief to Sugarcane Growers

\*12. SHRI PRABODH PANDA:

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high level meeting was convened in

June, 2003 in New Delhi for resolving the issue of a relief package for dues of sugarcane farmers;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) the progress made so far in the clearance of arrears of cane-dues;

(d) whether the Government constituted a committee to look into the problems of sugarcane growers;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the committee has met sugar mill owners to sort out the issue of payment to farmers; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAJNATH SINGH): (a) to (g) It was, inter-alia indicated in the Budget Speech, 2003-2004 that the Ministries of Food and Finance would jointly address the problems of the Sugar Industry and propose a comprehensive scheme for the Industry. Accordingly, an Inter-ministerial Group has been constituted for the purpose.

Subsequently, in discussions held in June, 2003, the issue of payment of cane price to the sugarcane growers was further discussed and it was agreed that the Inter-ministerial Group would suggest measures in this behalf.

A statement on the cane price dues in respect of 2002-03 sugar season is enclosed.

#### Statement

##### State-wise Cane Price Arrears Position

(Rs. in crores)

Sl. No.	State	2002-2003				Position as on
		Cane Price Payable	Cane Price Paid	Arrears	% of balance price payable	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Uttar Pradesh	4114.40	2509.99	1604.41	38.99	02.05.03
2.	Punjab	580.99	352.78	228.21	39.28	30.4.03
3.	Gujarat	644.26	554.13	90.13	13.99	30.4.03
4.	Karnataka	1063.12	699.80	363.32	34.17	30.4.03
5.	Uttaranchal*	14.14	10.58	3.56	25.17	30.4.03

\*Provisional

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6.	Bihar	308.39	225.54	82.85	26.86	15.5.03
7.	Tamil Nadu	878.13	573.37	304.76	34.71	30.4.03
8.	Haryana	267.56	138.78	128.78	48.13	30.4.03
9.	Andhra Pradesh	964.06	707.84	256.22	26.58	30.4.03
10.	Maharashtra	2107.68	1969.99	137.69	6.53	30.4.03
11.	Orissa	25.37	23.41	1.96	7.71	30.4.03
12.	Madhya Pradesh	61.40	57.58	3.82	6.22	30.4.03
13.	Pondicherry	22.33	13.97	8.36	37.44	30.4.03
14.	West Bengal	2.49	0.00	2.49	100.00	30.4.03
15.	Goa	6.49	6.49	0.00	0.00	30.4.03
16.	Kerala	1.77	0.00	1.77	100.00	30.4.03
	Total	11062.58	7844.25	3218.33	29.09	.

#### Master Plan for Artificial Recharge of Ground Water

\*13. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of "Master Plan for Artificial Recharge of Ground Water" prepared by Central Ground Water Board;

(b) whether the States have been consulted in the matter; and

(c) if so, the details of its funding and implementation?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) to (c) The Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) has prepared a report entitled "Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Groundwater", which envisages recharge of 36453 Million Cubic Metre volume of surplus monsoon run-off, through construction of 39.25 lakh artificial recharge and roof top rain water harvesting structures. The report outlines broad framework about feasibility of these recharge structures in various parts of the country. The Master Plan is a conceptual document for which States were not consulted and as such, details of its funding and implementation do not arise. However, a centrally sponsored scheme for Artificial Recharge to Ground Water and Rainwater

Harvesting at an estimated cost of Rs. 175 crores has been proposed to approval for X Plan.

#### National River Conservation Plan

\*14. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU:

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:

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

(a) whether the Government have decided priorities for the approved works/projects under the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP);

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

(c) whether pollution abatement works of some important rivers like Ganga and Yamuna are facing resource crunch;

(d) if so, the manner in which the Government propose to achieve the target of cleaning all the major rivers by 2007;

(e) whether the Government have also decided to seek external assistance to complete some of the projects under NRCP;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) whether Tenth Plan projection of river pollution control are proposed to be reviewed; and

(f) the success achieved so far as a result thereof?

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Based on the pollution load assessments, Government has approved projects worth Rs. 4064 crore to be implemented by various State Governments to cover pollution abatement works in 157 towns along polluted stretches of 31 rivers spread over 18 States under a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National River Conservation Plan (NRCP).

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) No formal studies have been instituted to find out the capacity of steel plants in the public sector since such capacities are already known through the Detailed Project Reports made at the time of setting up of the plants or their subsequent expansion/modernisation.

(b) and (c) The physical performance of SAIL plants have improved after modernization.

(c) and (d) The present assessment suggests a requirement of additional Rs. 2000 crore to tackle the balance pollution load of important towns on the banks of river Ganga and Yamuna alone. Due to non-availability of adequate funds commensurate with the requirement for the X Plan culminating in 2007, it may not be possible to achieve the target.

(d) and (e) The following steps have been taken by the Government to improve the performance of its steel plants:

- Intensive cost control drive which envisages improvement of yield, reduction in consumption of coking coal and other raw material, reduction in consumption of power and fuel, reduction in consumption of stores and spares, improvement in other key techno-economic parameters, etc.
- Implementation of Voluntary Retirement Scheme.
- Market oriented product-mix, increasing sales network and more focus on customer satisfaction etc.
- Quality improvement to meet customer requirements and schemes relating to statutory requirement like safety, environment etc.

(e) and (f) The Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) has agreed for a soft loan of Rs. 624 crore to finance Yamuna Action Plan Phase-II. In addition Government of Netherlands is providing Rs. 105 crore for the pollution abatement works of river Ganga at Kanpur. The external assistance forms part of plan outlay.

(g) and (h) The Planning Commission has agreed to review the budget provision of NRCP from the present Rs. 1417 crore to Rs. 1825 crore during the mid term review of the X Plan.

(f) As a result of the above measures coupled with improvement in market conditions, performance of steel plants have shown considerable improvement. SAIL achieved the highest ever production of 10.35 MT of saleable steel in 2002-03 and has been able to reduce its losses from Rs. 1707 crores in 2001-02 to Rs. 304 crores in 2002-03. RINL achieved a saleable steel production of 3.06 MT, and achieved a net profit of Rs. 450 crores, for the first time since its inception.

[Translation]

[English]

#### Steel Plants Under Public Sector

\*15. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted any study to find out the capacity of steel plants set up under the public sector;

(b) whether some of the steel plants under the public sector have shown unsatisfactory results despite modernisation;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government have taken any measures to ensure better performance under this sector;

#### Artists Living in Poverty

\*16. SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the renowned Sehanaï Maestro Ustad Bishmillah Khan is presently living under pathetic conditions;

(b) whether the Government have undertaken any study/survey to compile statistics of those famed artists who are forced to live in penury; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/likely to be taken by the Government to provide assistance to such artists to lift their standard of living and to enable them to live their life with dignity?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) There have been media reports to this effect.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. However, the Government provides financial assistance under a number of schemes, such as Pension Scheme and Awards and Fellowships of the Sangeet Natak Akademi. Awardees and Fellows of Sangeet Natak Akademi are also covered under a Medical Insurance Scheme by which they can claim expenses upto Rs. 1 lakh for hospitalization expenses. Details of these schemes are given in the statement enclosed.

#### Statement

*Details of assistance provided to artists living in poverty under the pension scheme and the awards and fellowship programmes of the Sangeet Natak Akademi*

#### A. Sangeet Natak Akademi Awards and Fellowships-

Though its various schemes, namely Financial Assistance to Fellows and Awardees of the Sangeet Natak Akademi, medi-claim insurance policy for the Fellows and Awardees of the Akademi and other promotional schemes, the Akademi provides a variety of financial assistance to eminent artists. From time to time the Akademi also provides financial support for medical treatment etc. from the Chairman's Discretionary Grant fund.

Ustad Bishmillah Khan is a great musician and has been honoured by the SNA with the Akademi Award (1956) as well as the Akademi Fellowship (1994). The Akademi, though its scheme of Awards and Fellowships to artists, gives purse money of Rs.40,000/-. While the Fellowship is restricted to 30 living artists at any given point of time, the number of Awards is 25.

The General Council of the SNA in its meeting held on 25th March, 2003 has recommended that each Akademi Ratna (Akademi Fellow) may be given a monthly honorarium of Rs. 10,000/- per month for life with an inbuilt escalation of 10% after every three years in lieu of the Rs. 40,000/- purse money being paid to them on being elected as fellow of the Sangeet Natak Akademi. The recommendations of the General Council can be implemented only after scrutiny of the available resources and a comprehensive impact analysis.

The Akademi has also introduced a scheme of medi-claim policy for all its Awardees and Fellows. The scheme is being operated through M/s Oriental Insurance Company; New Delhi. The Awardees and Fellows who are covered under the scheme can claim expenses incurred by them for treatment taken in a hospital up to a maximum of Rs.1,00,000/- per annum. Further, as per the provisions of the scheme the beneficiaries can claim reimbursement incurred by them towards medical treatment taken by them, directly from the Insurance Company.

#### B. Financial Assistance to persons distinguished in letters, art and such other walks of life who may be in indigent circumstances and their dependents.

Under this Scheme a monthly pension amounting to Rs. 2000/- per month is paid to artists who have made significant contribution in their fields and are over 58 years of age. The necessary precondition for availing benefit under this Scheme is that the personal income of the applicant (including income of the spouse) must not exceed Rs. 2000/- per month.

Under this scheme about 2 crores have been disbursed in the last financial year to about 800 artists. This number is expected to rise to about 900 artists in this financial year.

#### Ground Handling Services by Domestic Carriers

\*17. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:

SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have finally given nod to private domestic carriers to carry out ground handling activities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of airlines to whom such permission has been given;

(d) whether airlines have been permitted to participate in the Airport Upgradation Schemes also;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) by when the new proposal is likely to be implemented;

(g) whether foreign airlines have been debarred from such activities in violation of bilateral aviation agreements; and

(h) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (c) As per existing Airports Authority of India (General Management, Entry For Ground Handling Services) Regulations 2000 at present in force, all private airlines are permitted to carry on ground handling services at airports on self handling basis.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

(g) No, Sir.

(h) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Import of Potash

\*18. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR SINGH CHANDEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Agriculture Ministry tests the size and the quality of the potash imported by India Potash Limited (IPL) from Russia, Jordan, Germany, Canada, Israel etc. each year under the Fertilizer Control Order (FCO);

(b) if so, the details of the size and the quality of the potash imported from various countries during the last three years, country-wise;

(c) whether the Government have fixed any norms with regard to the size and quality of the imported potash;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the potash imported from Russia last year has been released in the market for use by the farmers despite the size being 30% to 40% less than fixed norm; and

(f) if so, the details and reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAJNATH SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Indian Potash Ltd. (IPL) had imported total 41 vessels of Muriate of Potash (MOP) during 2000-01; 42 vessels each during 2001-02 and 2002-03. All the MOP imported in these vessels were standard as per Fertiliser (Control) Order, 1985 (FCO) specifications. The average particle size of MOP imported from different countries was in the range of 79.77% to 94.34% against prescribed 65% minimum between 1.75 mm and 0.25 mm. The country-wise details of MOP imported during last three years is given in the statement enclosed.

(c) and (d) The Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985 prescribes the following standards for the MOP:

Parameters	MOP	MOP (Granular)
(i) Moisture per cent by weight, maximum	0.5	0.5
(ii) Water soluble potash content (as K <sub>2</sub> O), per cent by weight, minimum	60.00	60.00
(iii) Sodium as NaCl, per cent by weight, maximum	3.5	3.5
(iv) Particle size	Minimum 65% between 1.75 mm & 0.25 mm IS sieve	Minimum 90% between 3.35 mm & 1.0 mm IS sieve and maximum 5% below 1 mm sieve
(v) Magnesium (as MgCl <sub>2</sub> ), per cent by weight, maximum-		1.0

(e) and (f) All the MOP imported during 2002-03 was of prescribed standard as per FCO specifications.

**Statement***Details of MOP Vessels and Quantity imported by IPL during 2000-01 to 2002-03*

S. No.	Name of Exporting Country	2000-01			2001-02			2002-03		
		Qty. In mt*	No. of vessels Imported/ Inspected	No. of vessels found Non Std.	Qty. in mt*	No. of vessels Imported/ Inspected	No. of vessels found Non Std	Qty. In mt*	No. of vessels Imported/ Inspected	No. of vessels found Non Std.
1	CIS	0.66	17	Nil	0.82	16	Nil	0.78	18	Nil
2	Jordan	0.34	13	Nil	0.34	13	Nil	0.28	10	Nil
3	Israel	0.31	8	Nil	0.30	11	Nil	0.25	10	Nil
4	Germany	0.10	3	Nil	0.07	2	Nil	0.09	4	Nil
5	Canada	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1.41</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>Nil</b>	<b>1.53</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>Nil</b>	<b>1.40</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>Nil</b>

mt\* million tonnes

*[English]***Reduction in Centrally Sponsored Schemes in Tenth Plan**

\*19. SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of Centrally Sponsored Schemes in the Department of Agriculture have been reduced significantly in the Tenth Five Year Plan as compared to the Ninth Five Year Plan;

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

(c) its likely impact on the marginalized small land holders who were the highest beneficiaries of these schemes and also the weaker section of the society; and

(d) the details of the schemes brought down in the Department of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Agriculture Research separately?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAJNATH SINGH): (a) to (c) The details of centrally sponsored schemes implemented in the terminal year of the Ninth Plan and proposed to be implemented in the Tenth Five Year Plan are as follows:

S. No.	Schemes implemented in the terminal year of Ninth Plan	Schemes proposed to be implemented in the Tenth Five Year Plan
1	2	3
1	Technology Mission on Cotton	Technology Mission on Cotton
2	On Farm Water Management	On Farm Water Management
3	Oilseed Production Programme (OPP)	Integrated Scheme of Oilseed, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPAM)
4	National Pulses Development Project (NPDP)	
5	Oil Palm Development Programme (OPDP)	
6	Accelerated Maize Development Programme (AMDP) †	

1	2	3
7	Technology Mission on Horticulture Development in North-Eastern States including Sikkim	Technology Mission on Horticulture Development in North-Eastern States including Sikkim, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttaranchal
8	Agriculture Census	Agriculture Census
9	Macro Management in Agriculture	Macro Management in Agriculture
10	Improvement of Crop Statistics	Improvement of Agriculture Statistics
11	Timely Reporting Scheme	
12	Establishment of Agency for Reporting of Agriculture Statistics	
13	Crop Estimation Survey on fruits and vegetables and Minor crops	
14	Assistance for Cooperative, Marketing, processing in the under-developed/least developed States.	These Schemes have been proposed to be merged alongwith other Schemes into a single Central Sector Scheme "Assistance to National Cooperative Development Corporations (NCDC) Programme"
15	Share Capital participation in growers cooperative spinning mills.	
16	Share Capital participation in growers cooperative sugar mills.	

The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation had undertaken Zero Based Budgeting Exercise which resulted in reduction of sixteen Centrally Sponsored Schemes into seven Centrally Sponsored Schemes and one Central Sector Scheme. The reduction in number of Schemes is simply due to the merger of Schemes while no Centrally Sponsored Scheme has been dropped/discontinued.

The merger of Schemes will provide flexibility to the State Governments in operationalisation and optimum utilization of central assistance. It will have a positive impact on all category farmers including small and marginal farmers.

(d) The details of Schemes brought down in the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Animal Husbandry and Dairying and Agriculture Research are as follows:

S.No.	Name of the Department	Name of the Centrally Sponsored Schemes discontinued in Tenth Plan
1	Department of Agriculture and Cooperation	Nil
2	Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. National Ram/Buck Production Programme for Rabbit Development</li> <li>2. Assistance to States for Integrated Piggery Development</li> <li>3. Preservation &amp; Development of Pack Animals</li> <li>4. Development of Marine Fisheries</li> <li>5. Integrated Coastal Aquaculture</li> </ol>
3	Department of Agriculture Research and Education	This department does not implement any centrally sponsored scheme.

### Food Law for FPI

\*20. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to evolve a simple and rational food law that would allow for speedy decision making and promote self compliance by the Food Processing Industries (FPI);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are considering to simplify the procedures for financial assistance and rationalising the tax structure for FPI; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(a) A Group of Ministers (GoM) has been constituted by the Government to propose legislative and other charges for preparing a Modern Integrated Food Law and related regulations. It is proposed to converge and modernize the existing laws and to bring about a single statute for regulation of food products that would allow for speedy decision-making. This law is expected to take into account the international scenario and the modern developments so as to create an enabling environment and promote self-compliance by the food processing industries.

(c) and (d) Simplified guidelines have been prepared by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries to help entrepreneurs access financial assistance under the various Plan Schemes being operated by the Ministry.

Rationalization of taxes is an ongoing process and the Government of India takes appropriate measures from time to time in this regard. The Ministry of Food Processing Industries has also written to the State Governments for granting exemptions from sales tax on food processing industries.

### Regularisation of Cultivation of Poppy and Cannabis

1. SHRIMATI PRABHA RAU:

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain State Governments have requested the Union Government for the regularisation of cultivation of poppy and cannabis so as to check the illegal cultivation of these crops;

(b) if so, the names of the State Governments and the action taken thereon;

(c) whether the Government of Himachal Pradesh has also finalized a draft proposal for obtaining the financial assistance under the United Nations Development Programmes (UNDP) for the cultivation of medicinal plants alongwith poppy and cannabis; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Requests were received from time to time from some of the State Governments for permission for cultivation of opium poppy/industrial hemp. However, formal proposals for cultivation of opium poppy was received from the Government of Himachal Pradesh and for cultivation of industrial hemp from the Government of Uttranchal. On the question of cultivation of opium poppy it may be stated that, as a signatory to the United Nations Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961 and as a licit cultivator of opium, India is required to adhere to the regulations under the said Convention. The cultivation of opium is, therefore, restricted to notified tracts in the three States of Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh. Further, existing stock of opium, is far in excess of the domestic and export requirement of opium. With regard to the proposals for cultivation of industrial hemp, as per the present policy, no such permission has been granted.

(c) and (d) No such proposal has been received by the Government.

### Pollution in Major Cities

2. SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH:

SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:

SHRI SURESH CHANDEL:

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

(a) whether the Government are aware of the increased level of air, water and sound pollution in Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai as well as Maharashtra;

- (b) If so, the details thereof;
- (c) when the study on pollution level was conducted and whether there is any proposal to conduct a fresh study thereon;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether any time bound programme has been formulated to reduce the pollution; and
- (f) if so, the details indicating the steps taken to make the above cities pollution free?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) to (f) An increase in some parameters of pollution had been observed in major cities of the country including, Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai and Pune. A network of ambient air (295) and water (518) quality monitoring stations covering 98 towns/cities distributed all over the country has been set up to carry out continuous monitoring of air and water quality. Surveys are conducted in major cities from time to time to assess the prevailing levels of noise. In addition, the Government have taken steps to control air, water and sound pollution, which include : -

- Notification of effluent and emission standards for various industries under the Environment (protection) Act, 1986.
- Appropriate siting of industries to minimise impact on eco systems.
- Promotion of cleaner technologies for control of industrial pollution.
- Control of vehicular pollution through promotion of clean fuels, introduction of stringent emission norms and fuel specification.
- Control of noise pollution through various notifications such as (or diesel gensets, firecrackers and motor vehicles.

Identification of critically polluted areas and preparation of action plans for restoration of environmental quality.

City-specific action plans for improvement of environment.

Strengthening of monitoring network and institutional capabilities to facilitate and improve enforcement mechanism.

### Harvesting of Rain Water

3. SHRIMATI MINATI SEN:  
SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH:  
SHRI SUBODH ROY:  
PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether after the Supreme Court judgement in 2001 the number of plot owners of 200 square yards or more had opted for roof-top rain water harvesting in Delhi;
- (b) the number of Central and State Government buildings having arrangements of roof-top rain water harvesting;
- (c) whether these are constructed under the guidance of expert hydrogeologists; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

### Review of National Water Policy

4. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to review the National Water Policy in view of its opposition by various NGOs and other institutions;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether any progress has been made in the implementation of National Water Policy; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) The National Water Policy has been adopted by the National Water Resources Council (NWRC) on 1st April, 2002. The Prime Minister is the Chairman of NWRC and Chief Ministers of all States and Lieutenant Governors/ Administrators of the Union Territories and Union Ministers of

Water related Ministries are its members. After adoption of the policy, Policy Action Dialogues were held through series of workshops held at Bangalore, Bhubaneswar, Delhi, Guwahati, Jaipur, Lucknow and Pune during August-October, 2002. The views expressed by various participants representing Non-Governmental Organisations were duly considered while preparing the Action Plan. The Action Plan was put up in the Conference of Water Resources and Irrigation Ministers of States/Union Territories held on 5th February, 2003 wherein the same has been adopted.

Only a few NGOs have expressed their opinion for revising some of the provisions, such as 'Private Sector Participation'. However, in view of general agreement of the participants with the Action Plan formulated for implementation of the National Water Policy, it is not considered appropriate to review the Policy at this stage.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Provision on 'Private Sector Participation' stipulates participation of private sector in providing facilities/services and it does not provide for privatising water as a resource. As such, reviewing the policy is not considered necessary. Moreover, the Policy has been revised and adopted recently i.e. April, 2002.

However, the National Water Policy may be revised as and when need arises, as laid down in the policy.

(d) and (e) The Action Plan for implementation of National Water Policy has been finalized and after its adoption by the Conference of Water Resources and Irrigation Ministers of States/Union Territories held on 5th February, 2003, the same has been sent to all State Governments/Union Territories for implementation.

#### **Cleaning of Pamba River**

5. SHRI T.GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received a revised project from the Government of Kerala for the depollution of Pamba River in Kerala;

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) the final decision taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) to (c) Priority works for abatement of pollution of

river at Pamba and Sabrimala have been sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs.18.45 crore in May, 2003 under National River Conservation Plan of the Ministry. The cost of the project is to be shared between the Centre and the State Government in the ratio of 70:30.

[Translation]

#### **Production of Apples**

6. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity and the name of the States where apples were produced in the country during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether the production of apple is decreasing in the largest apple producing State; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government to increase apple production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The State-wise available information on production of apples in India during the last three years is given in the statement enclosed.

(b) and (c) The largest apple producing State is Jammu & Kashmir. Although the production of apple in Jammu & Kashmir decreased during 2000-01 as compared to 1999-2000, there is no sign of consistent decrease. The Government is providing support for development of fruits including apples under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Macro Management in Agriculture - Supplementation/Complementation of State Efforts through Work Plans with effect from October, 2000. Under this, the State Governments have been given the freedom to take up programmes as per their felt needs and priority.

#### **Statement**

##### *State-wise Area & Production of Apple in India*

State/UT	Production (000' MT)		
	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01
1	2	3	4
Arunachal Pradesh	16.0	8.5	8.5
Himachal Pradesh	393.6	49.1	376.7
Jammu & Kashmir	791.6	929.0	751.3

1	2	3	4
JP (Hills) Uttarakhal	178.9	60.5	89.7
Others	0.3	0.3	0.4
Total	1380.4	1047.4	1226.6

[English]

**Destruction to Tiger Habitat due to Mining in Rajasthan**

7. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a UK-based Environmental Investigation Agency (EIA) has called for a halt to mining which is destroying the tiger habitat in Jamwa Ramgarh near the Sariska Tiger Reserve in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have laid down certain guidelines in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Government has reported that mining is not ongoing in the Jamua Ramgarh Wildlife Sanctuary.

(c) and (d) Based on a decision taken in the meeting of the Indian Board for Wildlife under the chairmanship of the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 21.01.2002, the Ministry of Environment and Forests has directed the State Governments to identify eco fragile areas around Protected Areas.

**OBCs, SCs and STs Employees**

8. SHRI BAL KRISHNA CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of employees under the category A, B, C, and D working in the departments and undertakings under the Ministry of Environment and Forests, category-wise; and

(b) the number of employees belonging to other Backward Class, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes separately out of them category-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) and (b) The category-wise position of the total number of employees in the Ministry of Environment & Forests (Headquarters) including Andaman & Nicobar Islands Forest & Plantation Development Corporation Ltd., the Undertaking under the Ministry, is as follows:

**Ministry of Environment & Forests (Headquarters)**

S.No.	Category	Total No. of employees	Employees belonging to OBC	Employees belonging to SC	Employees belonging to ST
1.	Group 'A'	180	1	13	7
2.	Group 'B'	245	2	27	9
3.	Group 'C'	306	16	57	16
4.	Group 'D'	207	12	83	16

**Undertaking**

S.No.	Category	Total No. of employees	Employees belonging to OBC	Employees belonging to SC	Employees belonging to ST
1.	Group 'A'	12	*	**	-
2.	Group 'B'	26			-
3.	Group 'C'	278			12
4.	Group 'D'	141			12

\* Not implemented due to non-identification of categories eligible for reservation under the particular category in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands

\*\* No reservation is made for SC for the Andaman & Nicobar Islands

**Funds for Development of Coastal Areas**

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

(a) the quantum of funds allotted to the States from the Coastal Area Development Fund, during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government of West Bengal has sought fund assistance from the CADF; and

(c) if so, the reasons for not according approval to the demands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) No Coastal Area Development Fund as such for the benefit of fishermen has been setup by the Government. However, financial assistance is extended to the States under various schemes for development of fisheries and welfare of fishermen. On receipt of proposals from the Government of West Bengal, Central assistance of Rs.2109 lakh has been sanctioned to the State under various schemes during the period 2000-01 to 2002-03 for the development of fisheries and welfare of fishermen.

**Unauthorised Posts in Overseas Tourist Offices**

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

(a) whether the Government are aware that Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) has pulled up the Ministry for creating unauthorised posts in overseas tourist offices resulting in an outgo of Rs. 1.74 crore from the exchequer;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) India Audit Office, London has made certain observations regarding unauthorised expenditure on staff costs in respect of India tourism Office, Frankfurt which has been included in the report of Comptroller and Auditor General.

(b) None of the posts are being operated unauthorisedly. Approval of the competent authority i.e. Integrated Finance for continuation of all India as well as local based posts has been taken.

(c) Does not arise.

**Percentage of Unemployed Youths**

11. SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH:

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state the percentage of unemployed youths among total youth population in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): Estimated unemployment rate among youth (Age-group 15-29 years) as percentage of youth labour force on current daily status basis during 1999-2000 was of the order of 12.1%.

**Production of Litchis**

12. DR. M.P. JAISWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of production of litchis in various areas/states during the last two years;

(b) the total hectares of land under cultivation in the country; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to encourage production and export of litchis in view of the challenge posed by the WTO?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The State-wise available information on production of litchi during the last two years is given in the statement enclosed.

(b) The total area under cultivation of litchi in the country is 53600 hectares (2000-01).

(c) The Government is providing support for development of fruits including litchis under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Macro Management in Agriculture - Supplementation/Complementation of State Efforts through Work Plans. Under this, the State Governments have been given the freedom to take up programmes as per their felt needs and priority.

The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) under the Ministry of Commerce is providing financial assistance to individuals/exporters for various activities like setting up Infrastructure

Facilities, Packaging Development, Human Resource Development, Export Promotion, Market Development and Quality Control for promoting export of fruits including litchi. Besides, APEDA with the involvement of the State Governments have sanctioned three Agri Export Zones for the States of Uttaranchal, West Bengal and Bihar for giving focused attention on area based programme for export promotion of litchi.

#### Statement

##### State-wise Production of Litchis in India

Production (in 000' MT)

States	1999-2000	2000-01
Assam	17.1	18.4
Bihar	316.5	303.3
Jharkhand	-	5.0
Orissa	6.0	8.2
Punjab	11.1	11.5
Tripura	26.6	8.9
Uttaranchal	12.9	8.8
West Bengal	37.6	42.0
Others	5.4	5.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>433.2</b>	<b>412.0</b>

#### Industrial Workers in Private Sector

13. PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM:

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state the total number of industrial workers in private sector recorded during the last three years and thereafter till date, year-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): State-wise distribution of workers in the organised private sector other than Agriculture for the year 1999, 2000 and 2001 (latest available) is given in the statement enclosed.

#### Statement

S.No.	State	Employment in the Organised Private Sector other than Agriculture during (in thousands)		
		1999	2000	2001
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	545.74	564.45	582.57
2.	Assam	45.18	43.29	43.23
3.	Bihar	252.40	251.63	251.25
4.	Chhattisgarh*			31.01
5.	Delhi	221.65	221.42	217.57
6.	Goa	40.51	40.70	40.51
7.	Gujarat	817.17	767.68	759.96
8.	Haryana	234.16	230.77	236.20
9.	Himachal Pradesh	43.63	47.33	47.49
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	10.52	10.52	10.52
11.	Jharkhand*			@
12.	Karnataka	739.67	736.04	750.34
13.	Kerala	474.78	474.78	507.95
14.	Madhya Pradesh	238.99	226.50	186.32
15.	Maharashtra	1500.80	1465.91	1429.79
16.	Manipur	2.31	2.67	2.65
17.	Meghalaya	9.33	9.29	9.29
18.	Mizoram	1.40	1.40	3.45
19.	Nagaland	2.93	3.10	1.40
20.	Orissa	94.32	85.52	84.72
21.	Punjab	251.22	256.00	260.99
22.	Rajasthan	263.41	258.93	255.63
23.	Tamil Nadu	854.87	866.47	859.47
24.	Tripura	2.63	2.86	2.86

1	2	3	4	5
25.	Uttaranchal*			35.22
26.	Uttar Pradesh	528.35	522.83	465.56
27.	West Bengal	600.53	601.82	591.91
28.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	4.30	4.64	4.70
29.	Chandigarh	24.09	24.92	27.45
30.	Daman & Diu	12.89	12.33	13.38
31.	Pondicherry	9.20	8.20	5.37
<b>Total</b>		<b>7826.96</b>	<b>7741.99</b>	<b>7718.76</b>

\* Information is included in the Parent State.

@ Less than fifty.

[Translation]

#### Production of Steel

14. SHRI RAMDAS RUPALA GAVIT: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the production of steel in the country during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether there has been an increase in the production of steel during the current year; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) The production of steel in the country for the last three years is given below:

(In lakh tonnes)	
Year	Production
2000-2001	292.67
2001-2002	306.35
2002-2003	328.50

(Source JPC)

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The production of steel during April to June, 2003 is 84 lakh tonnes as against 77.79 lakh tonnes during the corresponding period last year, thereby registering an increase of 8%.

[English]

#### Flood Control in Assam

15. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether lakhs of people have been affected by the flash floods in Brahmaputra, Barak and other tributaries and rivers of Assam this year;

(b) if so, the extent of damage caused as a result thereof;

(c) the aid sought/released to the State Government for the purpose;

(d) whether the Government have drawn up any flood management scheme for Assam and other North Eastern States; and

(e) if so, the details thereof indicating its cost and time frame for implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY):

(a) Yes, Sir. As per the available information as on 17.7.2003, about 48.50 lakh of people have been affected by heavy rains/floods.

(b) Details of damage reported are given in the statement enclosed.

(c) In the event of calamity of severe nature, assistance is rendered from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) in accordance with established procedure. However, so far no request for assistance from NCCF has been received from Government of Assam in view of the ongoing flood situation in the State.

(d) and (e) Flood Management being a state subject, investigation, planning and implementation of flood management schemes are within the purview of the State Govt. The Central Government renders assistance which are technical, catalytical and promotional in nature.

The Ministry of Water Resources has formulated a Centrally Sponsored scheme for taking up critical flood control/anti erosion works in the North Eastern States including Sikkim and West Bengal (for the areas of North Bengal falling within the Brahmaputra basin), with a Central share of Rs.150.00 crore, for implementation during Xth Plan period. The Planning Commission has accorded "in principle" approval to the scheme. The Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) Memo has now been circulated to various appraising agencies.

Thereafter, the scheme will be discussed by the EFC and posed to the full Planning Commission/Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs for approval.

#### Statement

Sl. No.	Particulars	Details of damage
1.	Total no. of districts	23
2.	No. of districts affected	22
3.	No. of villages affected	4768
4.	Population affected in nos.	4.850 million
5.	Area affected	0.654 million ha.
6.	Crop area affected	0.201 million ha.
7.	House damaged	4451 nos.
8.	Human live lost	22 nos.

#### Duty-free Shops at Airports

16. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering a proposal to set up duty-free shops at the domestic airports;

(b) if so, the domestic airports where the duty-free shops have since been set up; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to set up duty free shops at the remaining domestic airports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Duty Free Shops have been set up at Calicut and Varanasi Airports.

(c) A Dubai based company, M/s. Flemingo International Limited has been offered licence to set up duty free shops at Jaipur, Lucknow and Amritsar Airports, subject to clearance/completion of formalities.

#### World Bank Assistance to Curb Livestock Disease

17. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received financial assistance from World Bank to tackle various diseases affecting livestock:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken to curb diseases affecting livestock in Karnataka?

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

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) The Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying is providing grants-in-aid under its centrally sponsored schemes to curb diseases affecting livestock in Karnataka.

#### Cleaning of Powai Lake

18. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of development of Powai lake made under National Lake Conservation Programme;

(b) whether the Government have approved the second phase developmental proposal of Powai lake;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the financial assistance provided/ to be provided for the same; and

(e) the time by which the work is likely to be started and completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) Conservation of Powai Lake under National Lake Conservation Plan by using Bio-remediation Technique was started on 20.4.2002 with a contract cost of Rs. 4,93,31,100/-. It has been completed on 30.04.2003.

(b) to (e) A proposal for "Lake Front Eco Development of Powai Lake" with a Detailed Project Report in 3 parts involving an amount of Rs. 3,26,90,059/- has been received in March 2003 with a request to consider Part I & II to start with a cost of Rs. 1,95,20,534/-.

#### Setting up of Second Krishna Water Dispute Tribunal

19. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have returned a draft proposal to the Ministry for setting up of the second Krishna

Water Disputes Tribunal asking it to consult the related ministries;

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) by when it is likely to be submitted to the Government for further consideration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) Note for Cabinet containing the proposal for constitution of a Tribunal under Inter-State River Water Disputes (ISRWD) Act, 1956 for Krishna Water Disputes was sent to Cabinet Sectt. for approval. The Cabinet Sectt. advised Ministry of Water Resources to seek views of the Ministry of Home Affairs and Deptt. of Legal Affairs on the Note.

(c) Ministry of Water Resources is finalizing the Cabinet Note for its re-submission to the Cabinet Sectt. for their approval.

#### **Security Services Recruiting Agencies**

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

- (a) whether the security services recruiting agencies have been mushrooming in the country;
- (b) if so, whether such agencies do not pay the wages to their security guards as per the Minimum Wages Act and rules made thereunder;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefore; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to check the exploitation of the labourers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (d) The number of security services in the country has been increasing over the years. With a view to protect the interest of workers employed in security services, the employment of "Watch and Ward through Private Security Services or directly by the employer in all Public Sector Enterprises" was added to the schedule of the Minimum Wages Act in the Central sphere vide Gazette Notification S.O. 216 (E) dated 9.3.2001. The fixation of minimum wages of the workers employed in this employment is under consideration of the Government. However given the steps and procedures involved, it is not possible to specify any time frame for finalisation of the same. The Act binds the employers to ensure implementation of the provisions of the Act in respect

of workers engaged in the scheduled employment. There are legal and penal provisions in the Act against the defaulting employers.

#### **Shares of SAIL in USIT**

21. SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) the percentage of shares held by SAIL and other companies in UEC SAIL Information Technology Limited (USIT);
- (b) whether SAIL, apart from taking equity share in USIT, has contributed to the company by deputing officers and paying their salaries at the initial stage;
- (c) whether the American partner has been able to generate business for USIT;
- (d) if so, whether any marketing or business promotion expenses have been paid by USIT to American partner in addition to usual salaries and allowances;
- (e) whether SAIL and the Union Government have got their nominees on the Board of Directors of USIT;
- (f) whether there is a proposal to offer SAIL's stake in USIT to the American partner at a negotiated price; and
- (g) if so, the criteria adopted by SAIL to arrive at the correct market value of its stake in USIT?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY) : (a) to (g) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Employees Retired under VRS**

22. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state the number of employees retired under VRS during the last two years in the Ministry of Labour, department-wise/ category-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): No employee has taken voluntary retirement under the Special Voluntary Retirement Scheme for Surplus Central Government Employees of the Department of Personnel & Training during the last two years in the Ministry of Labour.

**Employees Availing VRS**

23. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of employees under the Ministry of Civil Aviation who availed the Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) during the last two years, category-wise; and
- (b) the number of women out of them and also those belonging to SCs/STs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) During the last two years i.e. from 1.4.2001 to 31.3.2003, only two (2) Group-A Officers in the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) have availed Voluntary Retirement Scheme under the Special Voluntary Retirement Scheme for surplus Central Government employees. During this period, no VRS was introduced in Air India, Indian Airlines, Airports Authority of India and Pawan Hans Helicopters Ltd.

(b) The above two officers are neither women nor belong to SC/ST category.

**Disease in Coconut Trees**

24. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal to include irrigation components in CDB's programmes to wipe out the disease by cutting and removing coconut trees and replanting their good quality hybrid seedlings;
- (b) if so, the action taken thereon so far; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) The Coconut Development Board is implementing a Scheme on Integrated Development of Coconut Industry in India including Technology Mission on Coconut during X Plan. The scheme includes:-

- (i) Production of quality planting material through Demonstration-cum-Seed Production Farms and establishment of nurseries for new planting and replanting.
- (ii) Integrated farming in coconut holdings for productivity improvement which include cutting and removal of disease advanced palms by providing compensation @ Rs.250/- per palm.

- (iii) New planting with quality planting material by providing assistance of Rs.8,000/- per ha.
- (iv) Laying of demonstration plots for promoting adoption of integrated management practices by providing financial assistance @ 35,000/- per ha. The package of technologies recommended includes irrigation also.
- (v) Setting up organic manuring units with financial assistance @ 20,000/- per unit.

Besides, improved cultural practices including nutrient and water management are also included under the sub-component of adoption of technologies for insect/pest and disease management, on project basis, in the Technology Mission on Coconut. Specific irrigation component is not included under the scheme, as assistance for drip irrigation in coconut gardens is available under the Scheme on Macro Management in Agriculture.

**Recruitment in AAI**

25. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3611 dated April 7, 2003 and 4322 dated April 21, 2003 and state:

- (a) the details of newspaper in which the said posts in the Airports Authority of India (National Airport Division) were advertised;
- (b) whether the requisite information has since been collected in respect of above questions;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) Posts have been centrally filled by the CHQ through advertisement in Employment News and National Dailies such as Dainik Bhaskar, Punjab Kesri, Deccan Chronical, The Tribune, Gujarat Samachar, Anand Bazar, The Hindu, Amar Ujala, Hindustan Times, Hindustan (Hindi), The Times of India, Pioneer, Statesman, Daily Excelsior (Jammu) etc. Besides above, certain appointments in Group C & D have been made locally through the employment exchanges namely Leh, Pusa (New Delhi) and Kirbi Place (New Delhi).

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

**Preservation of Monuments in Andhra Pradesh**

26. DR. N. VENKATASWAMY: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of historical sites/monuments in Andhra Pradesh which were declared as monuments of National Importance, with particular reference to Chittoor district in the State;

(b) the measures taken and works carried out for conservation and preservation of these monuments particularly those situated in and around Chittoor district; and

(c) total amount sanctioned and spent in Andhra Pradesh circle for conservation and preservation works during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) There are 136 centrally protected monuments/sites in Andhra Pradesh of which the following 9 monuments are protected in Chittoor District: (1) Lower Fort with Rajah and Rani Mahal and Rajarajeswari temple complex at Chandragiri; (2) Upper Fort with ancient structures at Chandragiri. (3) Sri Venkateswara temple at Srinivasamangapuram; (4) Sri Parasurameswara Swami temple at Gudimallam; (5) Fort at Gurramkonda; (6) Lower Fort, Centre fort wall, moat, old fort gateway, old Hanuman temple, old Mandapam and old mosque at Gurramkonda; (7) Mahal at Gurramkonda; (8) Sri Palliswara Mudaiya Mahadeva temple at Kalakada; & (9) Sri Chennakesavarasvami temple at Sompalle.

(b) Conservation, preservation and maintenance of centrally protected monuments is a continuous process. However, in Chittoor District, Sri Parasurameswara temple, Gudimallam, Srinivasamangapuram, Rajarajeswari temple complex, Rajah and Rani Mahal in the lower fort at Chandragiri, temples, Rangin mahal and other structures at Gurramkonda have been taken up for conservation.

(c) The allocation and expenditure on conservation and maintenance of monuments in the State of Andhra Pradesh during the last 3 years is as under:

2000-2001	Rs.136.29 lakhs
2001-2002	Rs.114.39 lakhs
2002-2003	Rs.417.16 lakhs

**Setting up of Cold Storages**

27. COL. (RETD.) DR. DHANI RAM SHANDIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received proposals from State Governments to set up more cold storages in the States especially in Himachal Pradesh, Uttranchal and Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation is implementing a scheme "Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme for Construction/Expansion/Modernisation of Cold Storages and Storages for Horticulture Produce" through National Horticulture Board (NHB), an autonomous organization under the Department, in the country including the States of Himachal Pradesh, Uttranchal and Jammu and Kashmir. The Scheme is demand based and the project proposals have to come from the eligible organization. Under the scheme, 716 cold storages creating an additional capacity of 31.79 lakh MT with a subsidy to the tune of Rs.227.40 crores have been sanctioned in the country as on 13.06.2003.

**Special Status to Rajasthan Under AIBP**

28. COL. (RETD) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Rajasthan for according Special Status to Rajasthan under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme;

(b) if so, the present status of the proposal; and

(c) the time by which the proposal is likely to be given clearance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) The Chief Minister of Rajasthan requested the Central Government in April, 2000 to include Rajasthan in Special Category States under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP). As the State of Rajasthan has already developed about 82 percent of irrigation potential, the request of the Chief Minister of Rajasthan was not found appropriate to treat Rajasthan at par with Special Category States for AIBP funding.

**Devadula Project of Andhra Pradesh**

29. SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to construct Devadula Project in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether the Government are aware of any dispute between Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka on the project;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to resolve the dispute?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY):

(a) to (d) Probably, the Hon'ble member is referring to the Godavari Lift Irrigation Scheme (LIS) envisaging lifting of 50 Thousand Million Cubic feet (TMC) of water from the Godavari at a site near village Devadula of Warangal district for which the Government of Andhra Pradesh had submitted, in May, 2001, a Pre-feasibility Report with the request for an in-principle clearance of the scheme. The Pre-feasibility Report envisaged providing irrigation to five lakh acres spread over Karim Nagar, Warangal, Nalgonda and Medak districts of Andhra Pradesh by lifting 50 TMC of water from Godavari. Prima-facie there, was no objection to the proposal provided the water availability was established as per the Godavari Water Disputes Tribunal award. Being a major project on an inter-State river, it requires investment clearance from the Planning Commission for which Detailed Project Report (DPR) is required to be submitted to Central Water Commission (CWC) for techno-economic examination.

The Government of Andhra Pradesh Submitted in September, 2002 the preliminary report on Godavari LIS envisaging irrigation of 2 lakh hectares in Telengana region by lifting 50 TMC of water directly from the Godavari river from one of the intakes at (i) Devadula village, (ii) Gangaram village, and (iii) Lankala village. After examination of the preliminary report, CWC intimated the comments on the report to the State Government during December, 2002 and March, 2003. The project authorities submitted certain clarifications to the comments of CWC in February and April, 2003 wherein some modifications were also incorporated to the earlier proposal. The proposal now submitted envisages lifting of 38.2 TMC water directly from Godavari River from a place near Gangaram village to provide irrigation to an area of about 2.61 lakh hectares falling under Medak, Karim Nagar, Warangal and Nalgonda districts of Andhra Pradesh. After examination of this preliminary report, CWC has provided in principle consent for preparation of DPR for the above project during May, 2003 subject to incorporation in the DPR of certain important observations which include hydrology, inter-state, basic planning and environmental aspects. The State

Government has been requested to provide a copy of the DPR to each of the co-basin States for their information and views.

[Translation]

#### Agreement with China on Flood Control

30. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to sign an agreement on exchanging hydrological data of rivers originating from China on the lines of Brahmaputra river to prevent floods caused by Satluj river originating from Rakas/Mansarovar lakes in Tibet region in border district of Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY):

(a) to (c) The matter had already been taken, up with the Chinese authorities for providing hydrological information in respect of Satluj river on the lines of Brahmaputra river by setting up of a hydrological station in the upper catchment.

Further during Hon'ble Prime Minister's visit to China in June, 2003, the Indian side expressed its desire to expand exchange of hydrological information to cover the Sutluj river as well, which would help us in forecasting floods and preventing damage to life and property. The Chinese side conveyed that they will consider the request and would make plans for developing the relevant hydrological stations.

[English]

#### Fleet Expansion

31. SHRI GUTHA SUKENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air Bus Industries has highlighted certain inconsistencies in its new purchase bids;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken to ensure impartiality in A-I deals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) No such communication has been received by Government.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) All decisions are taken in accordance with established procedure.

### Strike by Working Class

32. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the working class went on a nation-wide strike on May 21, 2003;
- (b) if so, whether any advance notice was given by the Trade Union to this effect;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the main demands raised by them;
- (d) whether the Government offered effective measures to redress the grievances of the striking workers in order to avert the strike;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The main demands raised by the trade unions were the following:

- (i) Halt to privatisation of profit making and potentially viable public sector undertakings.
- (ii) No change in the labour laws in favour of the employers and against the interest of the workers
- (iii) Immediate enactment of comprehensive legislation for agricultural workers.
- (iv) No to policies leading to severe aggravation of joblessness and unemployment.
- (v) Widen comprehensive social security schemes for all, including workers in unorganised sector.
- (vi) Restoration of quantitative restrictions on imports.
- (vii) Amendment of Payment of Bonus Act by removing all ceilings.
- (viii) Restoration of 12% interest rate on P.F. deposits.

(d) and (e) Yes Sir, with a view to avert the strike, conciliation proceedings were held by the Regional Labour Commissioner (Central). Besides this the Chief Labour Commissioner (Central) held a meeting with the represen-

tatives of the Central Trade Unions Organisations on 19.5.2003. Hon'ble Labour Minister also met the representatives of the Unions and discussed their charter of demands with them.

- (f) Does not arise.

### Pollution Abatement Schemes

33. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the main objectives of pollution abatement schemes being in force in the country;
- (b) the States where these schemes have been launched in the country;
- (c) whether any such scheme has been proposed to be launched in Karnataka; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) to (d) Under the Assistance for Abatement of Pollution Scheme, grants are provided to State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs), Union Territory Pollution Control Committees (UTPCCs), Environment Departments, Central/ State Research Institutions and other Government organizations for strengthening their technical capabilities. Such proposals received from these organizations are considered on merit for providing financial assistance. During the year, various such proposals have been received from several State Pollution Control Boards including Karnataka SPCB.

### Tourism Development in Kerala

34. SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government have received any proposals from the State Governments including Kerala for development of tourism infrastructure in the States; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) Based on the proposals received and consultations held with State Governments/UT Administrations, 212 tourism projects with Central financial component of Rs.11121.10 lakhs were sanctioned in the country including Kerala during 2002-2003. State-wise details are given in the statement enclosed.

## Statement

## State-wise Tourism Projects Sanctioned during the year 2002-03

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	State/UT	No. of Project Sanctioned	Amt. Sanctioned
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2	507.50
2.	Assam	9	768.13
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	5	41.30
4.	Bihar	8	505.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	9	308.00
6.	Goa	1	0.50
7.	Gujarat	2	197.12
8.	Haryana	8	332.25
9.	Himachal Pradesh	30	779.32
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	3	94.38
11.	Jharkhand	0	0
12.	Karnataka	6	902.49
13.	Kerala	11	861.36
14.	Madhya Pradesh	18	711.16
15.	Maharashtra	8	623.46
16.	Manipur	2	5.24
17.	Meghalaya	3	70.35
18.	Mizoram	6	141.16
19.	Nagaland	5	360.50
20.	Orissa	2	47.50
21.	Punjab	3	23.00
22.	Rajasthan	13 <sup>4</sup>	1098.70
23.	Sikkim	13	346.24

1	2	3	4
24.	Tamil Nadu	5	559.00
25.	Tripura	5	216.13
26.	Uttaranchal	3	548.00
27.	Uttar Pradesh	3	295.00
28.	West Bengal	5	201.10
29.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0	0
30.	Chandigarh	3	7.75
31.	Dadara & Nagar Havelli	2	8.07
32.	Delhi	14	504.00
33.	Daman & Diu	3	49.50
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0
35.	Pondicherry	2	7.87
Total		212	11121.10

[Translation]

## Award to Genetically Modified Seed for Cotton Developing Company

35. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA:

SHRIMATI RAMA PILOT:

DR. MAHENDRA SINGH PAL:

DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT:

SHRI BHERULAL MEENA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for awarding Technology award to company developing genetically modified seed for cotton (Bt. Cotton) in the country;

(b) whether the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture has emphasized the need to review the decision on cultivation of Bt. cotton; and

(c) if so, the action likely to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Maharashtra Hybrid Seeds Company (MAHYCO), Mumbai was awarded the Biotechnology Product & Process Development and Commercialisation Award 2003 by the Department of Biotechnology for its R&D capabilities, ongoing research efforts in biotech product development including development and commercialization of Indian Bt. cotton hybrids containing the insecticidal gene after necessary regulatory approvals from the Government.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Genetic Engineering Approval Committee in the Ministry of Environment & Forests had granted permission to MAHYCO in March-April, 2002 for the release of three Bt. cotton hybrids into the environment for a period of three years. The Ministry of Environment & Forests has constituted a committee to evaluate the performance of Bt. cotton. The results of this evaluation during Kharif, 2002 *prima facie* show that the three Bt. cotton hybrids have been found to be reasonably resistant to bollworm thereby reducing the requirement of spray of insecticides. However, since the incidence of pests in cotton during Kharif, 2002 was generally low due to dry spell, the efficacy of this technology against bollworm needs to be assessed for the next two years also.

[English]

**Registration of Kendriya Bhandar  
under M.S.C.S.A.**

36. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI:

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for registering Kendriya Bhandar under the Multi State Co-operative Societies Act (MSCSA); and

(b) the steps taken to cancel its registration under the above Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The Kendriya Bhandar which was registered under the Delhi Cooperative Societies Act 1972, submitted an application to the Central Registrar duly approved by the General Body to convert the Kendriya Bhandar into a Multi State Cooperative Society under the Multi State Cooperative Societies (MSCS)

Act 1984. The same was examined and found in consonance with the provisions of the MSCS Act 1984 and rules framed thereunder and therefore registered as a Multi State Cooperative Society.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

**Utilisation of Funds**

37. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes under which the State Governments have received financial assistance from the Union Government during the last five years, State-wise and year-wise;

(b) the names of States which could not utilise the allocated amount during the said period; and

(c) the steps proposed by the State Governments to utilise the amount completely?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY):

(a) Details of schemes of the Ministry of Water Resources, under which various State Governments have received financial assistance from the Union Government during the last five years are given in the statement enclosed.

(b) and (c) Financial assistance provided to the States under various schemes of the Ministry of Water Resources is either in the form of reimbursement of expenditure incurred by the State Governments for certain schemes or, are linked with the utilisation of funds released in earlier instalments. Wherever funds released in earlier instalments are found unutilised/partially utilised, the subsequent releases are made by adjusting for the unutilised amount. However, in the case of the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP), the central assistance is provided in the form of loans payable in two instalments during a financial year. The second instalment of loan is released when expenditure reaches 70% of the first instalment. The loan under the programme will be repayable in twenty equal instalments together with interest on the outstanding balance commencing from the following year. However, 50% of the loan will enjoy a five-year initial grace period after which repayment of these loans will be affected in fifteen equal instalments. The loans annually payable will be recovered in 10 equal monthly instalments commencing from 15th June every year.

## Statement

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	Name of Schemes	Name of States	Year				
			1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Maintenance of Flood protection works in Kosi & Gandak river in Nepal portion	Bihar	209.06	438.00	302.20	372.047	753.8847
		Uttar Pradesh	94.78	Nil	175.22	Nil	85.44
2.	Flood proofing programme in North Bihar	Bihar	Nil	Nil	100.00	50.00	Nil
3.	Critical anti-erosion works	Bihar	Nil	Nil	850.00	1358.00	1283.25
		Uttar Pradesh	Nil	Nil	400.00	689.00	544.00
		Uttaranchal	Nil	Nil	100.00	Nil	95.00
		West Bengal	Nil	Nil	650.00	1138.00	560.00
4.	Extension and Strengthening of Embankments on river Lalbakeya, Bagmati, Kamla & Khando	Bihar	100.00	80.00	100.00	200.00	150.00
5.	Command Area Development Programme	Andhra Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	10.0	3.75	34.75	125.13
		Assam	0.00	0.00	33.45	36.00	0.00
		Bihar	0.00	0.00	0.00	300.00	0.00
		Chhattisgarh	-	-	-	46.32	148.45
		Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		Gujarat	324.19	650.00	18.67	0.00	0.00
		Haryana	1294.63	841.74	503.02	2321.79	620.92
		Himachal Pradesh	52.90	15.81	68.17	155.95	182.22
		Jammu & Kashmir	233.99	248.99	165.19	171.22	344.00
		Jharkhand	-	-	-	0.00	0.00
Karnataka	668.00	885.37	1863.73	3423.84	2652.61		
Kerala	806.04	788.11	745.62	507.94	0.00		
Madhya Pradesh	245.99	167.20	123.41	15.86	615.05		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		Maharashtra	1719.15	660.60	461.14	744.72	331.33
		Manipur	132.33	128.05	113.09	0.00	211.03
		Meghalaya	0.00	18.40	0.00	0.00	11.34
		Mizoram	0.00	0.00	5.00	6.88	9.14
		Nagaland	6.43	15.00	0.00	133.16	0.00
		Orissa	774.40	365.28	1035.92	504.76	264.90
		Punjab	500.00	3352.06	2133.49	0.00	1622.00
		Rajasthan	3834.87	2700.00	1592.19	2654.66	2939.27
		Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.50	1.25
		Tamil Nadu	2507.27	2336.74	1677.38	1336.14	2305.80
		Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		Uttar Pradesh	3959.24	2804.92	3247.32	2274.19	2279.40
		Uttaranchal	-	-	-	0.00	75.00
		West Bengal	275.00	306.73	424.77	0.00	284.00
6.	Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP)	Andhra Pradesh	7967.00	6501.50	9502.00	28166.00	3318.60
		Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	750.00	750.00	1500.00	150.00
		Assam	1395.00	1454.00	2407.70	1452.10	1627.38
		Bihar	3618.50	12969.50	14844.00	342.00	1448.05
		Chhattisgarh	950.00	1052.00	1393.00	4820.00	10400.00
		Goa	0.00	350.00	6165.00	5800.00	0.00
		Gujarat	43282.00	27270.00	42185.00	58169.00	100033.00
		Haryana	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1800.00
		Himachal Pradesh	500.00	1104.70	1801.50	324.40	815.00
		Jammu & Kashmir	0.00	468.00	1046.00	1107.00	3499.90
		Jharkhand	1164.00	1434.50	905.00	1082.00	967.00
		Karnataka	9450.00	15714.00	17100.00	49250.00	62085.00
		Kerala	0.00	0.00	2240.00	1127.50	566.50
		Madhya Pradesh	8125.00	9532.50	15132.80	21541.00	22000.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		Maharashtra	5086.00	4987.50	9702.00	3910.00	13313.40
		Manipur	1078.00	2181.00	150.00	936.00	1950.00
		Meghalaya	0.00	269.40	551.20	447.00	150.00
		Mizoram	0.00	143.30	143.30	200.00	75.00
		Nagaland	0.00	273.00	500.00	500.00	265.90
		Orissa	7150.00	9025.00	10032.00	16847.50	17957.00
		Punjab	0.00	4200.00	5562.00	11369.00	3666.00
		Rajasthan	14005.00	10666.50	7846.70	9631.50	17438.50
		Sikkim	0.00	136.00	0.00	240.00	75.00
		Tamil Nadu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	00.00
		Tripura	397.50	3465.30	1388.30	2106.30	1339.47
		Uttar Pradesh	7650.00	28600.00	31590.00	35469.00	35900.00
		Uttaranchal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2516.25
		West Bengal	1000.00	2500.00	2682.50	3860.80	2813.30

[English]

**Jurala Project**

38. DR. RAJESWARAMMA VUKKALA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to intervene to resolve issues between Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka Govts. regarding the storage capacity in Jurala Project across the Krishna river and execution of works on Rajolibanda Diversion Scheme (RDS) that would ensure increased inflow to Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) If so, the action proposed to be taken assist the drought-prone farmers of Mahabubnagar in Andhra Pradesh for increasing the storage capacity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY):  
(a) No such request has been received by the Union Government from Government of Andhra Pradesh.

(b) Does not arise.

**Genetically Modified Mustard**

39. KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI:  
SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have allowed Genetically Modified (GM) mustard to hit the Indian market;

(b) if so, whether Agricultural and Health Scientists have some reservations on GM mustard;

(c) if so, whether during lab test it has been found that GM Mustard could have adverse effects on male fertility; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) to (d) The proposal for the commercial release of

transgenic mustard developed by M/s. Proagro Seed Company Pvt. Ltd. was considered by the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee which felt that "the trials conducted by ICAR are not conclusive and further trials should be conducted by ICAR and Deptt. of Biotechnology to address all agronomic and biosafety issues such as crossability, gene flow, resistance to herbicides, agronomic superiority, etc. The Committee also noted that mustard being an edible crop, further studies to establish health safety aspects need to be conducted".

[Translation]

#### **Suspension of Pilots**

40. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of pilots suspended/dismissed on account of their refusal to fly to some countries due to spread of SARS;

(b) whether the Government have since reinstated all the said pilots;

(c) the estimated financial loss suffered on account of strike of pilots and the loss due to rise in price of turbine fuel; and

(d) the efforts made by the Government to make up the losses and the outcome of the said efforts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) The Management of Air India suspended 46 pilots due to their refusal to operate the flights on various sectors. However, no pilot has been dismissed from the service as on date. The Management has revoked the suspension of all the 46 pilots. However, disciplinary proceeding is continuing against them.

(c) Air India has suffered an estimated loss of Rs. 3.7 crores on account of pilot strike during April-May, 2003. The Company has incurred an additional expenditure of about Rs. 200 crores during the financial year 2002-03 vis-a-vis 2001-02 partly due to 11% increase in average fuel prices.

(d) The Government of India and the Management of Air India took all necessary steps for minimizing the adverse impact on Air India's operations and avoiding inconvenience to passengers. Air India maintained its all USA/UK/Europe flights and only a few flights on other sectors were cancelled. Air India also initiated appropriate disciplinary action against

the striking pilots. Air India's operation are now normal as per their commercial requirement.

#### **Child Labour Welfare Project**

41. SHRI RAMSHAKAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have asked the State Governments to furnish details regarding work done under the child labour welfare projects as the same has been very dismal; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the State Governments thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) The Government of India has been implementing two schemes for the benefit of children withdrawn from work, namely, the Scheme of National Child Labour Projects (NCLPs) and the Scheme of Grants-in-aid (GIA) to Voluntary Organisations.

Under the Scheme of National Child Labour Projects, funds are being released to the National Child Labour Project Societies set up at the district level under the chairpersonship of the District Collector. The Project Societies are furnishing periodical reports to the centre on the progress made by them. The State Governments are required to submit Utilization Certificate regularly giving details of the work done. The GIA Scheme provides for release of funds to the Voluntary Organisations on receipt of periodical reports and inspections by the officials of the State/Central Government.

[English]

#### **Paddy Fields for Construction Purposes**

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

(a) whether the Government are aware that a large area of paddy field are illegally filled for construction purpose;

(b) if so, the area thus converted in the country during the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to stop this practice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No such information has been received from any State.

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

### Supply of Bt Cotton Seed to Farmers

43. SHRI KALAVA SRINIVASULU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- whether nearly 50,000 farmers were supplied with Bt. Cotton seeds by M. Monsanto Company of America after the company was given clearance by the GEAC;
- if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- the reaction of these farmers thereto;
- whether a team of Scientists commissioned by GEAC submitted its report after visiting Mandleshwar in M.P.;
- if so, the findings thereof; and
- the action the Government propose to take to prevent the loss to farmers from the Genetically Modified seeds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) 41328 farmers were supplied Bt. Cotton seeds during 2002-2003 as under:

State	No. of farmers
Madhya Pradesh	2016
Gujarat	13269
Maharashtra	15935
Andhra Pradesh	6853
Karnataka	2960
Tamil Nadu	295
<b>Total</b>	<b>41328</b>

(c) The Committee constituted by Ministry of Environment & Forests has found the performance of Bt. Cotton to be satisfactory.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The Bt. Cotton crop in Mandleshwar was given 3 sprays to control sucking pests. No spray was given for bollworm. Only two irrigations were given. Yield of 4 quintals kapas per acre was obtained.

(f) The performance of Bt cotton is monitored by a committee constituted by Ministry of Environment & Forest.

### Package for Sugarcane Farmers

44. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH:

SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN:

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- whether the Government propose a Rs.500 crore bail out package for sugarcane farmers in the wake of a deadlock over cane pricing in Uttar Pradesh;
- if so, the details thereof;
- whether the Government propose to cut the statutory minimum price of sugarcane; and
- if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) In the Budget Speech for 2003-04, it was interalia indicated that the Ministries of Food and Finance would jointly address the problems of sugar industry and propose a Comprehensive Scheme for Sugar Industry. Accordingly, an Inter-ministerial Group has been constituted for the purpose. In the discussions held in June, 2003, the issue of payment of cane price to the sugarcane growers was further discussed and it was agreed that the Inter-Ministerial Group would suggest measures in this behalf.

(c) and (d) There is no proposal to cut the statutory minimum price of sugarcane.

### Apple Growers

45. DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that cheap import of apples from New Zealand, South Africa, US, Japan and other countries has seriously marginalized the Kashmiri apples; and

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to protect/safeguard interests of apple growers of Kashmir Valley?

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

[Translation]

**Benefits of EPF to Labourers**

46. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether only 10% of the industrial labourers in Rajasthan are getting the benefit of Employees Provident Fund;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore;

(c) the details of the concrete policy of the Government to provide benefits of labour law to cent per cent labourers;

(d) whether the Government are aware about activities of touts and agents in EPFO office; and

(e) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to check the activities of agents and touts in EPFO with a view to stop the exploitation of labourers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) 8.82 lakh members of Rajasthan Region are enjoying the benefits under the Employees' Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952.

(b) The Employees' Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 is applicable to 180 classes of establishments and industries, employing 20 or more employees. Establishments employing less than 20 employees and those not yet covered by the Notification of the Government do not fall under the purview of the Employees' Provident Funds & Misc. Provisions Act, 1952.

(c) A large percentage of the workforce is in the unorganised sector. The Employees' Provident Funds & Misc. Provisions Act, 1952 operates on the linkage of an employer-employee relationship, which is often difficult to establish in the unorganised sector.

(d) and (e) Whenever such a case comes to notice, strict action is taken. Complaint Boxes have been provided in the facilitation centres and the employers as well as the employees have been given full access to the Public Relations Officer/ Assistant Provident Fund Commissioner & Regional Provident Fund Commissioner to ventilate their grievances. Employees' Provident Fund Organisation has already established a transparent Public Grievance Handling System.

[English]

**Conservation of Traditional Water Bodies**

47. SHRI CHANDRA VIJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any concrete action plan to conserve, protect and ensure that traditional waterbodies, ponds, lakes-duly registered in revenue records remains the same without alteration of their character;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) Water being a State subject all water resources projects including conservation and protection of waterbodies are maintained by the State Governments. The revenue records are also maintained by the State Governments. As such, information on formulation of any action plan to conserve and protect traditional waterbodies, ponds, lakes etc. is available with the concerned State Government.

**Production of Vegetables**

48. SHRI SAVSHIBHAI MAKWANA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the production and growth rate of vegetables recorded in the country during each of the last three years, state-wise;

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

(c) the steps taken for increasing the number and capacity of cold storage in the country, since vegetables are perishable commodities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The available state-wise information on production of vegetables in the country during 1998-1999, 1999-2000 and 2000-01 is given in the statement-I enclosed. The growth rate in the production of vegetables during the last three years is as follow:

Year	Production (in million tones)	Growth rate (%)
1998-99	87.5	16.97
1999-2000	91	3.76
2000-01	94	3.30

(b) Average per capita availability of vegetables in India during the year 2001-02 was 76.14 kg. per person per year. The world "average" was 126.10 kg. per person per year. Statement indicating per capita availability of vegetables in different countries is given in the statement-II enclosed.

(c) The Government is implementing a scheme on "Capital Investments Subsidy for Construction/Expansion/Modernisation of cold storage/storages of horticulture produce". An additional capacity of 31.79 lakh tones numbering 716 cold storages has been created in the country through the scheme.

### Statement-I

#### State-wise Production of Vegetables

State/UTs	Production (in 000' MT)		
	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	3541.2	2839.1	3147.7
Arunachal Pradesh	80.9	80.9	83.7
Assam	2834.8	3089.4	2693.1
Bihar	9418.4	9548.8	10219.7
Chhattisgarh	-	-	1146.3
Delhi	651.9	651.9	862.7
Goa	70.0	70.0	76.0
Gujarat	3255.0	2647.0	3070.8
Haryana	1850.0	2094.5	2191.5
Himachal Pradesh	606.4	6660.9	734.2
Jammu & Kashmir	606.9	584.4	757.9
Jharkhand	-	-	2109.5
Karnataka	4944.9	6796.9	5763.0
Kerala	2857.2	2857.1	2530.9
Madhya Pradesh	3276.2	3632.0	3501.9
Maharashtra	4479.5	4828.6	5142.0
Manipur	45.0	53.1	67.4

1	2	3	4
Meghalaya	308.7	252.9	303.6
Mizoram	62.4	56.3	47.3
Nagaland	313.3	235.7	253.6
Orissa	10087.1	9096.0	8089.1
Punjab	1906.3	2285.0	2310.0
Rajasthan	396.1	472.6	386.4
Sikkim	42.2	43.0	59.7
Tamil Nadu	5704.8	5660.3	6011.0
Tripura	232.8	232.8	328.1
Uttaranchal	840.7	733.2	1138.1
Uttar Pradesh	12680.6	13842.4	13030.4
West Bengal	16367.4	17413.8	17779.4
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	15.8	15.8	15.8
Chandigarh	11.5	1.2	1.7
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	13.5	13.5	13.5
Daman & Diu	10	1.1	1.1
Lakshadweep	-	0.2	0.2
Pondicherry	33.5	32.6	54.2
Total	87536.0	90823.0	93921.5

### Statement-II

#### Per Capita Availability of Vegetables in India & Other Countries Year 2001

Vegetables	PCA (Kg/Person/Year)
	2
World	126.10
China	275.86
India	76.14
United States of America	126.54
Turkey	357.30

1	2
Italy	267.30
Egypt	200.51
Japan	97.89
Russian Federation	94.94
Korea, Republic of	259.95
Spain	302.14
Iran, Islamic Rep. of	160.71
Mexico	95.04
France	132.65
Nigeria	67.72
Brazil	41.29
Indonesia	34.33
Ukraine	120.29
Poland	143.12

Source - FAO

#### **Maharashtra Rural Water and Sanitation Project Stage-II**

49. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3992 on December 16, 2002 and state:

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

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

(c) whether the Union Government has since accorded its clearance to the project;

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

(e) the present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) to (e) The proposal on Maharashtra Rural Water

Supply and Sanitation Project Stage-II was posed in September, 2001 to the World Bank for possible funding with an estimated cost of around Rs. 1,000 crores out of which 75% is for World Bank and Government of India's funding. A Policy and Human Resources Development (PHRD) Grant amounting to US\$ 420,000 has been signed with the World Bank in February, 2002 for project preparation and the Bank missions have subsequently visited the State during May and December, 2002 to review the progress of the project preparation.

The negotiations for the Maharashtra Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project Stage-II with the World Bank were conducted from July 3-8, 2003. Out of the total project cost of US \$ 268.6 million (approx.), it was agreed that credit of US \$181 million (approx.) will be provided by International Development Association.

#### **Ichampalli and Polavaram Projects of Andhra Pradesh**

50. SHRIMATI D.M. VIJAYA KUMARI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ichampalli project in Karimnagar district and Polavaram Project in East Godavari district in Andhra Pradesh are pending since long;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when these projects would be accorded clearance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) The Government of Andhra Pradesh submitted to the Central Water Commission (CWC) the detailed project report of Polavaram Project in two lots in April, 1983 and May, 1985. The State Government also submitted the detailed project report of Inchampally Projects to CWC in October, 1988. The Inchampalli and Polavaram Projects not only involve Inter-State and environmental issues but also the techno-economic viability of the projects are to be established. The Ministry of Water Resources constituted a High Level Committee in July, 2000 to resolve the Inter-State issues involved in the Planning of these projects. The Committee has submitted its reports to the Ministry of Water Resources. However, the Inter-State issues involved in the two projects are yet to be resolved.

(c) The clearance of the projects depends upon the promptness with which the State Government arrange to provide compliance to the observations of the Central appraising agencies.

**Grant of Rice Stock to AP for  
Drought Relief Work**

51. DR. (SHRIMATI) C. SUGUNA KUMARI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested to grant more rice stocks for continuing the drought relief works; and

(b) If so, the action taken to supply 10 lakhs tonnes of rice under the Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Having regard to all the relevant factors, the Task Force on Drought has approved allocation of 2.20 lakh MTs of rice free of cost to Andhra Pradesh from the Special Component of the Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) for relief employment within the month of July. This brings the total allocation made to the State in the wake of drought to 17.20 lakh MTs.

**Use of Damaged Tyre**

52. SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Alliance Air used a six times retreaded tyre in a Boeing 737 aircraft chartered by the Army to ferry their personnel from Leh in May 2003;

(b) if so, whether the tyre was damaged during takeoff, forcing the plane carrying 93 passengers to make an emergency landing at IGIA;

(c) whether there are any specific instructions regarding use of retreaded tyres in aircraft;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any inquiry has been conducted to fix responsibilities for this grave negligence;

(f) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(g) the action taken against the persons held responsible?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. The aircraft made a safe precautionary landing at Delhi airport.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The use of retreaded tyres is a normal Aviation industry practice. As per existing instructions of Indian Airlines/ Alliance Air, tyres retreaded 6 times can be used on B-737 aircraft.

(e) to (g) During the investigations, it has been found that the subject tyre failure took place either due to suspected Foreign Object Damage (FOD) or material failure. Negligence has not been observed on the part of the person/s involved in maintenance/ flight operations of the above flight.

[Translation]

**Visit of Tourists**

53. DR. ASHOK PATEL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that number of foreign tourists visiting the country has remained unchanged whereas the number of tourists going abroad is steadily increasing;

(b) if so, the number of foreign tourists visited India alongwith the number of Indian tourists visited abroad during the last two years; and

(c) the foreign exchange earned and the foreign exchange spent by Indian tourists on foreign tours?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) The number of foreign tourists who visited India and the number of Indian nationals who visited various countries abroad during the last two years are as follows:

Year	No. of Foreign Tourists (In Million)	No. of Indians went abroad (In Million)
2001	2.54	4.56
2002	2.36	4.62

(c) The foreign exchange inflow & outflow under the head "Travel" as estimated by the Reserve Bank of India for the years 2001 & 2002 are as follows:

Year	Foreign exchange Inflow (In Rs. Crores)	Foreign exchange Outflow (In Rs. Crores)
2001	14344	12103
2002	14195	14298

*[English]***Community Forest Management**

54. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are providing funds through certain schemes for Community Forest Management;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the target fixed for the last two years and the areas covered thereunder, State-wise;

(d) whether any international financial institutions are extending any loan for such scheme; and

(e) if so, the details in this regard especially pertaining to Orissa during the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) Ministry of Environment & Forests has no specific scheme for Community Forest Management. However, under the National Afforestation Programme funds are provided to Forest Development Agencies (FDA) in the States for regeneration and eco-development of degraded forests and adjoining areas through Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs).

(b) and (c) A statement indicating state-wise details of FDA projects sanctioned, number of JFMCs and area covered thereunder is enclosed.

(d) and (e) The World Bank has extended a loan of US\$ 108 million for a 'Community Forest Management Project' in Andhra Pradesh. The project is being implemented from 2002-03 for a period of five years. No international financial institution has extended a loan for 'Community Forest Management Scheme' in Orissa.

**Statement***State-wise Projects Sanctioned and Area Covered under National Afforestation Programme during last two years*

S. No.	State	Projects sanctioned		No. of JFMCs		Area covered in Ha (during 10th Plan)	
		01-02	02-03	01-02	02-03	01-02	02-03
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1	12	50	565	2000	21090
2.	Chhattisgarh	2	10	41	345	1950	15670
3.	Gujarat	1	7	26	264	1500	12415
4.	Haryana	7	2	365	96	9400	3405
5.	Himachal Pradesh	2	1	97	35	2950	1520
6.	Jammu & Kashmir	4	15	200	490	4580	28204
7.	Karnataka	1	29	25	1016	625	42755
8.	Madhya Pradesh	7	18	358	498	20300	32650
9.	Maharashtra	4	8	166	323	4003	18325
10.	Orissa	1	23	41	917	820	39636
11.	Punjab	1	0	50	0	650	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
12.	Rajasthan	1	6	15	159	1250	12550
13.	Tamil Nadu	1	12	30	425	2500	23000
14.	Uttar Pradesh	5	25	179	816	7344	33615
15.	Uttaranchal	1	3	44	457	815	4122
16.	Goa**	0	0	0	0	0	0
17.	Jharkhand	0	3	0	159	0	5700
18.	Bihar	0	0	0	0	0	0
19.	Kerala	0	6	0	88	0	6150
20.	West Bengal	0	5	0	481	0	9470
21.	Arunachal Pradesh	3	5	59	131	3846	11030
22.	Assam	0	0	0	0	0	0
23.	Manipur	0	7	0	149	0	11674
24.	Nagaland	3	10	94	182	4130	14900
25.	Sikkim	1	5	43	171	2100	12350
26.	Tripura	1	8	16	184	800	16400
27.	Mizoram	0	18	0	260	0	26170
28.	Meghalaya**	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		47	238	1899	8211	71563	402801

\*\* States yet to accept FDA mechanism

JFMC: Joint Forest Management Committee

### International Workshop on Eriophyid Mite on Coconut

55. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an International Workshop on Eriophyid Mite on Coconut was held in Bangalore recently;

(b) if so, its main recommendations;

(c) whether the Government have taken note of the recommendations made by the workshop;

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government to these recommendations and their implementation;

(e) the details of the steps being taken by the Government/Coconut Development Board with regard to Eriophyid mite and effective health management of the coconut palms; and

(f) the details of measures, if any, for improving the income at coconut farm level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) An International Workshop on Coconut Mite was organised jointly by Coconut Development Board and Asian and Pacific Coconut Community (APCC) at Bangalore on 5-7 April, 2003 to develop strategic plan for effective management of eriophyid mite through exchange of information and technologies among the coconut growing countries in Asia and Pacific region.

(b) The main recommendations of the workshop are as follows:

- i. Strategic approaches needed in improving the income of coconut farmers at farm level, by adoption of scientific technologies.
- ii. Integrated community effort is urgently required for management of Mite through speedy up-gradation of knowledge and skill of farmers in Mite management.
- iii. An International Steering Committee is to be constituted to have a speedy exchange of information, strategic management and regional cooperation.
- iv. Large scale demonstration of technologies for the management of mite in the affected areas as compact block approach for better understanding of farmers for its adoption.
- v. Emphasised the need to bring out training manual in local languages about the management of Eriophyid mite.
- vi. Need for intensive research on the use of biological agent *Hirsutella thompsonii* was stressed with respect to formulation, time & method of application and other associated crop weather and pest factors.
- vii. Effective health management of palms by balanced nutrients and adequate moisture with organic recycling.
- viii. Use of chemical/botanical pesticides are also recommended in situations where the mite population increases beyond economic threshold level. However, it was cautioned not to use chemical pesticides indiscriminately. Use of neem oil along with garlic extract, commercial bio products like Neemazal, etc. were recommended.
- ix. Exchange of technical expertise, training the scientist and development workers in other countries where advanced research and development work is going on, to be considered.

(c) and (d) The recommendations have been sent to the concerned State Governments and research institutes for implementation.

(e) The action taken by the Government to control eriophyid mite of coconut is given below:

- (i) Coconut Development Board sponsored a research project costing Rs.3.00 lakh through Project Directorate of Biological Control (PDBC), Bangalore for developing bio-agents for control of mite through biological measures. A *Hirsutella thompsonii* based bio-agent called "MYCOHIT" has been developed. This is being tested in the field for its efficacy and bio-safety. The Board has also released Rs.6.65 lakhs to PDBC for further research on this aspect;
- (ii) Awareness campaigns/seminars/group discussions among farmers were organised by Coconut Development Board in association with Central Plantation Crops Research Institute and State Agricultural Universities;
- (iii) Coconut Development Board conducted trainings for departmental staff and farmers and developed Website to access information on mite on the net;
- (iv) An amount of Rs.142.45 lakh has been provided under National Agriculture Technology Project (NATP) for research work on coconut mite;
- (v) A Steering Committee was constituted to review and coordinate efforts in developing suitable control measures and recommend technologies for management of coconut mite. The committee is reviewing the progress periodically. The committee has recommended holistic approach including improvement of nutrient status, use of botanical and bio-pesticides for managing mite affected coconut gardens.
- (vi) Central assistance of Rs.57.99 crores was provided to the States of Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Orissa for control of coconut mite during 1998-99 to 2000-2001 through Coconut Development Board.

(f) In order to supplement income of the coconut farmers, intensive coconut farming systems are being promoted to get higher income per unit area. The assistance is provided to State Governments for demonstrating integrated pest management practices including inter-cropping and mixed cropping for management of eriophyid mite. Besides, Government of India fix Minimum Support Price (MSP) every year for milling copra and ball copra and undertake support price operations to ensure remunerative prices to coconut farmers. The Minimum Support Price fixed for the year 2003 is Rs.3325/- qtl. for milling copra and Rs.3575/- qtl. for ball copra.

**Indian Iron and Steel Company**

56. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been a detailed discussion on Indian Iron and Steel Company (IISCO), subsidiary of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) and other matters with the Russian counterpart in a recent visit of Indian steel delegation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there has been any agreement on the issue; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) to (d) An Indian Steel delegation, led by the Minister of State for Steel, had discussions with their Russian counterparts on matters which inter alia included revival of IISCO in a joint venture with M/s. Tyazhpromexport (TPE), settlement of outstanding dues of Bhilai Steel Plant and setting up of the Romelt steel plant of National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC). With regards to the revival of IISCO, it was agreed that M/s. TPE will review and indicate the possibility of their participation in the proposed joint venture to the Government of Russian Federation in two months who, in turn, will notify the Indian Government of any progress on this subject.

**FDI in Air Service**

57. SHRI V. VETRISELVAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Civil Aviation Policy allows FDI upto 40% in domestic air transport service;
- (b) if so, whether the Government propose to raise the limit of FDI;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (d) by when the changes are likely to be made in Civil Aviation Policy to raise FDI limit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The Steering Committee on FDI which was constituted by the Planning Commission, has inter-alia recommended enhancement of FDI limit in domestic airlines sector from 40% to 49%. Government is yet to take a final decision in this regard.

**Assistance to Drought Affected Karnataka**

58. SHRI R.S. PATIL:

SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the total amount provided to the drought affected Karnataka during the last three years, year-wise;
- (b) whether Karnataka is facing the third consecutive severe drought year at present;
- (c) if so, whether a delegation representing Karnataka Government has approached the Centre for assistance during the month of June; and
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Government of Karnataka reported drought situation in parts of the State during 2001-02 and 2002-03. During 2001-02, Central share of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) amounting to Rs. 58.72 crores and 1 lakh MTs of free of cost under Food for Work Programme were released to the State. For the drought of 2002-03, Central share of CRF amounting to Rs. 61.66 crores, assistance from National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) amounting to Rs. 207.65 crores and 6.65 lakh MTs of foodgrains free of cost under the special component of Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) have been provided to the State.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Further quantity of 0.55 lakh MTs of foodgrains have been provided to the State for relief employment upto July, 2003, thus bringing the total allocation of foodgrains to the State for the drought of 2002-03 to 7.20 lakh MTs.

[Translation]

**Work in Ranchi Airport**

59. SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA:

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the land of Ranchi airport belongs to Defence Ministry;
- (b) whether as a result expansion and certain other works could not be carried out at the airport;

- (c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (d) whether the Ministry of Civil Aviation has written to this effect to the Ministry of Defence;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the reaction of the Ministry of Defence thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) No, Sir. Land of Ranchi airport belongs to Airports Authority of India.

(b) to (f) Do not arise.

[English]

#### **Projects Held up due to Water Disputes**

60. SHRI J.S. BRAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of ongoing projects held up owing to water disputes between the States; and
- (b) the steps being taken by the Government for early completion of such projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) Water being a State subject, any dispute arising on ongoing projects, is resolved/being resolved through mutual consultations etc.

#### **Water Crisis**

61. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are aware of the gravity of water crisis looming large over the country which is resulting in law and order and health problem;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps proposed by the Government to overcome the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) Government is aware of the gravity of severe regional and temporal shortages resulting due to uneven geographical distribution though India is considered rich in terms of annual rainfall and total water resources. Some instances of law and order problem due to water disputes, have been observed.

(c) In order to overcome the situation, the Government has launched various programmes such as Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme for harnessing the water from natural resources and accelerating the creation of irrigation potential by early completion of ongoing schemes; Watershed Management Programme, Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme of the Ministry of Rural Development for artificial recharge of ground water and roof-top rainwater harvesting under the sector reform project, for which technical and financial assistance is provided to the State Governments and other implementing agencies. For meeting future requirements of the water, as a long term measure, National Water Development Agency has formulated National Perspective Plan for water resources development which envisages interlinking of Himalayan and peninsular rivers for transfer of water from surplus areas to water deficit areas.

#### **Test on Utility of BT Cotton Hybrids**

62. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:

SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Indian Council of Agricultural Research is conducting test on utility of Bt. Cotton hybrids, from the point of view of its production in Northern parts of the country;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard;
- (c) by when the said tests are likely to be completed;
- (d) whether the Government have taken any decision with regard to yield of Bt. Cotton in Northern India, till the tests are completed;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the policy of the Union Government on the use of Bt. Cotton technology?

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

(b) ICAR is conducting evaluation of eight Bt cotton hybrids in the three northern states of Punjab, Rajasthan and Haryana through the All India Coordinated Cotton Improvement Project (AICCIP) centres during Kharif, 2003 season. These centres are:

1. Chowdhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar.

2. Punjab Agricultural University, Research Station, Faridkot.
3. Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana.
4. Central Institute for Cotton Research, Regional Station, Sirsa.
5. Rajasthan Agricultural University, Research Station, Sriganganagar.

(c) Under the AICCIP system, two years multi-location trials are normally required for Bt cotton hybrids for consideration of results.

(d) No, Sir. The decision with regard to yield of Bt Cotton in northern India will depend upon the results of the two-years multilocal trials.

(e) Question does not arise, Sir.

(f) Bt technology in cotton is useful for incorporating resistance/ tolerance against the damage due to American bollworm. It is expected that this technology should be placed in location-specific and agronomically proven cotton genotypes to obtain better yield under farmers' field conditions. The Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) set up in the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India has approved commercial cultivation of three Bt Cotton hybrids of Maharashtra Hybrid Seed Company for a period of three years in Central and South zones of the Country.

#### **Increase in Air Fares**

63. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether complaints have been received from the NRI's of the Middle East countries regarding the irrational increase of fare by Air India;

(b) if so, the details thereof?

(c) whether the existing fares charged by Air India are higher than the other foreign airlines; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Eleven Kuwait based social organization of Indian expatriates have submitted a representation regarding fare hike on Kuwait - India sector effective February, 2003.

(c) and (d) No Sir. The increase in airfare to India from Kuwait effected in February this year was due to the decision of the Yield Improvement Committee headed by Kuwait Airways. All airlines operating out of Kuwait, including Air India, followed suit.

#### **Water Conservation**

64. SHRI RAJIAH MALYALA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether lakes and ponds in the country are disappearing fast; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed by the Government to improve water conservation by desilting all lakes and ponds and digging new lakes and ponds to conserve water going waste, especially during rainy seasons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY):

(a) Most of the lakes and ponds are shrinking in size and subjected to various biotic pressures.

(b) Water being a State subject, all water resources projects including water conservation measures are planned, funded and implemented by the concerned State Government. Various State Governments have taken up steps to preserve traditional water sources such as ponds, lakes & rivers and for improvement/restoration of quality of water bodies in the country. Realising the importance of freshwater bodies for providing food, fodder, fuel and water for domestic, irrigation and industrial purposes, Government of India has taken up Wetland Conservation Programme in collaboration with State Governments to revive the lakes and ponds. 24 wetlands till date have been identified for conservation and management. The financial assistance is released to concerned State Government for supporting various activities like survey and demarcation, weed control, catchment area treatment, desiltation, conservation of biodiversity, pollution abatement, education awareness, community development, etc.

State Steering Committees have been set up in various States with Chief Secretary as chairman, having members from State Government Departments and also involving Non Governmental Organisations/academicians. 100% assistance is given to the State Governments for carrying out these activities. Apart from this, urban wetlands which are subjected to deterioration due to urbanization and other anthropogenic pressures, a separate programme - National Lake Conservation Plan (NLCP) has been initiated under which at the initial stage, 10 lakes have been identified.

[Translation]

### **Reduction in Budgetary Allocation**

65. DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether expenditure on irrigation, flood control, rain water harvesting and water reforms which was 7.30% of the total budgetary allocations in 1997-98 has been reduced to 5.55% during 2002-03 in the States;

(b) if not, the factual position in this regard;

(c) whether due to said reduction the problem of water has become acute in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY):

(a) and (b) Water is a State subject, and expenses on all types of irrigation and flood control schemes are met by the States from their own State Plan allocations. Expenditure in irrigation and flood control sector during 1997-98 was 16.82% of the total State Plan allocation whereas, the revised approved outlay for irrigation and flood control sector during 2002-03 was 16.23%. Thus there is a significant reduction in expenditure in State Plan on irrigation and flood control in 2002-03 as compared to 1997-98.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

[English]

### **Irrigation Schemes**

66. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of irrigation schemes sent by State Governments to the Union Government for foreign assistance;

(b) the steps taken by the Union Government on each scheme; and

(c) the names of State Governments receiving external assistance at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY):

(a) and (b) 16 number of schemes received from various State

Governments for assistance from various bilateral/multilateral funding agencies are being dealt at present in the Ministry of Water Resources. Out of which, 4 numbers of schemes were found techno-economically viable and, therefore, recommended to the Department of Economic Affairs, Government of India for posing to the concerned funding agencies. Other schemes are under correspondence with the concerned State Governments. Clearance of these projects and sending them to the Department of Economic Affairs depends upon the State Governments complying with the guidelines of the donor agencies and the Government of India.

(c) At present, Government of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry and Uttar Pradesh are receiving external assistance to Major, Medium and Minor irrigation schemes from various funding agencies.

### **Handing Over of Aralam Farm to Kerala**

67. SHRI P. RAJENDRAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have decided to hand over the "Aralam Farm" to the Kerala State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) and (b) The Government of Kerala has offered to take over the Central State Farm, Aralam from the Government of India at a mutually agreed cost in order to utilise half of its land for resettlement of tribals and to operate the remaining land as a farm. The State Government has agreed to absorb the workers/employees after providing Voluntary Retirement to such of them as may be necessary to ensure that the farm is run as a viable economic unit.

(c) Does not arise.

### **Exploitation of Ground Water**

68. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain States have exploited excess ground water resulting in depletion of water level;

(b) if so, whether the Central Ground Water Board has framed any guidelines in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the percentage of ground water exploited for irrigation, State-wise;

(e) the areas irrigated by exploited ground water in the country State-wise; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to recharge ground water level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY):

(a) As per observations made by the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), significant decline in the levels of ground water have been observed in certain pockets in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, NCT of Delhi, Jharkhand, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

(b) and (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. However, a Model Bill to regulate and control the development of ground water was prepared by the Union Ministry of Water Resources and circulated in 1970 to all the States/Union Territories to enable them to enact suitable legislation. The Model Bill was modified and re-circulated in 1992 and again in 1996 to all the States/Union Territories for adoption.

Moreover, the Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) has been constituted under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for the regulation and control of ground water management and development in the country.

(d) and (e) State-wise details of irrigation potential from ground water and the extent of its use for irrigation are given in enclosed statement.

(f) The Central Government has initiated following measures for ground water recharge in the country:

- (i) Implementation of a Central Sector Scheme for Study of Recharge to Ground Water in the country.
- (ii) Circulation of Manual/Guidelines 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.
- (iii) Organisation of mass awareness programmes and training courses on rain water harvesting and artificial recharge of ground water.
- (iv) Launching of a website on Roof Top Rain Water Harvesting ([www.cgwbindia.com](http://www.cgwbindia.com)) to make aware and educate the public about various techniques of harvesting rain water and store it for future use.

#### Statement

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

(m.ha: million hectare)

Sl. No.	States	Utilisable Irrigation Potential m. ha.	Potential Created m. ha.	Potential Utilised m. ha.	Percentage Utilised for irrigation %
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Andhra Pradesh	3.960	3.311	2.365	59.72
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0.018	0.001	0.001	5.56
3	Assam	0.900	0.442	0.284	31.56
4	Bihar	4.947	4.033	2.547	51.48
5	Goa	0.029	0.004	0.004	13.66
6	Gujarat	2.756	2.418	1.785	64.77
7	Haryana	1.462	2.379	2.240	153.25
8	Himachal Pradesh	0.068	0.027	0.021	30.66

1	2	3	4	5	6
9	Jammu & Kashmir	0.708	0.013	0.011	1.55
10	Karnataka	2.574	1.321	1.031	40.07
11	Kerala	0.879	0.177	0.170	19.33
12	Madhya Pradesh	9.732	4.167	3.090	31.75
13	Maharashtra	3.652	3.549	2.469	67.61
14	Manipur	0.369	0.001	0.001	0.27
15	Meghalaya	0.063	0.002	0.001	1.57
16	Mizoram	0.005	0.001	0.001	20.00
17	Nagaland	0.005	0.001	0	0
18	Orissa	4.203	0.555	0.350	8.33
19	Punjab	2.917	6.925	6.303	216.07
20	Rajasthan	1.778	4.511	4.032	226.79
21	Sikkim		Not assessed		
22	Tamil Nadu	2.832	2.301	1.334	47.10
23	Tripura	0.081	0.013	0.010	12.41
24	Uttar Pradesh	16.799	16.349	13.574	80.80
25	West Bengal	3.318	2.239	1.597	48.13
	Total States	64.055	54.74	43.22	67.47
	Total UTs	0.116	0.066	0.065	56.03
	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>64.171</b>	<b>54.806</b>	<b>43.286</b>	<b>67.45</b>

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

#### Promotion of FPI with External Funds

69. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to promote Food Processing units in the country with external funding;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal mooted in that regard; and

(c) the response of the external financial institutions thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (c) Ministry does not set up food processing units of its own. In order to facilitate foreign direct investment in food processing units, the same has been placed under automatic route except for alcoholic beverages and items reserved for small scale sector.

No proposal for funding from external financial institutions have been received.

**Payment of Arrears to U.P. Cane Growers**

70. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to clear the arrears of the Uttar Pradesh cane growers from its Sugar Development Fund;

(b) if so, the amount due to the UP sugarcane growers by mill owners; and

(c) the other remedial steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) In the Budget Speech for 2003-04, it was inter alia indicated that the Ministries of Food and Finance would jointly address the problems of sugar industry and propose a Comprehensive Scheme for Sugar Industry. Accordingly, an Inter-ministerial Group has been constituted for the purpose. In the discussions held in June, 2003, the issue of payment of cane price to the sugarcane growers was further discussed and it was agreed that the Inter-Ministerial Group would suggest measures in this behalf. The position in respect of cane price arrears in respect of cane growers in Uttar Pradesh (as on 2-5-2003) is as follows:

(Rs. in crores)

**2002-2003**

(i) Cane price payable	4114.40
(ii) Cane price paid	2509.99
(iii) Arrears	1604.41
(iv) Percentage of balance price payable	38.99

[Translation]

**Legislation on Use of Pesticides**

71. SHRI PADAM SEN CHOUDHRY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to enact a legislation to contain the ill-effects of use of pesticides;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the legislation is likely to be enacted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Sufficient provisions already exist under the Insecticides Act, 1968 and Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 to contain the ill effects as a result of use of pesticides. Hence, there is no need for any separate enactment for the said purpose.

(b) and (c) In view of the reply to Part (a) the question does not arise.

[English]

**Inspection of Paragodu and Upper Tunga Projects**

72. SHRI G. GANGA REDDY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested the Union Government to direct the representatives to inspect Paragodu and Upper Tunga Project in Tungabhadra basin; and

(b) if so, the response of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh in his letter dated 15.6.2003 has requested the Hon'ble Prime Minister to cause the inspection of Paragodu project on Chitravathi river and Upper Tunga Project in Tungabhadra basin.

(b) Member, Central Water Commission alongwith Officers of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh has visited Paragodu Project site on 16th June, 2003. He also held meetings with officers of the State of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh at Hyderabad and Bangalore on 15th June 2003 and 16th June 2003 respectively and discussed the Paragodu Project on Chitravathi river and Upper Tunga Project in Tungabhadra basin. The CWC has convened another Inter State meeting on 27.6.2003 at New Delhi under Chairmanship of Chairman, Central Water Commission to sort out the issue where representative of the Government of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh were present.

**Negative Growth in Agriculture**

73. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:

SHRI B.K. PARTHASARATHI:

SHRI GUNIPATI RAMAIAH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether agriculture has recorded a negative growth in this fiscal year;

(b) if so, whether this has been attributed to a poor monsoon after thirteen years of normal rainfall; and

(c) if so, the steps the Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) According to the advance estimates released by the Central Statistical Organisation in the month of June, 2003 the growth rate in Agriculture, including Allied Sectors, in the year 2002-03 is (-) 3.2 per cent as compared to 5.7 per cent in the previous year.

(b) The negative growth of agriculture in 2002-03 is due to severe drought in several parts of the country. The year 2002 was the first all-India drought year after a continuous spell of 14 good monsoons that followed the previous all-India drought year of 1987.

(c) In order to mitigate the adverse effects of monsoon and ensure robust growth of agriculture in the face of drought conditions occurring over time and across regions, Government of India is implementing several long term programmes such as :

- (i) Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) launched during 1996-97 for expeditious completion of ongoing major & medium irrigations projects;
- (ii) Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP);
- (iii) Desert Development Programme (DDP);
- (iv) National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPR);
- (v) Integrated Wasteland Development Programme (IWDP); and
- (vi) Integrated Afforestation and Eco-Development Project Scheme (IAEPS).

#### **Allotment of Rooms in Ganga International Guest House**

74. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the period for which rooms are allotted at Ganga International Guest House at IARI, New Delhi;

(b) whether some top level officers of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) have been staying there for the last more than two years;

(c) if so, the details and the reasons therefore; and

(d) the steps being taken to bring transparency in the matter of allotment of rooms at the Guest House and to ensure that Rules are strictly adhered to in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) As per Council's guidelines Guest House accommodation is normally allotted for a period of 10 days. However Directors of the ICAR Institutes including Director, IARI are empowered to allot Guest House at their discretion for a period exceeding 10 days on payment at the prescribed rates.

(b) and (c) Additional Secretary, DARE and Secretary, ICAR has been allowed to stay in the Guest House beyond 10 days on payment of prescribed room rent. In addition to payment of room rent by Additional Secretary, DARE and Secretary, ICAR to IARI, she is not being paid full HRA as per provisions contained in G-I. MF. OM No. 2(39)/94-E.II(B) dated 27th October, 1994.

(d) For allotment of Guest House accommodation guidelines issued by ICAR are followed by ICAR Institutes.

#### **Non Implementation of Livestock Health Scheme**

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

(a) whether cross breeding have led the livestock more susceptible to various diseases;

(b) if so, whether non-implementation of livestock health scheme has led to high rate of mortality;

(c) if so, the remedial steps taken in this regard;

(d) whether funds allocated for the purpose are not being utilized fully; and

(e) if so, the steps taken/being taken by the Government to make full utilization of the allocated funds?

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

(b) and (c) No Sir. The Department is implementing

various livestock health programmes to supplement the efforts of the State/Union Territories to control animal diseases.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. The funds allocated for the livestock disease control schemes namely Assistance to States for Control of Animal Diseases and National programme on Rinderpest Eradication have been utilized fully. During the year 2002-2003 against the allocated amount of Rs.2730.00 lakh a sum of Rs.2902.40 lakh have been utilized.

#### **Setting up of Fodder Bank**

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

- (a) whether the Government provide assistance to set up fodder banks;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any such fodder bank has been or proposed to be set up in Kerala;
- (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) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government of India provides assistance to the States for establishment of fodder bank on funding pattern of 75%:25% (Central:State) as one time grant to the extent of Rs. 55.00 lakhs for one fodder bank.

(c) to (e) State Government of Kerala was granted an amount of Rs.38.85 lakhs during 1998-99 for establishment of one fodder bank in Kerala. The State has spent Rs.19.05 lakhs. The fund utilization certificate for remaining amount i.e. Rs.19.80 lakhs is still awaited.

[Translation]

#### **Marketing Facilities to Farmers**

77. SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:

SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether farmers are not getting any benefit of marketing facilities to sell their produce in the market due to Pressure of the traders;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to provide marketing facilities to the farmers?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Organized marketing of agricultural commodities in the country has been provided through a network of regulated markets. Regulated markets have helped in creating competitive trade environment thereby offering the best prices to the producers and consumers. Agricultural Produce Marketing Committees (APMCs) are corporate bodies established under the respective State Agricultural Marketing Regulation Acts. The APMCs manage the markets. The market yards are notified by the State Government under the respective State marketing Regulations Acts and are developed by State Governments, Marketing Boards and APMCs. As on 31.3.2003, 7383 markets have been covered under the respective State Marketing Regulation Acts. There are 27,294 rural primary markets, about 15% of which function under the ambit of market regulation.

The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation has taken the following steps to further strengthen marketing facilities in the country:-

- (i) State Governments have been requested to amend their respective State Agricultural Produce Marketing Regulation Act inter-alia to promote setting up of agricultural marketing infrastructure in private and cooperative sectors; promotion of direct marketing and contract farming, pledge financing and negotiable warehousing receipt system.
- (ii) Under the Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Agriculture in North-Eastern States including Sikkim, grants are being provided for development of Wholesale markets, Rural Primary Markets as well as strengthening of Laboratories for quality control in the region. As on 31.3.2003, Central assistance of Rs.1013.96 lakh has been granted for development of 20 wholesale markets, 92 Rural Primary Markets and strengthening of 14 State Grading Laboratories.
- (iii) Under the Central Sector Scheme of 'Agricultural Marketing Information Network', a nationwide information network is being established for speedy collection and

dissemination of price related data in respect of agricultural commodities for its efficient and timely utilization by the farmers. Under the scheme so far, 810 nodes covering important agricultural markets State Agricultural Marketing Boards/ Departments and offices of Directorate of Marketing & Inspection have been provided computer facilities and internet connectivity.

- (iv) Under the Central Sector Scheme of construction of Rural Godowns (Grameen Bhandaran Yojana) assistance is provided for construction of godowns to provide scientific storage facilities in rural areas to prevent quantitative and qualitative losses of the produce of the farmers. Under the scheme, Central Government is providing subsidy @ 25% of the capital cost of the project. A higher subsidy of 33.3% of capital cost is provided for beneficiaries belonging to SC/ST and for North-Eastern States and hilly areas. So far under the scheme, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development has sanctioned 995 projects with a capacity of 59.29 lakh tonnes. National Cooperative Development Corporation has sanctioned 1575 projects with a capacity of 7.42 lakhs tonnes as on 31.3.2003.

#### **New Steel Policy**

78. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHRI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to formulate a new steel policy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has decided to formulate a National Steel Policy to draw out the road map for the iron and steel industry in the context of second generation reforms, restructuring and globalisation. A committee had been set up to prepare the Draft Policy. The first draft has been prepared and is under examination in consultation with all the stakeholders.

- (c) Does not arise in view of the above.

#### **Impact of Terrorism on Tourism**

79. SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether tourism industry has been adversely affected due to terrorist activities in various parts of the world during the last year;

(b) If so, the steps taken by the Government to boost tourism industry thereafter; and

(c) the scenario of tourism industry during the last three years in comparison to Japan, Singapore, Thailand, China, America and England?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) Countries which had negative growth in International tourist arrivals during the year 2002 as compared to the year 2001 include Indonesia, India, Israel, Kenya, Cyprus, Mexico, Morocco, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Switzerland and U.S.A.

(b) Various steps taken by the Government to boost tourism industry include:-

- Direct approach to the consumers through Electronic and Print media through flew and catchy messages.
- Creation of World Class Collaterals.
- Centralized Electronic Media Campaign.
- Direct co-operative marketing with the Airlines, tour operators and wholesalers overseas.
- To attach greater focus in the emerging markets particularly in the region of China, North East Asia and South East Asia.
- Participation in Trade Fairs & Exhibitions
- Optimize Editorial PR and Publicity.
- Use of Internet and web marketing.
- Generate Tourist Publications.
- Re-enforced hospitality programmes including grant of air passages to invite the media personnel, tour operators on familiarization tour to India to get first hand knowledge on various tourism products.

In addition to the above, the Deptt. of Tourism, Govt. of India has the following short-term and long-term Plans to boost tourism industry:

- Positioning and maintaining tourism development as a National priority activity;
- Enhancing and maintaining the competitiveness of India as a tourism destination;
- Improving India's existing tourism products and expanding these to meet new market requirements;

- Creation of world class infrastructure;
- Special thrust to rural and small segment tourism;
- Attention to civilizational issues and issues pertaining to civic administration, good governance and also of social and cultural values; and
- Development of tourism circuits and tourism-cum-cultural hubs.

(c) The number of International tourists who visited Japan, Singapore, Thailand, China, U.S.A, U.K. and India during the last three years are as follows:

(In Minion)

Countries	Number of International Tourists		
	2000	2001	2002
Japan	4.76	4.77	5.24
Singapore	6.92	6.73	N.A.
Thailand	9.58	10.10	10.90
China	31.23	33.17	36.80
U.S.A.	50.95	45.49	41.89
U.K.	25.21	22.83	23.94
India	2.65	2.54	2.36

[English]

#### Funds to States for Development of Tourist Spots

80. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH:

SHRI M.K. SUBBA:

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

(a) the details of funds allocated/released to the State Govts. for development of tourist spots in the country during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the State Governments including Andhra Pradesh has sought special financial assistance for development of tourism in their States; and

(c) if so, the details of assistance provided by the Government to the State Govts.?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) Tourism projects are identified every year in consultation with the State Governments/UT Administrations and sanctioned on merits subject to availability of funds and inter-se priority. During last three years 784 tourism projects were sanctioned in various States/UTs including Andhra Pradesh for development and promotion of tourism.

(c) Year-wise details are as under:

(Rs. in Crores)

Year	No. of Projects	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released Upto 31.03.2003
2000-01	363	86.47	45.44
2001-02	209	56.09	33.11
2002-03	212	111.21	86.80

#### Labourers Died due to Closure of Mills and Factories

81. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that a number of labourers and their families are on the verge of death and some have committed suicide on account of unemployment because of closure of the mills and factories;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to provide them alternative means of livelihood?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) The Government is aware of increasing unemployment and hardships caused to the workers due to closure of mills and factories.

(c) The growth strategy of the 10th Plan lays emphasis on rapid growth of those sectors which are likely to create high quality employment opportunities such as information technology, tourism, financial services, construction etc. Moreover, a scheme for counselling, retraining and redeployment of rationalized workers of Central Public Sector Undertakings has been introduced from 2001-02 with thrust on self-employment of the rationalized employees.

### Mineral Sand Mining in Coastal Areas

82. SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any proposals have been received from various States including Kerala for allowing private parties for mineral sand mining in their coastal areas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether permission has been granted for the same;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any agreement with private parties has been signed in this regard particularly in Kerala;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether any study has been conducted to ascertain the ecological impact of such schemes; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) to (f) The Government have received proposals from various agencies including private parties seeking environmental clearance for the purpose of mining rare earth minerals and associated garnet sand in the coastal stretches of the country which are as follows:

Sl. No.	Parties/Agencies	State	Details of the Project	Status of environmental clearance
1.	Bhimili Beach Sand Mining Project of M/s Indian Rare Earths Ltd.	Andhra Pradesh	-	Not accorded environmental clearance due to lack of information.
2.	Garnet Sand Mining Project of M/s Transworld Garnet India Ltd.	Andhra Pradesh	Mining lease area 95.085 ha.	Environmental clearance accorded.
3.	Heavy Mineral Mining Expansion Project of M/s V. V. Minerals.	Tamil Nadu	-	Environmental clearance not accorded due to lack of information.
4.	Garnet Sand Mining Project of M/s Transworld Garnet India Ltd.	Tamil Nadu	Mining lease area 10.105 ha.	The project was accorded environmental clearance.
5.	Site clearance (prospecting and exploration) for three prospecting leases of M/s Tata Iron and Steel Company.	Tamil Nadu	-	Not accorded environmental clearance due to lack of information.
6.	Chavara Beach Sand Project of M/s Indian Rare Earths Ltd.	Kerala	-	Not accorded environmental clearance due to lack of information.

(g) and (h) Information with regard to environmental impact of such mining project is being collected.

contract of the global adviser, which has undertaken for development work on four metro airports at Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai;

### Termination of Contract for Airport Modernisation

83. DR. V. SAROJA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have terminated the

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have made any alternative arrangements; and

(d) if so, the manner in which the Government propose to implement this arrangement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) No global adviser has been engaged by the Government for undertaking development work on four metro airports at Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata. However, Airports Authority of India had appointed a consortium led by M/s. KPMG India Private Limited as Financial Consultant to advice on the restructuring of above four metro airports.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

#### Schools for Children

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

(a) whether the Government propose to open schools for minor children in every State and provide them financial assistance with a view to keep these minor children (Child Labour) away from work; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Government of India has taken steps for withdrawal and rehabilitation of Child labour working in hazardous occupations to reduce the incidence of child labour in a particular district through the Scheme of NCLP. Under the Scheme, special schools have been set up in the child labour endemic districts with the provision for non-formal/formal education, vocational training, stipend, nutrition, health-care etc.

(b) So far, 100 NCLPs have been sanctioned in 13 child labour endemic states for coverage of 2.11 lakh children.

[English]

#### Check on Effluents Polluting Ganga and Yamuna

85. SHRI ANANT GUDHE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that waste materials, dirty water and debris of cities and towns are entering and flowing with the water of Ganga and Yamuna at various places; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to stop entry of these items in Ganga/Yamuna?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government is providing assistance to various State Governments to cover pollution abatement works in 157 towns along polluted stretches of 31 rivers spread over 18 States under a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National River Conservation Plan (NRCP). The following pollution abatement works are being undertaken by various implementing agencies of State Governments.

- Interception and diversion works to capture the raw sewage flowing into the river through open drains.
- Sewage treatment plants for treating the diverted sewage.
- Low cost sanitation works to prevent open defecation on river banks.
- Electric crematoria and improved wood crematoria to conserve the use of wood and to prevent throwing of unburnt dead bodies into the river.
- Improvement of bathing ghats to allow the use of rivers for bathing by people.

[Translation]

#### Price of Pulses

86. SHRI NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the soaring prices of pulses in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government are considering any scheme to boost production of all foodgrains especially pulses;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of the action being taken by the Government to bring down the prices of foodgrains especially the pulses in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) According to the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) with base 1993-94, the prices of pulses as a group registered a marginal decline of 0.8 per cent during the year ending July 5, 2003 as against a decline of 7.1 per cent during the corresponding

previous year. However, the prices of Arhar (Tur) and Masur increased during this period. The following table gives the figures of price change in respect of individual pulses:

**Annual (Point-to-Point) Price Change (%)**

Pulses	(Percentage variation in WPI)	
	Year ending 5th July, 2003	Corresponding previous year
1. Arhar (Tur)	10.0	7.2
2. Moong	-1.7	4.1
3. Urad	-11.6	-17.9
4. Gram	-0.8	-14.9
5. Masur	6.4	3.7

(b) to (d) For increasing production and productivity of pulses a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Pulses Development Project (NPDP) is being implemented in 30 States covering 350 districts. Under the scheme, assistance is being provided on various components like production and distribution of certified seeds, distribution of seed minikits, integrated pest management and distribution of improved farm implements. In the case of foodgrains, including pulses, it may be stated that despite the sharp decline from 212.04 million tonnes in 2001-2002 to 182.57 million tonnes in 2002-2003 due to the impact of severe drought on production and productivity in several parts of the country, the price rise during the year ending July 5, 2003 was 3.1 per cent as against 5.1 per cent in respect of all commodities during the same period. The relatively lower rate of price rise in the case of foodgrains reflects the comfortable position of stocks well above the buffer norms.

**Construction of New Airports**

87. SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to establish new airports instead of modernising the existing airports located at Delhi, Mumbai and Lucknow;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the estimated cost likely to be incurred in setting up these new airports; and

(d) by when the work on this project is likely to commence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

**Air Crashes**

88. SHRI G.J. JAVIYA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of aircrashes involving civilian aircraft have taken place since January 01, 2003 at various places including Gujarat, Mumbai, Delhi and Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the detail of each aircrash;

(c) the persons found guilty and responsible for the said mishaps;

(d) the amount of compensation given or would be given in each case;

(e) the details of enquiry report in each case; and

(f) the cases where sabotage has been apprehended?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) There have been two accidents since 1st January, 2003, viz. (i) Accident to Bell 412 helicopter VT-AZC of M/s. Azal India at Mumbai on 19.04.2003. There was no fatality in this accident and (ii) Accident to Lama SA-315B helicopter VT-HIM of M/s. Himalayan Heli-Services at Manali on 29.04.2003. One crew member and three passengers, including two foreign nationals died on the spot in this accident.

(c) The investigation report of accident to Bell 412 helicopter of M/s. Azal India submitted by the Inspector of Accidents is under review by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA). Investigation is underway by DGCA in the case of Lama SA-315B helicopter of M/s. Himalayan Heli-Services.

(d) Since the ill fated helicopters belonged to private companies, the respective operators have to decide the amount of compensation to be paid in each case.

(e) Since the process of enquiry is underway, it is not possible at this stage to indicate the details of the enquiry report in each case.

(f) No sabotage is apprehended in these two cases.

[English]

### Parking Contract at Ahmedabad Airport

89. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Airport Authority of India (AAI) had advertised for awarding contract for parking at Ahmedabad Airport (both domestic and international);

(b) if so, the names of the parties/firms/contractors who applied for the contract alongwith the details of their financial offer;

(c) the terms and conditions settled between the AAI and the contractor, alongwith the amount of revenue AAI earned from this contract;

(d) the name of the party to whom the contract was awarded;

(e) whether the said contractor has sublet the contract to a person who is charging exorbitant rates from car owners; and

(f) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken to rectify this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) M/s Yash Marketing & Trading Co. applied for the contract for financial offer of Rs. 450500 per month; and M/s Garuda Services Works applied for Rs.453786 per month.

(c) Contract was given to M/s Garuda Services for five years for Rs.453786/- p.m. as revenue with effect from 01.08.2002. AAI earned from 01.08.2002 to 30.11.2002. Due to upward revision of tariff, revenue was negotiated at Rs.589992/- p.m. with effect from 01.12.2002.

(d) M/s Garuda Service Works, Mumbai.

(e) and (f) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

### Dam on Mahanadi River

90. SHRIMATI KUMUDINI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps to construct any dam over Mahanadi river of Orissa to control the recurring floods in Mahanadi river causing serious damages to the people, land and habitations in the delta areas in the down stream of Hirakud Dam in reverence to the

statement of Hon'ble Prime Minister in Orissa while visiting the flood affected areas of the State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when the same is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) Planning, investigation and execution of the schemes related to flood management is the primary responsibility of the State Governments and these schemes are generally funded by the State Governments from the annual plan funds provided to the State Governments by the Planning Commission under flood control sector. As reported by the State Government, the State has not submitted a detailed project report of dam over Mahanadi down stream of Hirakud to control floods in Mahanadi for techno-economic appraisal to Central Water Commission.

### Atmospheric Pollution due to Aircraft

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

(a) whether the Government are aware of increasing pollution in the atmosphere due to aircraft;

(b) if so, whether the aircraft of the various airlines are the major pollution creater in the atmosphere; and

(c) if so, the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) to (c) Aviation is one of the many sources of pollution especially Greenhouse gases. There has been a slight increase in global warming due to aviation. Some estimates by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) - a United Nation's body constituted for assessing climate change globally has reported that aviation contribution to global warming is projected to increase slightly over the next fifty years. The remedial steps taken up by the government and airlines are use of more fuel-efficient engines, better fuel and improvement in Air Traffic Management.

### Remittance by Indian Workers Abroad

92. SHRI B.K. PARTHASARATHI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank report released in April 2003 has highlighted that the annual remittances by the Indian workers abroad were around \$ 10 billion in 2001 and there is a scope to double it with some efforts; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In an effort to increase the remittances made by the Indian workers working abroad and address various problems being faced by the Indian workers, the Central Government in the Ministry of Labour has already introduced Emigration (Amendment) Bill, 2002 in the Lok Sabha on 21.11.2002 providing the establishment of a Central Manpower Export Promotion Council. One of the functions of the Council will be to promote employment opportunities for emigrant workers abroad.

[Translation]

#### Tourism Development in Bihar

93. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps to develop tourism in Bihar keeping in view the vast tourism potential in the State;

(b) if so, the tourist centres selected for the purpose; and

(c) the amount allocated/released to the State Government for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) The Department of Tourism, Government of India, has formulated schemes for Integrated Development of Tourist Centres, Development of Product/Infrastructure & Destination Development and Assistance of Large Revenue Generating Projects for development of tourism infrastructure in the country including the State of Bihar.

(b) and (c) The circuits/destinations are identified in consultation and interaction with the State Governments/UT Administrations. A project for Integrated Development of Buddhist Circuit which Central assistance of Rs. 505.00 lakhs has been sanctioned in Bihar during 2002-03. The entire amount of Rs.505.00 lakhs has been released for the project.

[English]

#### Production of Grapes

94. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the production and consumption of grapes in the country during the last three years and as on March 31, 2003;

(b) whether import of grapes has been showing an upward trend in recent years;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government are aware of excess production of grapes in some parts of the country including Maharashtra;

(e) if so, whether the Government propose to review the issue of import of grapes and offer remunerative price to the grape growers in the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The available information on production and export of grapes in India for the last three years is as follows:

	(in 000' MT)	
	Production	Export
1998-99	1082.7	11.53
1999-2000	1137.8	14.03
2000-01	1056.9	20.65

No estimates are available about the actual consumption of grapes in the country.

(b) Yes, Sir. The import of grapes has been showing an upward trend in recent years.

(c) The import of grapes for the last four years is as given below:

Year	Qty. (MTs)	Value (Rs. in lakhs)
2000-01	32.43	11.86
2001-02	244.38	132.72
2002-03	371.95	162.14

(d) There has been no report of excess production of grapes in any part of the country though there is a marginal increase in production in Maharashtra where the production

increased to 9.89 lakh MT in 2002-03 from 9.37 lakh MT during 2001-02.

(e) and (f) Grapes is in the list of 300 sensitive items, which are constantly monitored by the Government to take corrective steps as and when required.

#### **Declaration of Udayagiri as Heritage Site**

95. SHRI ANADI SAHU: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Udayagiri in Jajpur district of Orissa has been declared as a heritage site; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to include Udayagiri in the Buddhist circuit in order to attract tourists?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) Udayagiri an excavated site containing stupas, monasteries, chaltiyas and other structures which have established it as one of the prominent Buddhist sites in district Jajpur of Orissa has been declared as monument of national importance under the provisions of section 4 of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958. The conservation, preservation, maintenance and environmental development of centrally protected monuments is a continuous process which attracts more tourists. During the year 2002, as many as 1,49,416 Indians and 1530 foreigners have visited the Excavated Site at Udayagiri in the District of Jajpur in Orissa.

Udayagiri is 8 km away from Ratnagiri and 15 km from Lalitgiri making it a Buddhist triangle.

#### **Pending Cases of Labour Courts**

96. SHRIMATI PRABHA RAU:

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are a number of cases pending with the Labour Courts for over the three years;

(b) if so, the number of such courts/tribunals functioning at different places in the country and the number of cases pending with each court/tribunal for the above period, State-wise;

(c) the reasons for delay in the settlement of cases by the courts/tribunals;

(d) whether the orders of the tribunals are not being implemented by the employers properly causing hardships to the workers; and

(e) if so, the action taken by the Government against such employers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **G.M. Tobacco**

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

(a) whether the tobacco industry is not ready to accept genetically modified tobacco; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) The genetically modified tobacco has not been commercialized as yet in the country.

#### **Implementation of Famine Code**

98. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the unprecedented drought that hit different parts of the country, the Supreme Court directed the States in May 2003 to implement the Famine code for the next three months;

(b) if so, the reaction of the State Governments thereto;

(c) the foodgrain and assistance provided to each State under Sampurna Gramin Rozgar Yojana; and

(d) the steps taken by the Union Government in pursuance of the Apex Court's directions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) State Governments are party to the case in which the Hon'ble Supreme Court have passed the relevant orders. It is for the State Governments to implement the said order. On its part, the Central Government has drawn attention of the

drought affected States to the said directions of the Hon'ble Court. So far, no State Government has sought any assistance for the purpose.

Under the Special Component of the Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY), food-grains are allocated free the cost for generation of relief employment during periods of natural calamities.

For the drought of 2002-2003, the following food-grains allocations have been made between September 2002 to June 2003:

State	Foodgrains allocated (lakh MTs)
Andhra Pradesh	17.20
Chhattisgarh	4.74
Gujarat	3.06
Haryana	0.25
Himachal Pradesh	0.10
Jharkhand	0.40
Karnataka	7.20
Kerala	0.52
Madhya Pradesh	7.80
Maharashtra	2.32
Orissa	6.44
Rajasthan	31.10
Tamil Nadu	4.50
Uttaranchal	0.50
Uttar Pradesh	2.00

**Grant for Renovation and Modernisation  
of DARE/ICAR**

99. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the existing instruction of the Ministry of Finance/Planning only those proposals for which funding availability is first firmed up are considered and appraised by these two agencies;

(b) if so, whether the Agriculture Ministry has taken

up the matter with the Planning Commission for match up grant for renovation and modernisation of infrastructure and replacement of obsolete equipment of DARE/ICAR;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Planning Commission has cleared the project; and

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

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

(b) and (c) The Ministry of Agriculture has taken the matter with the Planning Commission for Catch-up (match up) grant of Rs. 1,000 crore during the Xth Five Year Plan for renovation and modernisation of infrastructure and replacement of obsolete equipment. For the Annual Plan 2002-2003, Rs. 200 crore have been proposed and for Annual Plan 2003-2004, Rs. 200 crore have again been proposed.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. The Planning Commission have not allocated funds separately as Catch-up Grant during the Annual Plans 2002-2003 and 2003-2004.

**Low Cost Airline**

100. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India has set up a Committee to look into the feasibility of running a low cost airline;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Committee has submitted its report;

(d) if so, the main recommendations made therein; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, a committee has been constituted to study the modality of low cost operations on some sectors.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

### Funds to States for Construction of Sea Wall

101. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have allocated/ released funds to State Governments for construction of sea wall and anti-erosion works in the States under various schemes during the last three years; and

(b) If so, the details thereof, year-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) The Government of India has allocated funds to various State Governments for anti-sea erosion works during the last three years as under:

(Rs. in crore)

State	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
Tamil Nadu	1.00	-	-
West Bengal	-	3.50	-

[Translation]

### Staff Strength in Agriculture Ministry

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

(a) the total number of employees working in departments and undertakings under Agriculture Ministry, category-wise; and

(b) the number of employees belonging to other backward classes, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes separately out of the total number of these employees, category-wise?

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

[English]

### Excavation in Sibsagar

103. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether recently ASI has undertaken

excavations at 'Cheraideo' in Sibsagar district of Assam, the burial site of 32 Ahom Kings;

(b) If so, whether the Government propose to include 'Cheraideo' in world heritage sites; and

(c) If so, the steps taken by the Government to develop this site as a tourist spot?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has undertaken excavation of Maidam No.2 at Charaideo, district Sibsagar, Assam.

(b) There is no such proposal.

(c) The works of conservation and area development which have been completed by the ASI are: the enclosure wall of the Maidam No.2; boundary wall in front of the site and fencing on the other sides of the area; the pathway from the entrance to the monuments and facilities such as drinking water, toilet block and parking for vehicles.

### Utilisation of Funds

104. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Standing Committee on Transport and Tourism and Culture has taken note of the inability to utilize the funds allocated for promotion of Tourism for 2002-2003 and development of tourist destinations in the North Eastern Region;

(b) If so, the details of expenditure incurred on development of Tourist destinations in North East, destination-wise, during the year, the funds sanctioned for each destination and the amount remained unutilized;

(c) whether any steps have since been taken to ensure utilization of such funds and timely implementation of the projects; and

(d) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) The Original Plan Budget of the Deptt. of Tourism was Rs.225.00 crores for the year 2002-03. In addition a sum of Rs.25 crores was provided as supplementary Grant. 10% of the budget allocation was earmarked for the schemes/projects for NE region including Sikkim. Department of Tourism has fully utilized the allocated budget for this region. This amount was released to the various ongoing projects/schemes and also for the new schemes like North East Circuit and other identified destinations in NE states

including Sikkim. The expenditure in the year 2002-2003 for NE region was Rs.25.76 crores.

(c) and (d) Plan budget of Rs.325 crores has been approved for Department of Tourism for the year 2003-2004. Out of this, 10% budget i.e. Rs.32.50 crores has been earmarked for the implementation of various schemes in the NE region. The process of identifying the Infrastructure, Promotion and Publicity projects with the State Governments has already been initiated. The projects sanctioned are being monitored by the Department of Tourism in order to expedite them. Also the State Governments have been advised to complete these projects expeditiously.

#### **Commercial Research in Agriculture Area**

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

(a) whether a number of bio-tech companies are conducting commercial research in the area of agriculture;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether their research results are being monitored/verified by any Government agencies; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) As ascertained from the Department of Biotechnology, Government of India, which is the nodal Department of Biotechnological Research in the country, there are 23 companies in the agricultural sector using biotechnology. All the 23 companies are pursuing commercial research in agriculture using biotechnological tools. List of the companies are enclosed as statement.

(c) and (d) Research Results are being monitored by the Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science & Technology and Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India in collaboration with the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India.

#### **Statement**

##### *List of Modern Biotechnology Companies conducting commercial research in the area of Agriculture*

S. No.	Name of the Company	Nature of Work
1	2	3
1.	Ankur Seeds Pvt. Ltd., Nagpur	Transgenic Crops
2.	Ajeet Seeds Co. Ltd., Aurangabad	Transgenic Crops
3.	Avestha Gengranic Technologies Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore, Karnataka	Transgenic Crops
4.	Mahendra Hybrid Seeds Co. Ltd., Hyderabad	Transgenic Crops
5.	Nuziveedu Seeds Limited, Hyderabad	Transgenic Crops
6.	Maharashtra Hybrid Seeds Co. Ltd., Mumbai	Transgenic Crops
7.	J.K. Steel Ltd., Secunderabad	Transgenic Crops
8.	Gangamai Sugar Industries Ltd., Aurangabad	Transgenic Crops
9.	Syngeta India Pvt. Limited, Bangalore	Transgenic Crops
10.	Monsanto India Pvt. Limited, Bangalore	Transgenic Crops
11.	SPIC Ltd., Chennai	Transgenic Crops
12.	Indo-American Hybrid Seeds (India) Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore	Transgenic Crops

1	2	3
13.	Metahelix Life Sciences Private Limited, Bangalore	Transgenic Crops
14.	Maharashtra State Seeds Corporation Ltd., Akola	Transgenic Crops
15.	Proagro Seed Company Ltd., Gurgaon	Transgenic Crops
16.	Nath Seed Company Ltd., Aurangabad	Transgenic Crops
17.	Tulasi Seeds Private Limited, Hyderabad	Transgenic Crops
18.	De-Nocil Crop Protection Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai	Transgenic Crops
19.	Rasi Seeds (P) Ltd., Attur, Hyderabad	Transgenic Crops
20.	Hybrid Rice International Ltd., Hyderabad	Transgenic Crops
21.	Krishdhan Seeds Ltd., Hyderabad	Transgenic Crops
22.	Nandi Seeds Co. Pvt. Ltd., Hyderabad	Transgenic Crops
23.	Rallis Co. Ltd., Bangalore	Transgenic Crops

#### Tourist Information Centres

106. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Tourist Information Centres set up abroad alongwith the strength of officers/staff;

(b) whether the Government have reviewed the functioning of such offices; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) The details are given as under:

Total no. of Overseas Tourist Office	Total strength of officers/staff
13	58

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Department of Tourism reviewed the functioning of Tourist Offices, abroad during 2001-2002 with the objective of restructuring them. Five offices at Moscow, Madrid, Stockholm, Buenos Aires and Tel Aviv were closed down after this review.

#### Declining of Mustard Production

107. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA:

SHRI GUNIPATI RAMAIAH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased

to state:

(a) whether the production of mustard has registered a decline during 2002-2003;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefore; and

(c) the details of production and consumption of mustard during the last three years in the country. State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) According to the fourth advance estimates, the production of Rapeseed and Mustard has been estimated to be 39.7 lakh tonnes during the year 2002-2003 as against the production of 50.4 lakh tonnes during the year 2001-2002. The fall in production is due to severe drought conditions prevailing in major mustard growing states in the country.

(c) Crop-wise consumption of oilseeds/edible oil is not worked out but the consumption of edible oil in the country is worked out for all oilseed crops as a whole. The State-wise production of Rapeseed and Mustard during the last 3 years in the country is given in the enclosed statement.

**Statement**

*State-wise production of Rapeseed-Mustard during the last three years from 1999-2000 to 2001-2002 in the country*

(‘000 Tonnes)

State/U.T.	Production		
	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	1.0	1.0	1.0
Arunachal Pradesh	21.1	20.6	23.0
Assam	129.0	141.2	137.1
Bihar	76.5	84.4	78.2
Chhattisgarh	-	16.0	22.1
Gujarat	301.0	230.6	292.1
Haryana	595.0	554.0	796.0
Himachal Pradesh	6.1	6.1	6.1
Jammu & Kashmir	50.4	25.0	38.9
Karnataka	1.8	2.0	1.9
Madhya Pradesh	676.5	323.6	415.9
Maharashtra	2.8	1.9	3.1
Manipur	0.6	0.7	0.3
Meghalaya	4.6	4.7	4.8
Mizoram	1.6	1.8	2.2
Nagaland	14.0	16.0	16.0
Orissa	3.0	1.7	2.2
Punjab	63.0	64.0	60.0
Rajasthan	2478.7	1312.8	1942.7
Sikkim	4.2	3.5	3.5
Tamil Nadu	0.1	0.1	0.2
Tripura	2.3	2.5	2.5
Uttar Pradesh	1076.0	945.7	845.4

1	2	3	4
Uttaranchal	-	9.6	7.6
West Bengal	278.5	417.0	336.9
Delhi	0.6	0.7	0.7
All-India	5788.4	4187.2	5040.4

**Social Health Insurance System**

108. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the benefits of social security, social health insurance system to common man, labour and down trodden people;

(b) whether the Government are aware of the lack of development of Social Health Insurance System in India;

(c) if so, whether countries like Japan, Korea etc. are fully covered thereunder while in India coverage of only 22% population is available;

(d) if so, whether the Ministry of Labour (ESIS) has made any efforts or prepared any plan and conducted a coordinated study in this regard with the help of some other ministries;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the corrective measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) Approximately 8 per cent of the country's total workforce of around forty 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.

Further, a large number of workers in the unorganised 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 covers for the workers in the unorganised sector.

The number of workers in the unorganised 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. The main objective for both Employees Provident Fund Organisation and ESI Corporation is to increase the coverage of identifiable groups.

(d) to (f) The Government is in the process of gradually extending the scheme to cover new centers and simultaneously taking steps for creating of requisite infrastructure for providing medical care to a larger number of insured persons and their families. There have been a number of new developments in the ESIS during the past five years. Each year, it is extended to new areas to cover additional employees.

#### **Releasing of Central Share of Saving-cum-Relief Scheme for Fishermen**

109. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to accord administrative sanction to the old pattern of contribution and to release the pending amount of Rs.893 lakhs to Kerala Government on account of the Central share of Saving-cum-Relief Scheme for fishermen for 1991-92 onwards;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) No such proposal of Government of Kerala is under consideration at present. The saving-cum-relief (SCR) component of the Centrally Sponsored National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen was revised in 2000-2001. As per revised funding pattern of SCR component, the marine fishers has to contribute Rs.75 per month instead of Rs.45 during the non-lean period of 8 months. The accumulated amount together with matching amount shared by the Central and State Government on 50:50 basis is disbursed to the beneficiaries in four monthly instalments of Rs.300 each during the lean period. The Central assistance is extended to the States including Kerala on receipt of proposals as per existing guidelines of the scheme. However, Central assistance of Rs. 485.5 lakh has been extended to State of Kerala in 2002-03 under various schemes for the benefit of fishermen.

#### **Air Link for Tirupati**

110. DR. N. VENKATASWAMY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any techno-economic feasibility study has been conducted for introduction of new air-services between Tirupati and various metro cities in view of huge tourist traffic flow to Tirupati;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Indian Airlines connects Tirupati with Hyderabad twice a week on Hyderabad-Tirupati-Hyderabad route. Government has laid down Route Dispersal Guidelines with a view to achieve better regulation of air transport services taking into account the need for air transport services of different regions of the country. It is, however, up to the airlines to provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability subject to compliance of Route Dispersal Guidelines issued by Government.

#### **Construction of Dams**

111. COL. (RETD.) DHANI RAM SHANDIL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of dams under construction in Uttaranchal Himachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) the year in which the said dams were started;

(c) the names and locations of dams along with expenditure incurred by the Union Government and State Governments during each of the last three years and thereafter till-date;

(d) the percentage of work done in respect of dams; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (e) The information is being compiled and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

**Stale Food in Air India**

112. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the food served in Air India's international flights is of high standard quality;
- (b) if so, whether some cases of stale food being served on the Air India's international flights have come to the notice of the Government during the last three years;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, year-wise and sector-wise;
- (d) whether the responsibility has been fixed and action taken against the erring officials;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (f) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

**Water Supply and Sanitation Project of Bihar**

113. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government of Bihar has submitted any proposal for Water Supply and Sanitation Project to the Union Government for approval; and
- (b) if so, the time by which the proposal is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) Government of Bihar has submitted two proposals namely, Integrated Development of Patna Town costing Rs. 1669.89 crore and Project profile for Katihar Town regarding drainage scheme costing Rs. 2.55 crore to Union Government for approval. Out of these two, Integrated Development of Patna Town has been accepted in principle from technical angle and recommended by Union Ministry for Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation to Department of Economic Affairs on 07.04.2003 for seeking financial assistance from Japan. The other proposal has been scrutinized from technical angle by the Union Ministry of Urban Development and comments have been forwarded to Government of Bihar by them.

Urban Water Supply and Sanitation is a State subject and it is the responsibility of the State Government/Urban Local Bodies to plan, design and execute water supply and sanitation schemes through States PHEDs/Urban Local Bodies to plan funds.

[English]

**Charges for Drinks in Hotels**

114. SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV:

SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH:

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN:

SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH:

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

- (a) whether the Government are aware of exorbitant rates being charged by some big hotels in Delhi for packaged drinking water and such other drinks;
- (b) if so, whether the Government have conducted any study to ascertain the extent of higher rates being charged than the maximum retail prices;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps contemplated by the Government to bring down the rates charged for such drinks?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) The matter regarding selling of packaged drinking water at rates higher than Maximum Retail Price has been taken up by the Department of Consumer Affairs, Weights & Measures which is the controlling authority in this regard.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

**Supply of Fire Extinguishers to DMS**

115. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI:

SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Kendriya Bhandar had supplied fire extinguishers worth lakhs of rupees to Delhi Milk Scheme (DMS) last year;

(b) whether majority of the said extinguishers were found empty;

(c) If so the details and facts thereof; and

(d) the action taken by the Government in this regard including blacklisting the Kendriya Bhandar?

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

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) In view of (b) above, question does not arise.

#### Losses to IA

116. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY:

SHRI BHASKARRAO PATIL:

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines has suffered huge losses during the last five years due to delay in completion of various airworthiness checks of aircraft at the engineering bases;

(b) If so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether the Government have fixed responsibilities for such losses; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken against those held responsible?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

#### Fleet Expansion by IA

117. DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

SHRI C. N. SINGH:

SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of progress made in fleet acquisition for Indian Airlines (IA);

(b) whether IA fleet acquisition plan has been delayed by at least a year;

(c) If so, the reasons for the delay; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for the early completion of fleet acquisition plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (d) Pre-Public Investment Board meetings in respect of the fleet acquisition proposal for Indian Airlines were held on 25.4.2003 and 12.6.2003. The proposal received from Indian Airlines could be considered only after the decision to remove Indian Airlines from the disinvestment roster was taken by Government in April, 2003. The proposal will be considered in accordance with the procedure laid down for investment decisions in Government.

#### Destruction of Forests due to Mining Activities

118. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the forest land lost due to mining activities in the country including Keonjhar district of Orissa during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether any compensatory forest projects have been launched by the mines owners in lieu of the forest land acquired by them;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to maintain ecological balance in the event of destruction of forests due to mining activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) During last three years, the Central Government has diverted 8063.044 hectare of forest lands for mining activities in the country. It includes 976.635 hectare forest lands diverted in respect of Keonjhar District of Orissa. The State-wise details are given in the statement enclosed.

(b) The Central Government stipulates a condition of raising and maintaining the compensatory afforestation on equivalent non-forest land or on degraded forest land double in extent of the area diverted, with a view to maintain the forest cover/green cover in the country.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Besides raising compensatory afforestation, Central Government stipulates another condition of raising and maintaining a Safety Zone over equivalent degraded forest land and also raising and maintaining the plantation over an area one and half times in extent of the safety zone at the project cost, to mitigate and contain the ill-effects of mining on the surrounding environment. Therefore, the Central Government takes all necessary precautions to conserve forests, environment and the green cover while accords forestry clearance to mining proposals under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Concerned State Governments are responsible for implementation of all the conditions stipulated by the Central Government.

**Statement**

S.No.	State	Forest Area Diverted for Mining (In hectares) during last three years
1	2	3
1.	Assam	0.000
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.000
3.	Andhra Pradesh	1786.56
4.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0.000
5.	Bihar	8.700
6.	Chandigarh	0.000
7.	Chhattisgarh	926.739
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.000
9.	Daman and Diu	0.000
10.	Delhi	0.000
11.	Goa	0.000
12.	Gujarat	0.000
13.	Haryana	0.000
14.	Himachal Pradesh	359.405
15.	Jharkhand	378.144
16.	Karnataka	618.080
17.	Kerala	10.452

1	2	3
18.	Manipur	0.000
19.	Meghalaya	0.000
20.	Madhya Pradesh	664.446
21.	Mizoram	0.000
22.	Maharashtra	1205.266
23.	Nagaland	0.000
24.	Punjab	0.000
25.	Orissa	1465.338
26.	Sikkim	0.000
27.	Rajasthan	588.598
28.	Tamil Nadu	11.840
29.	Tripura	0.000
30.	West Bengal	0.000
31.	Uttar Pradesh	0.000
32.	Uttaranchal	39.476
33.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.000
34.	Pondicherry	0.000
35.	Lakshadweep	0.000
Total		8063.044

**Theft of Cargo**

119. SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether some persons including some employees of the Airports Authority of India (AAI) approved cargo handling agencies were arrested recently by the Crime Branch for allegedly stealing goods from consignments at the Indira Gandhi International Airport, Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the cargo is stolen from the airport in collusion with the regular staff of AAI; and

(d) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken to ensure the safety of cargo at the airports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Twelve persons including employees of a private agency providing cargo handling services at the Cargo Terminal of IGI Airport and two businessmen have been arrested recently by the Crime Branch of Delhi Police.

(c) No involvement of regular staff of Airports Authority of India (AAI) has come to the notice as yet.

(d) The AAI has lodged an FIR with Crime Branch Delhi Police who have started investigation. The concerned airline has been requested to send world tracer action. Security at Cargo Terminal was beefed up with increased supervisory checks. All cargo officers have been asked to be extra vigilant. Night checks of cargo complex and surrounding areas have also been ordered.

[Translation]

#### Airport Expansion in Himachal Pradesh

120. SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2766 dated March 10, 2003, regarding Airport Expansion in Himachal Pradesh and state:

(a) the progress made in the matter of increasing the length of runway for operation of A.T.R.- 72 type of aircraft from Kullu;

(b) the dates on which requests were made to the Himachal Pradesh Government to divert the course of river and shift the river training work for extension of the runway; and

(c) the status of the work as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) Land is required for increasing runway length at Kullu - Manali airport, by diversion/drainage of river. The State Government has appointed a Committee of Experts to give confirmed opinion either for river draining or construction of bridge over Beas river.

(b) Airports Authority of India (AAI) requested the State Government on 12.11.2002 for river draining/diversion through an expert agency and to make available the re-claimed land to AAI for extension of runway.

(c) The Committee of Experts is on the job to give the confirmed opinion.

#### Doctoring of Balance Sheets

121. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU:  
DR. RAJESWARAMMA VUKKALA.  
SHRIMATI D.M. VIJAYA KUMARI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether CAG has detected some anomalies in the balance sheet of Indian Airlines (IA) and Airports Authority of India (AAI) for the year 2001-02;

(b) if so, whether the IA did not include actual license fees and royalty payable to AAI through flight handling services at airports in its balance sheet.

(c) the reasons for under statement of liability on account of landing and parking charges as detected by the CAG; and

(d) the remedial measures proposed to be taken by the Government to check the doctoring of balance sheets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (d) No anomalies were pointed out by CAG in the balance sheet of Indian Airlines Limited for the year 2001-02. In fact, CAG has given a 'NIL REPORT' for the year 2001-02 which has been published on page No.47 of the Annual Report of Indian Airlines Limited. They have made some observations in the accounts of Airports Authority of India for 2001-02. But these do not relate to any anomalies in respect of accounting of licence fees and royalty payable by Indian Airlines.

However, in a separate report on the accounts of PSUs in general (CAG's Report No.2 of 2003) CAG has observed some overstatements and understatements in respect of both Indian Airlines Limited and Airports Authority of India. This report was received in May, 2003. These observations relate to the year 2000-01 and not to 2001-02. Replies will be sent to CAG.

#### Ban on Plastic Carrybags

122. SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken a final decision with regard to banning of plastic carrybags;

(b) if so, the detailed rules framed in this regard;

(c) whether instructions have been issued to all State Governments;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have banned the manufacture, sale and use of plastic carrybags of certain specified microns;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) the reasons for partial ban rather than complete ban on these carrybags;

(h) whether it is mandatory for the manufacturers of plastic carrybags to register themselves with the State Pollution Control Boards; and

(i) if so, the details thereof and further steps taken to ensure that rules are followed meticulously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) and (b) The Government has finalised and issued the Recycled Plastics Manufacture and Usage (Amendment) Rules, 2003 vide notification S.O No.698 (E) dated 17 June 2003. Under the said rules, carry bags made of virgin or recycled plastic, less than 8x12 inches in size and thickness below 20 microns have been banned.

(c) and (d) The amendment rules have been sent to all State Governments/Union Territory Administrations, State Pollution Control Boards (SPCB)/Pollution Control Committees (PCC) for effective implementation.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. Carry bags below a thickness of 20 microns have been banned.

(g) The ban on carry bags with smaller size and thickness has been done to prevent indiscriminate use and littering in sequel to the recommendations of Justice Ranganath Misra Committee on Plastic waste disposal.

(h) and (i) Yes, Sir. Under Section 10 of the amendment rules, it has been stipulated that every occupier manufacturing plastic carry bags must apply to the concerned SPCB/PCC for grant/renewal of registration and the concerned SPCB/PCC shall issue and/or renew a registration certificate after ensuring that the unit meets the norms prescribed under the rules.

*[Translation]*

#### **Theft of Heritage Pistol**

123. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR SINGH CHANDEL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the pistol that went missing from the National Museum was not the one that was handed over by Gen. Niazi at the time of surrender in 1971;

(b) if so, the motive behind wrongly projecting it as Gen. Niazi's pistol;

(c) the action being taken by the Government against those guilty for the lapse;

(d) whether the true identity of the owner of the pistol has been established; and

(e) if not, the steps being taken by the Government to identify the owner?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. As per the historical records available with the Ministry of Defence, the Pistol was the personal weapon of Rear Admiral Mohammad Sharif, Flag Officer Commanding East Pakistan Naval Forces. The Ministry of Defence had not projected the said Pistol as General Niazi's pistol, though the media has projected it otherwise.

*[English]*

#### **Processed Fruits and Vegetables**

124. SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of fruits and vegetables processed in India as compared to Brazil;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to increase the post harvest fruits and vegetables processing in India;

(c) whether the Government propose to rationalise the existing food laws under single window service;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government propose to adopt biotechnological methods in Food Processing Industries; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) It has been estimated on the basis of units registered under Fruit Products Order, 1955, that the percentage of fruits and vegetables processed in the country is under 2% of the market arrivals. The exact information regarding fruits and vegetables processed in Brazil is not available with the Ministry.

(b) For promotion of food processing industries, Government have taken up the task of strengthening infrastructure, providing assistance for technology upgradation, modernisation/expansion of existing units, providing support for Backward and Forward Linkages and through assistance for training human resources.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) A Group of Ministers (GoM) has been constituted by the Government to propose legislative and other changes for preparing a Modern Integrated Food Law and related regulations. It is proposed to converge and modernize the existing laws and to bring about a single statute for regulation of food products that would allow for speedy decision-making. This law is expected to take into account the international scenario and the modern developments, so as to create an enabling environment and promote self-compliance by the food processing industries.

(e) and (f) Biotechnological methods are used for production of raw as well as processed food products. As far as Food Processing Industry is concerned, some of the biotechnological methods such as fermentation method are presently used by industry for the manufacture of various processed food products.

#### **Survey at Delhi Airport**

125. SHRIMATI PRABHA RAU:

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a survey was conducted recently by a private agency at the Delhi Airport to seek the suggestions of the passengers with regard to the improvement required to be made at the airport;

(b) if so, whether the Airports Authority of India (AAI) had hired this agency;

(c) if so, whether any survey report prepared by the agency has been submitted to the AAI;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the main suggestions/complaints pointed out by the passengers in the survey and how far the same are proposed to be incorporated in the future development plans of the airports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF

CIVIL AVIATION ( SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) M/s Development and Research Services, a Delhi based Research Consultant was hired by Airports Authority of India (AAI) to conduct Customer Satisfaction Surveys at Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi.

(c) The survey report is to be submitted by the Consultant to AAI by the end of August 2003.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

[Translation]

#### **Computer Scam in ICAR**

126. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA:

SHRI ADHI SANKAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Vigilance Commission has not been able to obtain the inquiry reports of Pawan Raina Committee and Bhoskar Barua Committee which conducted departmental inquiry into the computer purchase scam amounting to crores of rupees in I.C.A.R.;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) The CBI had registered PE No.1(A)/2001-ACU(VI) and investigated into the alleged irregularities in procurement of computers and Networking equipment under NATP. The CBI's investigation is a sequel to the preliminary investigations carried out by Pawan Raina & Bhaskar Barua Committees. As per the CBI's investigation report the inquiry did not reveal any malafides on the part of any officials of ICAR. Since the allegations have not been proved, the CBI has closed the case. No further action is necessary in this regard.

[English]

#### **Pollution in Yamuna Stretch from Agra Fort to Taj Mahal**

127. SHRI ABUL HASNAT KHAN:

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN:

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

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the 2 Km stretch of the Yamuna bed between the Agra Fort and the Taj Mahal which has been filled up with a 5 ft. base of soil and about 800 labourers are at work on a 1600 metre land, 5 ft. high wall that stretches from the Ram Bagh bridge near the Fort to the Shamshan Ghat close to the Taj; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) and (b) The Government of U.P. has taken up reclamation work in river Yamuna without any approval of the Taj Heritage Corridor Project from the Ministry of Environment and Forests. On 16th July, 2003 the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India has ordered Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) to inquire into the entire issue and submit an Interim Report to the Hon'ble Court within a period of four weeks and has given two months time for the submission of the final report by CBI whereafter appropriate orders will be passed. The matter is, therefore, sub-judice.

#### **Production of Vermi Compost**

128. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the large-scale demand for compost-fertilizers from the US;

(b) if so, whether a number of NGOs have offered to supply vermicompost produced from cattle-dung and urine;

(c) whether any detailed project for producing vermicompost from cattle dung and urine from stray cattle collected together, have been submitted to the Government;

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

(e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to promote production and export of vermicompost?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No large scale demand of compost fertilizers from U.S.A. have come to the notice of the Ministry of Agriculture.

(b) and (c) No such specific proposals have been received.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The Government of India is promoting the use of various sources of organic manures as supplementary source of nutrients to crops including vermicompost. The production of vermicompost is one of the activities in the centrally sponsored Technology mission on integrated development of horticulture in north-eastern states. The State Governments are also promoting the production of vermicompost under Macro management scheme. Besides, to facilitate the adequate availability of effective strains of earthworms for large scale production of vermicomposting on farmers' fields, vermiculture hatcheries are proposed to be set up with GOI support under National Project on Organic Farming after its approval.

*[Translation]*

#### **Constitutional Status to Agriculture Costs and Prices Commission**

129. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any suggestion to give constitutional status to the Agriculture Costs and Prices Commission (ACPC);

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) by when a final decision is likely to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) One of the Recommendations under the head "Minimum Support Prices and Procurement" made by the High Level Committee on Long-Term Grain Policy (July, 2002) under the chairmanship of Prof. Abhijit Sen set up by the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of food and Public Distribution) relates to the status of Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP). According to the Committee, the CACP should be made an empowered statutory body.

(b) and (c) In order to examine methodological and related recommendations in the light of the main conclusions/recommendations of the National Seminar on Methodological Issues in the Fixation of Minimum Support Prices held in New Delhi on November 6-7, 2002 an Expert Committee under

the chairmanship of Prof. Y.K. Alagh has recently been set up. The Terms of Reference of the Expert Committee include examination of issues having a bearing on the status of CACP.

[English]

### Free Education to Child Labour

130. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Human Rights Commission has impressed upon the Government to speedily amend the laws regarding child labour and set a time-frame to achieve free and compulsory education for the children in collaboration with the State Governments;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the concrete steps the Government proposes to take to expedite the changes in laws on child labour?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government as per 86th Constitutional amendment have made free and compulsory education for all children a fundamental right. However, no amendments are under consideration with reference to Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 at present.

### Closing of Office Development Commissioner for Iron and Steel

131. SHRIMATI MINATI SEN: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have planned to close down the office of the Development Commissioner for Iron and Steel located at Nizam Palace of Kolkata;

(b) if so, whether the Government have declared its 250 employees as surplus; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) to (c) An administrative decision has been taken to close the office of the Development Commissioner for Iron and Steel (DCI&S) and declare staff as surplus in pursuance of the

recommendations of the Expenditure Reforms Commission (ERC) constituted by the Government. Due process is being followed in terms of detailed instructions issued by the Division for Retraining and Redeployment of the Department of Personnel & Training for declaring the staff as surplus and subsequent redeployment.

[Translation]

### Employment Opportunities

132. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:

SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHRI:

SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposed to generate 10 million additional employment opportunities per year in the country during the Tenth Five Year Plan by achieving the targeted annual development rate;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the achievement made in this regard, so far;

(c) whether the target of generating additional employment opportunities could not be achieved due to the failure in achieving the targeted annual development rate in the first two years of the Tenth Plan;

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard; and

(e) the percentage of employment opportunities out of the said target likely to be created during the year 2002-2003 and 2003-2004?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. 50 million employment opportunities at the rate of 10 million per year are being targeted during Tenth Five Year Plan. Out of these, 30 million will have to come through normal growth process and remaining 20 million are proposed to be generated through special employment generation programmes.

Estimates of employment and unemployment are obtained through quinquennial labour force surveys conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation. Last such survey

was carried out during 1999-2000. As per this survey, estimated employment in the country on current daily status basis was of the order of 336.75 million.

(e) Employment opportunities are targeted at the rate of 10 million per year during the Tenth Plan Period.

#### **Work on Taj Airport**

133. DR. ASHOK PATEL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made with regard to the construction of International Airport in Taj special economic zone;

(b) the estimated amount likely to be spent on this project; and

(c) the time by which the construction work of the said airport is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) Technical clearance for the site of the Project has been given by Government of India to Government of Uttar Pradesh (U.P.). Land acquisition process has been initiated.

(b) and (c) The estimated amount and the time will be known once the detailed Project Report is completed.

[English]

#### **Closure of Industrial Units due to Cyclone**

134. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of industrial units closed in Orissa after the Super cyclone of 1999;

(b) the number of workers affected as a result thereof;

(c) the number of units closed due to labour unrest; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to revive those units in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Government of Orissa have informed that 17 industrial units have been closed in Orissa after the Super Cyclone of 1999.

(b) 1060 workers have been affected as a result of the closure.

(c) No unit has been closed due to labour unrest.

(d) Since the reasons of such closure were mostly due to financial crisis, non-renewal of franchise and unfavourable market condition etc. the closed units have not been revived.

#### **Cotton Productivity**

135. SHRI V. VETRISELVAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to increase country's cotton productivity;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether absence of control over seeds providing agencies, adulterated seeds, inferior quality of fertilizers and pesticides etc. have poured water on the aim of achieving the target; and

(d) if so, the remedial steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

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

(b) The Government of India has launched a Technology Mission on Cotton in February, 2000 to increase the productivity and quality of cotton. The Mission consists of four Mini-Missions. Mini-Mission-I is being implemented by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research for developing production technologies in cotton including increase in productivity, while the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is implementing Mini-Mission-II for increasing production and productivity of cotton. Under Mini Mission-II, assistance is provided to the States for the transfer of technologies through demonstration and training as well as supply of critical inputs like seeds, sprayers, sprinklers, drip irrigation systems, pheromone traps and bio-agents etc. The Ministry of Textiles is the nodal Ministry for the implementation of Mini-Mission-III & IV which provide assistance for the development of market infrastructure and for the modernization of ginning and pressing factories, respectively for improving the quality of cotton.

(c) No, Sir. There is adequate control of the authorities under various Acts to ensure supply of quality Seeds, fertilizers and pesticides to the farmers.

(d) Question does not arise.

**Price of Arecanut**

136. SHRI R.S. PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal to announce floor price for Arecanut to help the farmers; and  
(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) There is no proposal announce floor price for arecanut. However, to protect the interest of the arecanut growers, the Government has implemented Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for procurement of arecanut based on specific request from the individual State Governments and the losses incurred, if any, in its operation, are shared equally by the Centre and the States. During 2002-03, under MIS, a quantity of 2925 tonnes of arecanut was procured in Karnataka at the rate of Rs.6000 per quintal. Similarly during 2002-03 under the scheme, a quantity of 756 tonnes of arecanut was procured at the rate of Rs.5500/- per quintal in Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

**Mountain Development**

137. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY:

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

- (a) whether a high level National Committee has been constituted to prepare an action plan for mountain development; and  
(b) if so, the terms of reference of the Committee and by when it is expected to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) and (b) A National Committee for celebration of UN International Year of Mountains 2002 was constituted. However, its Terms of Reference did not require preparation of an Action Plan for mountain development. Thus, question of submission of a report on this point does not arise.

**Landing Rights to Foreign Airlines**

138. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the foreign airlines have requested for landing rights in India;

(b) if so, whether this will have a direct impact on the number of foreign tourists visiting India;

(c) whether the Tourism Ministry has taken up this issue with the Civil Aviation Ministry;

(d) if so, whether any decision has been taken in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the foreign airlines that have applied for landing rights in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Most of international traffic to/from India is ethnic in nature. No major request is pending for landing rights from countries from which foreign tourists visit India. The requests of foreign airlines for landing rights is basically to cater to the traffic of Indians and hence such requests do not significantly affect the number of foreign tourists visiting India.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) and (e) In consultation with Ministry of Tourism and Ministry of External Affairs, bilateral air services talks have been held with Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Turkey, Italy, Gulf air Owner States (UAE, Oman, Bahrain) and Thailand since January, 2003 and additional capacity was granted to their designated airlines for operations to India. Apart from this, a limited open sky policy was also declared during the last winter season to clear the peak season rush. This policy was extended up to end June, 2003 in respect of European carriers.

(f) Major airlines who have applied for landing rights are Emirates, Oman Air, Qatar Airways, Kuwait Airways, British airways, Sri Lankan Airlines etc.

**Conservation of Water Resources**

139. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the role of Non-Governmental Organisations in water conservation; and

(b) the funds allocated/released by the Government to Non-Governmental Organisations for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) The Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs)/Voluntary Organisations have very important role to play in water

conservation in view of the need for participatory approach to water resources management as laid down in National Water Policy (2002) which states as under:

"Management of the water resources for diverse uses should incorporate a participatory approach; by involving not only the various governmental agencies but also the users and other stakeholders, in an effective and decisive manner, in various aspects of planning, design, development and management of the water resources schemes. Necessary legal and institutional changes should be made at various levels for the purpose, duly ensuring appropriate role for women. Water Users' Association and the local bodies such as municipalities and gram panchayats should particularly be involved in the operation, maintenance and management of water infrastructure/facilities at appropriate levels progressively, with a view to eventually transfer the management of such facilities to the user groups/local bodies."

(b) Ministry of Water Resources has been providing support to various NGOs in respect of activities related to mass awareness for water conservation. Water Conservation is one of the activities identified for the Fresh Water Year-2003 and a sum of Rs. 150 lakhs has specifically been earmarked for supporting NGOs for this purpose.

#### **Loss Making Flights of A.I.**

140. SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA:

DR. M.P. JAISWAL:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a number of flights of Air India incur loss on their operation;
- (b) if so, the details of such flights indicating their percentage in the total flights of Air India;
- (c) the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the efforts made by the Government to make these flights profitable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) No, Sir. Air India makes cash profit on all the routes except domestic routes and domestic hub & spoke. However, these flights are either positioning flights or they feed traffic from different interior points to international flights from gateway airports. Therefore their profitability should be seen in conjunction with the profitability of the network and not in isolation.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

#### **Production of Sponge Iron**

141. SHRI J.S. BRAR: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India has emerged as the largest producer of sponge iron;
- (b) if so, production of sponge iron recorded during 2002-2003 and expected in 2003-2004;
- (c) the details of the current domestic demand and the quantity exported during 2002-03 and target of export for 2003-04; and
- (d) the foreign exchange earned therefrom during 2002-03 and likely to earn during 2003-04?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The production of sponge iron during 2002-2003 was 6.908 million tonnes and production of sponge iron is expected to be 7.500 million tonnes in 2003-2004.

(c) There have been no exports during 2002-2003 and no export target has been set for 2003-2004. Projected demand for 2003-04 is about 7.4 million tonnes.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

#### **Restructuring of Airports**

142. SHRI A.F. GOLAM OSMANI:

SHRI A. NARENDRA:

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA:

SHRI KAMAL NATH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government propose to appoint global consultants to scout for foreign joint venture partners for the new companies under which the Delhi and Mumbai airports will be restructured;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reasons for delay in the process of selection of companies for the modernisation of Delhi and Mumbai airports; and

(d) by when a final decision in this regard will be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (d) The modalities for restructuring of Delhi and Mumbai airports are under consideration.

[Translation]

#### Task Force For Employment Generation

143. DR. SUSHUL KUMAR INDORA:

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formed a task force under the leadership of Shri S.P. Gupta to identify areas having maximum potential for employment generation;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and the other terms of reference of the Task Force; and

(c) by when the said task force is likely to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) A Task Force under the Chairmanship of Dr. S.P. Gupta, Member, Planning Commission, has been constituted on formulation of State level employment strategy, monitoring employment generation at State level and implementation of the employment related programmes and policies in the Tenth Plan by the State Governments.

[English]

#### Utilization of Degraded Forest Lands

144. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Centrally sponsored schemes under implementation in Maharashtra for raising fuelwood and fodder in degraded forest lands;

(b) the financial assistance being provided to Maharashtra in this regard;

(c) whether the government of Maharashtra has sent any proposals to the Union Government seeking extra financial assistance for utilization of degraded forest land; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) and (b) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Area Oriented Fuelwood and Fodder Project (AOFFP) was implemented (50:50 sharing) throughout the country including Maharashtra during the 9th Plan. However, in the 10th Plan, all afforestation schemes of this Ministry have been merged under the National Afforestation Programme (NAP) and implemented through the decentralized set up of Forest Development Agencies which also includes fuelwood and fodder species. This is a 100% Central sector scheme.

Details of financial assistance provided to Maharashtra during the 9th Plan and 10th Plan are as follows:

S.No.	Scheme	Financial (Rs in lakhs)	
		9th Plan	10th Plan
1	Area Oriented Fuelwood & Fodder Projects	303.53	13.63 (maintenance)
2	National Afforestation Programme	184.76	841.43
Total		488.29	855.06

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Schemes under National Environment Awareness Campaign

145. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any schemes under National Environment Awareness Campaign for the year 2003-04;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount allocated by the Government to various States including Maharashtra for the purpose, State-wise; and

(d) the extent of improvement likely to be brought about in environment through such schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH

JUDEV): (a) and (b) National Environment Awareness Campaign (NEAC) is being implemented with the objective of creation of environmental awareness at national level among all sections of society. The process for inviting project proposals under the programme for the year 2003-04 is on.

(c) The amount of assistance given to the State of Maharashtra during 2002-03 is Rs.23,91,300. The State-wise details of assistance given during the said year are given in the statement enclosed.

(d) The programme has been an effective means of raising environmental awareness. The action oriented components like plantation and wells & ponds cleaning have been particularly effective.

#### Statement

*The State-wise details of assistance given during 2002-03*

State	2002-2003 (In Rs.)
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	27,91,800
Karnataka	7,75,800
Tamil Nadu	21,07,800
Kerala	13,63,050
Sikkim	2,10,000
Meghalaya	3,50,000
Nagaland	6,99,000
Mizoram	2,36,000
Tripura	10,12,000
Assam	14,36,000
Manipur	15,54,000
Orissa	35,13,690
West Bengal	14,94,900
Jharkhand	9,55,800
Bihar	33,74,100

1	2
Delhi	8,17,200
Uttaranchal	8,64,000
Uttar Pradesh	49,79,800
Madhya Pradesh	26,47,800
Chhattisgarh	3,90,600
Jammu and Kashmir	22,54,500
Himachal Pradesh	8,98,920
Haryana	7,04,700
Chandigarh	1,32,300
Punjab	6,46,200
Maharashtra	23,91,300
Goa	1,19,700
Gujarat	11,53,800
Rajasthan	12,34,350
Pondicherry	94,500
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	32,400
Daman & Diu	9,000
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	18,000

#### Renovation of Forts

146. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have identified the forts which are in dilapidated conditions;

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

(c) the steps taken to undertake urgent renovation work of those forts?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (c) The forts identified, state-wise, for structural repairs during the present plan period are detailed in statement enclosed.

Statement			
Sl. No.	Name of Fort	Location	District
1	2	3	4
<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>			
1.	Hill fort	Madokasira	Ananthpur
2.	Chandragiri	Chandragiri	Chittur
3.	Sidhout Fort	Sidhout	Cuddapa
4.	Golconda Fort	Hyderabad	Hyderabad
5.	Warangal Fort	Warangal	Warangal
6.	Gotty Fort	Gotty	Ananthapur
7.	Ruined Fort	Adoni	Kurnool
8.	Dharanikota Fort	Dharanikota	Guntur
9.	Fort Bander Fort	Machilipatnam	
10.	Fort Gandikota	Gandikota	Kaddappa
<b>Bihar</b>			
1.	Rohtasgarh	Rohtas	Rohtas
2.	Rajgir	Rajgir	Nalanda
3.	Balirajgarh Fort	Madubani	Madubani
4.	Raja Bishal Ka Garh	Vaishali	Vaishali
5.	Chankigarh	Chankigarh	West Champaran
<b>Delhi</b>			
1.	Lal Quila	Delhi	Delhi
2.	Salmgarh Fort	Delhi	Delhi
3.	Purana Quila	Delhi	Delhi
4.	Firoz Shah Kotla	Delhi	Delhi
5.	Tuglakabad Fort	Delhi	Delhi
6.	Adilabad Fort	Delhi	Delhi
7.	Rai Pithora Fort	Delhi	Delhi

1	2	3	4
<b>Union Territory of Diu</b>			
1.	Diu Fort	Diu	Diu
<b>Goa</b>			
1.	Aguada Fort	Goa	Goa
<b>Gujarat</b>			
1.	Citadel Wall	Champaner	Godhra
2.	Pawagarh Fort	Pawagarh Hill	Godhra
<b>Himachal Pradesh</b>			
1.	Kangra Fort	Kangra	Kangra
2.	Nurpur Fort	Nurpur	Nurpur
<b>Haryana</b>			
1.	Prithvi Raj Chouhans Fort	Hansi	Hansi
<b>Jammu &amp; Kashmir</b>			
1.	Aknoor Fort	Aknoor	Jammu
2.	Ramnagar Fort	Ramnagar	Udampur
<b>Jharkhand</b>			
1.	Ruam Fort		East Singhbhum
<b>Karnataka</b>			
1.	Fort wall, Aihole	Aihole	Baghalkote
2.	Fort wall, Badami	Badami	Baghalkote
3.	Mirjan Fort	Mirjan	Uttar Kanara
4.	Bidar Fort	Bidar	Bidar
5.	Gulbarga Fort	Gulbarga	Gulbarga
6.	Fort Dungeon	Bangalore	Bangalore
7.	Fort Chitradurga	Chitradurga	Chitradurga
8.	Tippu Sultan upper fort	Bellary	Bellary
9.	Fort Bijapur	Bijapur	Bijapur

1	2	3	4
10.	Fort and gates Dharwad	Dharwad	Dharwad
<b>Kerala</b>			
1.	Palkade Fort	Palkade	Palkade
2.	Bekal Fort	Pallikare	Karargod
3.	Tellicheri Fort	Tellichery	Kanur
<b>Maharashtra</b>			
1.	Raigarh Fort	Raigarh	Agarkot
2.	Janjira Fort	Rajapur	Agarkot
3.	Sindhudurg	Malvan	Sindhudurg
4.	Vijaydurga Fort	Daulatabad	Aurangabad
5.	Panhala Fort	Panhala	Kolhapur
6.	Govilgarh	Chikkaldwara	Amravati
<b>Madhya Pradesh</b>			
1.	Raisen Fort	Raisen	Raisen
2.	Ater Fort	Ater	Bhind
3.	Mandu Fort	Mandu	Dhar
4.	Lalji Fort	Lalji	Balaghat
5.	Ajaigarh	Ajaigarh	Panna
6.	Dharmani Fort	Dharmani	Sagar
7.	Citadel	Khimalsa	Sagar
<b>Punjab</b>			
1.	Bhatinda Fort	Bhatinda	Bhatinda
<b>Rajasthan</b>			
1.	Ranthambhor Fort	Ranthambhor	Sawai Madhavpur
2.	Bharatpur Fort	Bharatpur	Bharatpur
3.	Jaisalmer Fort	Jaisalmer	Jaisalmer
4.	Chittorgarh	Chittorgarh	Chittorgarh

1	2	3	4
5.	Kumbhalgarh	Kumbhalgarh	Rajasamand
6.	Bhatner Fort	Hanumangarh	Hanumangarh
7.	Mandore Fort	Jodhpur	Jhodhpur
<b>Tamil Nadu</b>			
1.	Gingee Fort	Gingee	Velupuram
2.	St. George Fort	Chennai	Chennai
3.	Duch Fort	Sudras	Kandipuram
4.	Chinnakavandanur Fort	Chinnakavan- danur	Salem
5.	Sivaganga Fort	Sivaganga	Tanjore
6.	Vellore Fort	Vellore	Vellore
7.	Thirumayam Fort	Thirumayam	Puddukotti
8.	Pallapatti	Pallapatti	Dindigul
9.	Attur Fort	Attur	Salem
10.	Krishnagiri Fort	Krishnagiri	Dharampaur
11.	Rajangudi Fort	Rajangudi	Perambalur
<b>Uttar Pradesh</b>			
1.	Agra Fort	Agra	Agra
2.	Jagner Fort	Jagner	Agra
3.	Mughal City and Fort	Fatehpur Sikri	Agra
4.	Jhansi Fort	Jhansi	Jhansi
5.	Jaunpur Fort	Jaunpur	Jaunpur
6.	Fort of Jaichandra,	Zafraabad	Jaunpur
7.	Fort Lalitpur	Ahaura	Mirzapur
8.	Kantil Fort	Vindyachal	Mirzapur
9.	Hatimpur Fort	Varanasi	Varanasi
10.	Vijayagarh Fort	Mirzapur	Mirzapur
<b>West Bengal</b>			
1.	Kurumbera Fort	Gaganeswar	Midnapur

**Shifting of Crops in Punjab**

147. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Punjab farmers have shifted from the traditional wheat and rice cultivation to more lucrative crops such as Castorseed at a large scale;
- (b) if so, the incentives being given by the Punjab Government for such shifting of crops; and
- (c) the details of estimated reduction in foodgrain production in the state during the current year as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) In Punjab state a very small area had been shifted from wheat and rice to the other lucrative crops such as castorseeds, guar, basmati and maize.

(b) No incentive are being given to the farmers by the Punjab Government for this shifting.

(c) There will be no reduction in the production of foodgrains due to this shifting, because maize and basmati are foodgrains crops. Castorseed and guar crops are cultivated in a very small area.

**Idle Assets of Indian Airlines**

148. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some assets of Indian Airlines are lying unutilised for long and not generating any revenue for Indian Airlines;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether some vacant plots have been sold recently; and
- (d) if so, by when the other unutilised properties are likely to be sold?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) Indian Airlines has identified some of its immovable properties acquired in earlier years, which are lying unutilized. The details of such properties are given in the statement enclosed.

(c) Indian Airlines has sold 19 plots at DLF Qutab Enclave, Phase III, Gurgaon at a total price of Rs. 8,38,58,800/-.

(d) Action has already been initiated with the approval of the Board of Directors, for the sale of other unutilized/vacant properties.

**Statement**

S.No.	Details of pilots	Area	Year of purchase
1	2	3	4
<b>Hqrs.</b>			
1.	6 pilots at DLF Qutab Enclave Phase III, Gurgaon.	2436 Sq.mt.	1991
<b>Northern Region</b>			
2.	Land for booking office at Srinagar.	3623 sq mt.	1987
3.	Land for staff quarters at Srinagar	8079 sq mt.	1985
4.	Land for booking office at Kharjuraho	22,500 sq.mt.	1987
5.	Land for booking office at Chandigarh	472 sq mt.	1985
6.	Land for staff quarters at Jammu	1262.73 sq mt.	1986
7.	Land for booking office at Jammu	1515 sq mt.	1987

1	2	3	4
<b>Southern Region</b>			
8.	(a) Land for booking office at Chennai	5416 sq. mt.	1988
	(b)	518.5 sq.mt.	1985
9.	2 plots for staff quarters at Bangalore.	805 sq. mt.	1984
10.	4 plots for staff quarters at Cochin.	2024.14 sq mt.	1985
11.	Plot for booking office at Coimbatore	4025 sq.mt.	1990
12.	7 plots for staff quarters at Trivandrum	2765 Sq.mt.	1985
<b>Eastern Region</b>			
13.	Land for booking office at Dibrugarh	28779 sq.mt.	1985
14.	Land for booking office at Dimapur	1038.59 sq.mt.	1989
15.	Land for construction of staff quarters at Guwahati	1784 Sq.mt.	1984
16.	Land for construction of booking office at Patna	566.5 Sq.mt.	1988
<b>Western Region</b>			
17.	Building for booking office at Bhuj	400 sq.mt.	1971
18.	Land for booking office at Baroda	2000 sq mt.	1989
19.	Land for booking office at Goa	2020 sq.mt.	1987
20.	Land for booking office at Rajkot	1078.82 sq.mt.	1988
21.	Land for booking office at Jamnagar	1000 sq mt.	1988
22.	6 residential plots at Charkop Kandivli, Mumbai	5410.24 Sq.mt.	1985
23.	2 residential plots at Nerul, Mumbai.	70,000 Sq.mt.	1984
24.	Residential land for SM's Bungalow at Nasik	385 sq.mt.	1984
25.	Land for staff quarters at Ahmedabad	16,000 Sq.mt.	1990
26.	Land for staff quarters at Aurangabad	708.217 sq.mt.	1988
27.	Land for staff quarters at Rajkot	1331.59. sq.mt.	1992
28.	Flats at Nasik	6 Nos.	1984
29.	Staff quarters at Bhuj	8 Nos.	1983
30.	Flats at Ahmedabad	5 Nos.	1987
31.	Flat at Ahmedabad	1 No.	1984
32.	Flat at Mangalore	§ 1 No.	1984.

**Polluted Cities**

149. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the order-wise names of most polluted cities of the country and their ranking in the list of polluted cities of the country;

(b) the existing level of pollution in each of the said cities;

(c) whether the Government have conducted or propose to conduct any survey in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to check the increase in pollution in these cities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) to (e) Polluted cities have been identified based on ambient air quality data obtained under the National Air Quality Monitoring Programme (NAMP) for the period 1995 to 2001. A list of such cities is enclosed as statement. The concerned State Pollution Control Boards/Pollution Control Committees in Union Territories have been asked to identify the polluting sources, assess the pollution load and prepare city-wise action plans for control of pollution from various sectors including vehicles, industries and other sources.

**Statement**

*List of Non-Attainment Cities in India  
(Based on Ambient Air Quality Data 1995-2001)*

S.No.	Cities	Major Sources of Pollution
1	2	3
<b>(A) Metropolitan Cities</b>		
1.	Agra	Vehicles, Industries
2.	Ahmedabad	Vehicles, Industries
3.	Bangalore	Vehicles
4.	Bhopal	Vehicles
5.	Chennai	Vehicles, Industries
6.	Delhi	Vehicles

1	2	3
7.	Dhanbad	Industries
8.	Faridabad	Vehicles, Industries
9.	Hyderabad	Vehicles
10.	Indore	Vehicles
11.	Jabalpur	Vehicles
12.	Jaipur	Vehicles
13.	Kanpur	Vehicles, Industries
14.	Kochi	Vehicles, Industries
15.	Kolkata	Vehicles, Industries
16.	Lucknow	Vehicles
17.	Ludhiana	Vehicles, Industries
18.	Madurai	Vehicles
19.	Mumbai	Vehicles, Industries
20.	Nagpur	Vehicles
21.	Nashik	Vehicles
22.	Patna	Vehicles, Natural Dust
23.	Pune	Vehicles
24.	Surat	Vehicles, Industries
25.	Vadodara	Vehicles, Industries
26.	Varanasi	Vehicles, Natural Dust
27.	Visakhapatnam	Vehicles, Industries
<b>(B) Other Cities</b>		
1.	Alwar	Vehicles, Natural Dust
2.	Angul	Vehicles, Industries, Natural Dust
3.	Ankleshwar	Industries
4.	Bhilai	Industries
5.	Chandigarh	Vehicles, Industries
6.	Chandrapur	Industries

1	2	3
7.	Damtal	Natural Dust
8.	Dehradun	Vehicles, Natural Dust
9.	Gajraula	Industries
10.	Gobindgarh	Industries
11.	Howrah	Vehicles, Industries
12.	Jalandhar	Vehicles, Industries
13.	Jharia	Industries, Natural Dust
14.	Jodhpur	Natural Dust
15.	Korba	Industries
16.	Kota	Vehicles, Industries
17.	Nagda	Industries
18.	Parwanoo	Industries, Natural Dust
19.	Raipur	Vehicles
20.	Rajkot	Vehicles, Natural Dust
21.	Rourkela	Industries
22.	Satna	Industries
23.	Shimla	Natural Dust
24.	Solapur	Vehicles, Natural Dust
25.	Udaipur	Vehicles, natural Dust
26.	VAPI	Industries

#### **Tourism Fair at Cochin**

150. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to organise "Tourism Fair" at Cochin to promote tourism in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Hyderabad-London Flight**

151. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the British Airways has submitted a proposal to the Government expressing their willingness to launch a direct flight from Hyderabad to London;

(b) if so, when was their request received; and

(c) by when this is likely to be cleared and other regulatory issues resolved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) A letter was received from British Airways in November, 2002 expressing their interest to start operation to Hyderabad in near future.

(c) Hyderabad is presently not available as a point of call to British Airways. Such requests are considered during Government level bilateral civil aviation consultations as and when held.

#### **Report of Crisis Management Group**

152. DR. V. SAROJA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Crisis Management Group (CMG) has since submitted its report to the Government;

(b) if so, the highlights of the report; and

(c) by when the Government propose to implement its recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) According to the information furnished by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), the nodal Department for Natural Disaster Management in the country, that Ministry is not aware of any Crisis Management Group which was required to submit its report to the Government.

#### **Appointment on Compassionate Grounds**

153. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have fixed quota for appointment on compassionate grounds for dependants of deceased employees;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of such appointment made during the last three years and the current year, year-wise;

(d) the number of appointments lying pending/under consideration/rejected during the said period; and

(e) the reasons for not considering all the cases of appointment on compassionate grounds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY):

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

[Translation]

### Social Security Number Cards

154. SHRI NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have announced to provide Social Security Number Cards to 50 lakh workers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the benefits likely to be accrued to the workers therefrom; and

(d) the time by which this work is likely to be undertaken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Employees' Provident Fund Organisation intends to allot National Social Security Number (NSSN) to all members of Employees' Provident Fund as part of the modernization project - "Re-Inventing EPF India".

(b) The NSSN would be a 14 digit number based on various parameters like name, date of birth, father's name etc. and will be launched in six Pilot centers and a few select locations in the first phase.

(c) The NSSN will form the basis of delivering enhanced and quality services to the members:

(i) Members will have access to their individual accounts at any place and at any time;

(ii) The turn around time between receipt of a claim and issue of cheque to a subscriber will be two to three days;

(iii) The members would have a single account which

will not be affected on change of employment by the member;

(iv) The NSSN will facilitate identification of the members in all their transactions with the organization, without the intervention of employers, enabling better and faster service delivery.

(d) The work of allotment is scheduled to commence during the current quarter.

[English]

### Charges against Flying Institute

155. SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of charges pending against Rajputana Aviation Academy and Ahmedabad Aviation and Aeronautics before the Airports Authority of India (AAI);

(b) whether the AAI has permitted these flying institutes to operate flights inspite of heavy recovery pending against them;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the details of landing, parking, RNFC etc. charges pending against aircraft bearing registration No.VT-CNA, VT-JJG and VT-NWG during the period M/s OTG Global Finance Limited was the operator and owner of the aircraft;

(e) whether some officers of AAI are trying to exempt the huge amount on account of their personal interests; and

(f) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. However, M/s Rajputana Aviation Academy has since closed down its operations and action under the Public Premises (Eviction of unauthorised occupants) Act has been initiated by AAI.

(d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

[Translation]

### Facilities Provided by Air Lines

156. SHRI G. J. JAVIYA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the various facilities and concessions being provided to the freedom fighters, old persons, women and the sick persons by Indian Airlines and Air India alongwith the criteria prescribed therefor;

(b) whether the Government propose to enhance such facilities in future;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether such persons have demanded for enhancement of facilities and have submitted a memorandum in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details of the each of them and the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) Both the airlines are offering special discounts on the basic fare on its domestic routes to senior citizens, cancer patients, armed forces personnel and blind persons. The facilities currently provided by both airlines to senior citizens, cancer patients, armed forces personnel and blind persons are (i) 50 to 80% discounts on fares depending upon category (ii) Special arrangements are made for passengers needing attention, (iii) Customer service counter exists at all airports to provide assistance to passengers on wheelchairs, ladies with infants, old persons, stretcher cases, etc. (iv) wherever possible they are accommodated near the toilets and floor level exits provided to chutes, (v) they are accommodated in seats allowing the maximum space for their comfort or space for leg support devices. (vi) they are accommodated in seats nearby to permit quick access to aids when needed, (vii) where possible elderly passengers are provided aisle seats.

Wheelchairs are provided to old and sick passengers by Air India at all airports on request without any charge on production of medical certificate sick passengers and stretcher cases are required to be medically cleared by Air India Medical Services Department prior to acceptance for travel. Arrangements are also made for Ambulift as well as Ambulance if required at both embarking and disembarking stations at CSI airport. The eligibility criteria for old person is 65 years in case of male senior citizen and 63 years in case female on the date of commencement of journey.

(b) to (e) Both the Airlines have no plans either to enhance these facilities currently nor have they received any demand for enhancement of these facilities in the recent past.

[English]

### Merger of Centrally Sponsored Schemes

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

(a) whether the Government propose to merge some Centrally sponsored schemes in agriculture sector;

(b) If so, the details of such schemes;

(c) whether the Government have also scrapped some of the schemes;

(d) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor;

(e) the manner in which the farmers are likely to be benefited as a result thereof; and

(f) by when the merged schemes are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (e) The details of centrally sponsored schemes implemented in the terminal year of the Ninth Plan and proposed to be implemented in the Tenth Five Year Plan are as follows:

S.No.	Schemes implemented in the terminal year of Ninth Plan	Schemes proposed to be implemented in the Tenth Five Year Plan
1	2	3
1	Technology Mission on Cotton	Technology Mission on Cotton
2	On Farm Water Management	On Farm Water Management
3	Oilseed Production Programme (OPP)	Integrated Scheme of Oilseed, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPAM)

1	2	3
4	National Pulses Development Project (NPDP)	
5	Oil Palm Development Programme (OPDP)	
6	Accelerated Maize Development Programme (AMDP)	
7	Technology Mission on Horticulture Development in North-Eastern States including Sikkim	Technology Mission on Horticulture Development in North-Eastern States including Sikkim, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttaranchal.
8	Agriculture Census	Agriculture Census
9	Macro Management in Agriculture	Macro Management in Agriculture
10	Improvement of Crop Statistics	Improvement of Agricultural Statistics
11	Timely Reporting Scheme	
12	Establishment of Agency for Reporting of Agricultural Statistics	
13	Crop Estimation Survey on fruits and vegetable and Minor crops	
14	Assistance for Cooperative, Marketing, processing in the under-developed/least developed States.	These Schemes have been proposed to be merged alongwith other Schemes into a single Central Sector Scheme "Assistance to National Cooperative Development Corporations (NCDC) Programme"
15	Share Capital participation in growers cooperative spinning mills.	
16	Share Capital participation in growers cooperative sugar mills.	

The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation had undertaken Zero Based Budgeting Exercise which resulted in reduction of sixteen Centrally Sponsored Schemes into seven Centrally Sponsored Schemes and one Central Sector Scheme. The reduction in number of Schemes is simply due to the merger of Schemes while no Centrally Sponsored Scheme has been dropped/discontinued.

The merger of Schemes will provide flexibility to the State Governments in operationalisation and optimum utilization of central assistance. It will have a positive impact on all category farmers including small and marginal farmers.

(f) The merged Scheme "Improvement of Agriculture Statistics" has been approved for implementation. EFC meetings for merged scheme "Integrated Scheme of Oilseed, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPAM)" and Assistance to National Cooperative Development Corporations (NCDC) Programme" are likely to be held soon.

#### Tourism Development in Southern States

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

(a) whether at a recently held meeting of Tourism Ministers of Southern States it was decided to undertake joint promotion of tourism in the South;

(b) if so, whether suggestions have been made to the Government to run a heritage train for South and to allow more foreign airlines to land in Southern States,

(c) if so, whether the tourism industry in the States is suffering mainly for want of adequate funds from the Government;

(d) if so, whether the major neglected areas are the heritage and thematic museums; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government to extend the help required by the State Governments in providing better facilities for tourists and for upkeep of heritage sites?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) In order to encourage and assist in the development and marketing of South Indian destinations, in a unified manner, as a common tourist block, a meeting of the

South India Tourism Ministers was organised on 5th June 2003 by Government of Andhra Pradesh in Hyderabad.

(b) It was resolved in the meeting to approach Government of India for implementation of "Open-Sky policy". It was also proposed to run a circular tourist train for South India.

(c) to (e) Department of Tourism, Government of India has a plan allocation of Rs. 325 crores for the year 2003-04.

Development and promotion of tourism is mainly the responsibility of the State Governments/UT Administrations. However, the Central Department of Tourism extends CFA under the following schemes:

- (1) Integrated development of travel circuits
- (2) Product/Infrastructure & Destination development
- (3) Assistance for Large Revenue generating projects

All State Govts/UT Administrations including Southern States have already been requested to submit the proposals for the financial year 2003-04.

Department of Tourism is also promoting all tourist destinations of India in India and abroad through its India Tourism Offices.

#### **Deaths due to Air Pollution**

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

(a) whether the air pollution in major cities is still high and as many as 40 thousand persons die every year due to air pollution;

(b) if so, whether the number of persons affected due to air pollution are increasing and Central Pollution Control Board has failed to check the spread of air pollution particularly in Delhi; and

(c) if so, the details of other steps the Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) to (c) According to the Central Pollution Control Board, the air pollution levels in major cities are within the prescribed norms except particulates. The air pollution load has come down in Delhi due to various measures taken. There is no conclusive data available to confirm morbidity and mortality attributable to air pollution. The strategies adopted

and measures taken for control of environmental pollution include Comprehensive Policy for Abatement of Pollution, supply of improved auto-fuel, tightening of vehicular and industrial emission norms, mandatory environmental clearance for specified industries, promotion of cleaner technologies, strengthening network of air & water quality monitoring stations, assessment of pollution load and source apportionment studies, preparation and implementation of action plans for major cities & critically polluted areas.

#### **Animal Disease in A.P.**

160. SHRI B.K. PARTHASARATHI:

SHRI GUNIPATI RAMAIAH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central assistance is being provided to Andhra Pradesh for control of animal diseases in the State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years, year-wise?

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

(b) For controlling animal diseases grants-in-aid of Rs.40.18 lakh, Rs.45.27 Lakh and Rs.57.47 Lakh have been provided to Andhra Pradesh during the last three years i.e., 2000-2001, 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 respectively.

#### **Kalvakurthy Lift Irrigation Project in Mahboob Nagar**

161. SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested to the Government for clearance of Kalvakurthy Lift Irrigation Project in Mahboob Nagar District;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by when the project is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) The Government of Andhra Pradesh submitted the Detailed Project Report of Kalvakurthy Lift Irrigation Project to Central Water Commission (CWC) in November, 2000. The Project estimated to cost Rs. 380 crore, envisages to provide irrigation benefits to an area of 20,234 hectare in the

Mehboobnagar district of Andhra Pradesh. The project report was examined in CWC and comments were sent to the State Government for compliance.

(c) The clearance of project depends upon the promptness with which the State Government arrange to provide compliance to the observations of the Central appraising agencies.

#### Development of Arid Zones

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

(a) whether the Government have launched any scheme for the development of arid zones in the country;

(b) if so, the States where these zones are located; and

(c) the steps taken for the development of agriculture in those zones particularly in Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Desert Development Programme (DDP), the major scheme, exclusively for the development of desert districts (arid zones) in the country, has been in operation since 1977-78.

(b) The hot Arid Zones are located in the States of Rajasthan, Gujarat, Haryana, Punjab, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh.

(c) Several ongoing programmes, such as National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPA), Watershed Development in Catchments of River Valley Projects and Flood Prone Area (RVP & FPR) of The Ministry of Agriculture and Desert Development Programme (DDP) and Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP) of Ministry of Rural Development are in operation for the development of agriculture on watershed basis in these zones.

In addition the following Externally Aided Projects, contributing to the development of agriculture in these zones, are under implementation in Karnataka: (i) World Bank aided Karnataka Watershed Development Project (ii) DFID aided Watershed Development Project and (iii) Danida assisted Comprehensive Watershed Development Project.

[Translation]

#### Cultivation of Medicinal Plant in Bihar

163. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the programmes being implemented by the Government for the cultivation of medicinal plants in Bihar;

(b) the areas identified for the purpose; and

(c) the progress of the programme being implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Macro Management in Agriculture Supplementation/Complementation of State Efforts through Work Plan under which the State Governments can take up developmental programmes as per their felt needs including cultivation of medicinal and aromatic plants. The Govt. of Bihar are taking up programmes like demonstration and training, minkit distribution, strengthening of nursery and establishment of distillation unit. Assistance is also being provided to the Rajendra Agricultural University, Samastipur under this scheme for taking up programmes like establishment/maintenance of herbal gardens and establishment/maintenance of nursery centres. Besides, the National Medicinal Plants Board under Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is also implementing schemes for cultivation of herbal medicinal plants in the country including Bihar.

(c) During Ninth Plan an area of 6 hact. have been covered under Herbal Gardens and 5 hact. were developed for production of quality planting material for aromatic plants. Besides, two nurseries have been established for production of planting material for medicinal plants.

[English]

#### UNESCO Visit to Taj

164. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a team from UNESCO has recently visited Taj Mahal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the construction of unauthorised Taj Heritage Corridor by the Government of Uttar Pradesh was discussed with the UNESCO team;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government propose to declare Taj an "Endangered site"; and

(f) If not, the measures proposed by the Government to protect this world heritage monument?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) No team from UNESCO has recently visited Taj Mahal.

(c) and (d) However the matter came up for a brief discussion during the recent visit of Director General, UNESCO when he called on the Hon'ble Minister for Tourism & Culture.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) The Monument is maintained as per the prescribed archaeological norms.

#### **Vigilance Cases in DARE/ICAR**

165. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWASI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of vigilance/disciplinary cases pending in DARE/ICAR at present alongwith the reasons therefor;

(b) whether any time bound programme has been chalked out for disposal of all the pending vigilance/disciplinary cases in DARE/ICAR;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the other steps taken or being taken by the Government to clear such cases expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) In all, 45 vigilance/ disciplinary cases are pending in the ICAR. In eight cases Inquiry Reports have been received. Two cases have been referred to the CVC for second stage advice and the remaining cases are at various stages of inquiry.

(b) to (d) The Inquiry Officers have been directed to complete the inquiry at the earliest within a period of six months as per the directions of the CVC. Periodic review is being undertaken at the level of CVO to monitor the progress of the cases.

#### **Shortage of Seeds**

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

(a) whether the Government are aware of the massive shortage of seeds in the country as reported in the Pioneer dated June 20, 2003;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have evaluated the seeds position in the Government stock and seeds saved by the farmers;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken to overcome the shortage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) The overall availability of certified/quality seeds for Kharif-2003 has been assessed as 60.69 lakh quintals against the requirement of 44.52 lakh quintals.

(d) The details of crop-wise requirement and availability of certified/quality seeds for Kharif-2003 is enclosed as statement.

(e) The shortfall in groundnut seeds has been made up through summer production programmes in Gujarat and Karnataka. States facing shortage of Arhar seeds have been advised to procure the same from States/State Seed Corporations having surplus seeds. State Government have been advised to undertake seed production in assured irrigation conditions to meet their seed requirements in full.

#### **Statement**

*The details of crop-wise requirement and availability of certified/quality seed for Kharif-2003*

(Quantity in Quintals)

S. No.	Crop	Requirement	Availability	Shortage/ Excess
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Paddy	18,72,089	23,56,483	+4,84,394
2.	Jowar	1,79,465	2,60,657	+81,192
3.	Bajra	1,77,518	2,49,005	+71,487
4.	Maize	2,41,555	8,74,406	+6,32,851
5.	Ragi	22,700	25,485	+2,785
6.	Arhar	79,684	77,842	-1,842
7.	Moong	72,119	78,193	+6,074
8.	Blackgram (Urd)	96,959	1,32,418	+35,459

1	2	3	4	5
9. Groundnut	6,76,420	6,24,911	-51,509	
10. Castor	41,000	42,802	+1,802	
11. Sesamum (Til)	9,288	13,076	+3,788	
12. Sunflower	28,366	38,416	+10,050	
13. Soyabean	6,74,816	9,50,651	+2,75,835	
14. Cotton	2,36,769	3,02,618	+65,849	
15. Jute	21,543	21,543		
16. Mesta	185	185		

For Groundnut seed shortage in Gujarat and Karnataka the State Government had informed that they have planned to procure Groundnut Seed from summer production programme and meet the demand.

#### Working Conditions of Workers in Gulf Countries

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

(a) whether the Government have received request from Kerala Government suggesting to improve the working conditions of workers who have been illegally recruited and serving in the Gulf countries; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Staff Strength in F.P.I.

168. SHRI BAL KRISHNA CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of employees working in different departments and undertakings under the Ministry of FPI, category-wise; and

(b) the details of the number of Other Backward

Classes, Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribe officials out of the total number of officials, separately, category-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) There is no Department/ Undertaking under the administrative control of this Ministry. There is one subordinate office, namely, Directorate of Fruit and Vegetables Preservation with four regional offices and two sub-regional offices under this Ministry. The number of employees working in this Ministry including Directorate of F&VP, group-wise; and the details of the number of Other Backward Classes, Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribe officials out of the total number of officials, separately, group-wise are given below:

Group	Number of employees (in position)	OBC	SC	ST
A	48	2	5	1
B	60	3	9	3
C	71	1	13	1
D	34	-	10	1
Total	213	6	37	6

[English]

#### Grameen Bhandaran Yojana

169. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of rural godowns constructed so far under "Grameen Bhandaran Yojana", State-wise; and

(b) the steps taken to prevent distress sale of produce by farmers immediately after harvest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Grameen Bhandaran Yojana, a Central Sector Scheme of Capital Investment Subsidy for construction/renovation/expansion of Rural Godowns is being implemented through National Bank of Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD) and National Cooperative Development corporation (NCDC).

Under the Yojana, NABARD has sanctioned 995 projects with a total capacity of 59.29 lakh tonnes and NCDC has sanctioned 1575 projects with a capacity of 7.42 lakh tonnes as on 31.3.2003. A statement indicating the details of the

godowns constructed under the Grameen Bhandaran Yojana is enclosed.

(b) Rural Godowns constructed under the Yojana will provide the farming community with the facility for scientific storage and enable it to avail pledge loan to meet its credit requirement without being compelled to sell the produce at a time when price are low.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued revised guidelines to commercial banks and Regional Rural Banks

wherein the maximum amount of pledge loan has been increased from Rs.1 Lakh to 5 Lakh and the period of repayment has been increased from 6 months to 12 months and pledge loan can be availed up to 75% of the value of the actual produce pledge subject to a ceiling of Rs. 5 Lakh per borrower.

Similarly, NABARD has also liberalized on the same lines the norms for extending refinance under the pledge scheme to the State Cooperative Banks as well as Regional Rural Banks.

### Statement

#### *Statement showing progress of Rural Godown Scheme*

(Position as on 31/3/2003)

S. No.	State	Sanctioned by NABARD		Sanctioned by NCDC		Total	
		No. of projects	Capacity in tonnes	No. of projects	Capacity in tonnes	No. of projects	Capacity in tonnes
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Andhra Pradesh	252	1315000	58	5050	340	1320050
2	Assam	2	10339	0	0	2	10339
3	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	14	3800	14	3800
4	Bihar	0	0	285	28500	285	28500
5	Chhattisgarh	9	36793	110	359800	119	396593
6	Gujarat	97	89514	0	0	97	89514
7	Haryana	78	1110439	139	13900	217	1124339
8	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	40	2800	40	2800
9	Jharkhand	0	0	49	4900	49	4900
10	Karnataka	260	173625	26	4850	286	178475
11	Kerala	1	540	160	21850	161	22390
12	Madhya Pradesh	22	24899	191	179950	213	204849
13	Maharashtra	32	71199	6	61000	38	132199
14	Manipur	0	0	9	900	9	900
15	Meghalaya	0	0	19	1700	19	1700
16	Nagaland	0	0	65	3250	65	3250

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
17	Orissa	24	186284	2	200	26	186484
18	Punjab	192	2463670	0	0	192	2463670
19	Rajasthan	0	0	22	1850	22	1850
20	Tamil Nadu	3	6025	103	10300	106	16325
21	Uttar Pradesh	22	436681	31	3100	53	439781
22	Uttaranchal	0	0	39	12900	39	12900
23	West Bengal	1	4125	207	21000	208	25125
Total		995	5929133	1575	741600	2570	6670733

#### Funds for Airports in North-east

170. SHRI M. K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a sum of Rs.300 crore has been allocated for construction, expansion and augmentation of airports in the North East;

(b) if so, the details of the projects contemplated thereunder alongwith the cost likely to be incurred thereon; and

(c) the steps so far taken for early completion of the said project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) An amount of Rs.250 crore has been earmarked in the 10th Five Year Plan for construction, expansion and augmentation of airports in North East.

(b) and (c) Details of projects alongwith cost and status areas under:

**Guwahati** - Installation of two passenger boarding bridges, 3 escalators, 2 elevators, expansion of apron & allied works and construction of canopy on city side at an estimated cost of Rs.13.89 crore. Work is likely to be taken up in 2003-04. **Dibrugarh** - Strengthening/extension of runway, construction of new terminal building, new fire station and isolation bay at an estimated cost of Rs.41.00 crore. Necessary approvals are being obtained. **Lilabari** - Installation of Instrument Landing system (ILS) at an estimated cost of Rs.3.00 crore. Land acquisition is in progress. Work is likely to be taken up during 2003-04. **Silchar** - Strengthening/extension of runway and allied works at an estimated cost of Rs.31.00 crore. Necessary approvals are being obtained. **Dimapur** - Development of runway strip, improvement of drainage system and boundary wall etc. and installation of

ILS at an estimated cost of Rs.5.85 crore. Work is likely to be taken up in 2003-04. ILS has been ordered and will be installed after completion of grading of area and civil works. **Imphal** - Strengthening of runway, construction of isolation bay and widening of apron at an estimated cost of Rs.21.00 crore. Work is in progress and likely to be completed by October 2003. **Shillong** - Construction of operational wall and installation of DVOR at an estimated cost of Rs.4.80 crore. Work is likely to be completed. **Agartala** - Strengthening/extension of runway, construction of isolation bay and allied works and strengthening of existing apron and link taxiway at an estimated cost of Rs.35.36 crore. Work is in progress and likely to be completed by October 2003. Besides there is also a provision of Rs.150 crores for proposed construction of a new airport at Pakyong in Sikkim.

#### Setting up of National Institute of Food Technology

171. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up National Institute of Food Technology to carry out research in food and related processing;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are considering upgrading existing research facilities across the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) A proposal to set up a National Institute of Food Technology & Management has been mooted. Since it is at preliminary stage, details have not yet been worked out.

(c) and (d) Ministry of Food Processing Industries through its plan schemes provides for 100% financial assistance towards capital cost for various R&D projects of Central/State Government Organisations, IITs and Universities. If the R&D projects are proposed by private institutions, the scheme provides for grant of 33% of the capital cost for general areas and 50% of the capital cost for difficult areas to facilitate wider reach of research facilities across the country.

#### **Excess Baggage**

172. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to enhance the free baggage limit to 50 kgs. from the present 25 kg. for the air travellers coming in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (c) There is no proposal to enhance the present free baggage limits for the air travellers coming into India.

#### **Construction of Watersheds**

173. DR. N. VENKATASWAMY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any comprehensive policy for construction of watersheds in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total amount sanctioned under the scheme during the last three years, year-wise;

(d) the total amount disbursed to States as financial assistance under the scheme; and

(e) the targets fixed and achievements made thereunder during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The National Agriculture Policy (July 2000) includes the policy on Watershed Development in Rainfed Areas. It provides that integrated and holistic development of rainfed areas will be promoted by conservation of rain water by vegetative measures on watershed basis and augmentation of biomass production through agro and farm forestry with the involvement of the watershed community.

(c) and (d) The major Centrally sponsored Schemes being implemented by various Ministries during X Plan period on watershed basis for development of rainfed areas, drought prone areas, wastelands and degraded forest area are as follows:

A. Ministry of Agriculture

1. National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPPRA)
2. Watershed Development Project in shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSCA)
3. Soil Conservation in the catchment of River Valley Projects and Flood Prone Rivers (RVP & FPR).

B. Ministry of Rural Development

4. Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP)
5. Desert Development Programme (DDP)
6. Integrated Wasteland Development Programme (IWDP)

The details of the amount sanctioned and releases made are given in the statement-I enclosed.

(e) The details of physical targets and achievements made with regard to the projects of Ministry of Agriculture are given in the statement-II enclosed. The physical progress of projects concerning Ministry of Rural Development is monitored in the States.

#### **Statement-I**

##### *Financial Status under Watershed Development Projects/Schemes (Rs. in lakh)*

S.No.	Name of scheme	2000-01		2001-02		2002-2003	
		A	D	A	D	A	D
1	NWDPPRA	22565	18188.63	22854	19582.44	17956	4866.00 *
2	RVP & FPR	9779	11447.07	11128.38	10310.85	11283.54	11401.91
3	WDPSCA	1500	1797.87	1500	1535.19	2000	1966.36

\* This is partial figure. Expenditure figures from several States/UTs are awaited

A - Allocation

D - Disbursement

S.No.	Name of Scheme	2000-01 Releases	2001-02 Releases	2002-2003 Releases
1	DDP	13499.79	15003.0	18500.0
2	DPAP	19000.01	20951.61	25000.0
3	IWDP	12777.97	16960.69	20893.15

NWDPRA - National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas  
RVP & FPR - Soil Conservation for enhancing productivity of degraded land in the Catchments of River Valley Projects and Flood Prone Rivers  
WDPSCA - Watershed Development Project for Shifting Cultivation Areas  
DDP - Desert Development Programme  
DPAP - Drought Prone Area Programme  
IWDP - Integrated Wasteland Development Project

### Statement-II

#### Physical Status under Watershed Development Projects / Schemes

(Area in ha.)

S.No.	Name of Scheme	2000-01		2001-02		2002-2003	
		T	A	T	A	T	A
1	RVP & FPR	122238	229000	139105	163000	141044	189000
2	WDPSCA	30000	30774	15000	22005	20000	19336
3	NWDPRA	496280	549730	509550	464341	360000	72095.

\* This is partial figure. Information from several States / UTs are awaited

RVP & FPR - Soil Conservation for enhancing productivity of degraded land in the Catchments of River Valley Projects and Flood Prone Rivers

WDPSCA - Watershed Development Project for Shifting Cultivation Areas

NWDPRA - National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas

T - Target

A - Achievement

#### Grants to Agriculture University

Universities includes number of constituent colleges, faculties in the colleges students intake, various programmes at Undergraduate and Postgraduate level and actual need assessment.

174. COL. (RETD.) DR. DHANI RAM SHANDIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria adopted by the Government to provide grants to the State Agriculture Universities;

(b) and (c) Information enclosed as statement-I and II.

(b) the names of universities that are functioning in the country as on date; and

(c) the funds sanctioned/granted to the State Agriculture Universities during each of the last three years, State-wise?

#### Statement-I

*Names of the State Agriculture Universities functioning in the country as on date*

S. No.	Name of the University
1	2

#### Assam

1. Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The criteria adopted to provide grants to the State Agricultural

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1	2
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**Andhra Pradesh**

1. Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University, Hyderabad

**Bihar**

1. Rajendra Agricultural University, Pusa (Samastipur)

**Chhattisgarh**

1. Indira Gandhi Krishi Viswavidyalaya, Raipur

**Gujarat**

1. Gujarat Agriculture University, S.K. Nagar, Distt. Banaskantha

**Haryana**

1. CCS Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar

**Himachal Pradesh**

1. C.S.K. Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, Palampur
2. Dr. Y.S. Parmar University of Horticulture & Forestry, Solan

**Jammu & Kashmir**

1. Sher-E-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences & Technology, Jammu
2. Sher-E-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences & Technology, Srinagar

**Jharkhand**

1. Birsa Agricultural University, Ranchi

**Karnataka**

1. University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore
2. University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad

**Kerala**

1. Kerala Agricultural University, Thrissur

**Madhya Pradesh**

1. Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Viswa Vidyalaya, Jabalpur

**Maharashtra**

1. B.S. Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth, Dapoli
  2. Maharashtra Animal & Fishery Sciences University, Seminar Hills, Nagpur
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1	2
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3. Marathwada Agricultural University, Parbhani

4. Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri

5. Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth, Krishinagar, Akola

**Orissa**

1. Orissa University of Agriculture & Technology, Bhubaneswar

**Punjab**

1. Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana

**Rajasthan**

1. Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture & Technology, Udaipur
2. Rajasthan Agricultural University, Bikaner

**Tamil Nadu**

1. Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore
2. Tamil Nadu Veterinary & Animal Sciences University, Chennai

**Uttar Pradesh**

1. Chandra Shekhar Azad University of Agriculture & Technology, Kanpur
2. Uttar Pradesh Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay Pashu Chikitsa Vigyan Vishwavidyalay Evam Go-Anusandhan Sansthan, Mathura
3. Narendra Dev University of Agriculture & Technology, Faizabad
4. Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel University of Agriculture & Technology, Meerut

**Uttaranchal**

1. G.B. Pant University of Agriculture & Technology, Pantnagar

**West Bengal**

1. Bidhan Chandra Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Mohanpur, Distt. Nadia
  2. Uttar Banga Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Coochbehar
  3. West Bengal University of Animal & Fishery Sciences, Kolkata
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**Statement-II**

*Funds sanctioned/ granted to the State Agricultural Universities during last three years, State-wise under Development, Catch-up and Rural Awareness Work Experience (RAWES) Schemes*

(Rupees in Lakh)

S. No.	Name of the University	2000-01	2000-02	2002-03
1	2	3	4	5
<b>Assam</b>				
1.	A.A.U. Jorhat	45.00	159.27	--
<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>				
2.	A.N.G.R.A.U., Hyderabad	109.48	269.70	209.89
<b>Bihar</b>				
3.	R.A.U., Pusa	145.84	150.00	190.00
<b>Chhattisgarh</b>				
4.	I.G.K.V.V., Raipur	139.54	134.55	165.00
<b>Gujarat</b>				
5.	G.A.U., S.K., Nagar	211.33	225.00	215.00
<b>Haryana</b>				
6.	CCS H.A.U., Hisar	215.00	198.80	140.00
<b>Himachal Pradesh</b>				
7.	C.S.K.H.P.K.V., Palampur	91.04	127.04	170.00
8.	Y.S.P.U.H.&F., Solan	100.49	87.61	110.00
<b>Jammu &amp; Kashmir</b>				
9.	S.K.U.A.S.&T., Jammu	--	300.30	94.38
10.	S.K.U.A.S.&T., Srinagar	113.25	71.70	125.00
<b>Jharkhand</b>				
11.	B.A.U., Ranchi	69.00	150.00	112.50
<b>Karnataka</b>				
12.	U.A.S., Bangalore	135.77	190.76	190.00
13.	U.A.S., Dharwad	127.76	174.75	130.00
<b>Kerala</b>				
14.	K.A.U., Thrissur	100.00	150.05	165.00
<b>Madhya Pradesh</b>				
15.	J.N.K.V.V., Jabalpur	53.81	200.00	165.00

1	2	3	4	5
<b>Maharashtra</b>				
16.	B.S.K.K.V., Dapoli	95.00	128.31	140.00
17.	M.A.&F.S.U., Nagpur	--	147.37	30.00
18.	M.A.U., Parbhani	137.86	216.00	125.00
19.	M.P.K.V., Rahuri	132.37	134.58	140.00
20.	P.D.K.V., Akola	117.90	100.00	115.00
<b>Orissa</b>				
21.	O.U.A.&T., Udaipur	125.00	196.93	147.00
<b>Punjab</b>				
22.	P.A.U., Ludhiana	120.00	212.97	190.00
<b>Rajasthan</b>				
23.	M.P.U.A.&T., Udaipur	116.00	211.36	165.00
24.	R.A.U., Bikaner	128.45	173.83	170.39
<b>Tamil Nadu</b>				
25.	T.N.A.U., Coimbatore	100.00	90.28	165.00
26.	T.N.V.&A.S.U., Chennai	78.00	144.32	115.00
<b>Uttar Pradesh</b>				
27.	A.A.I., Allahabad	--	50.00	43.19
28.	C.S.A.U.A. & T., Kanpur	180.40	228.06	200.00
29.	D.D.U.V. & A.S.U., Mathura	--	10.00	120.00
30.	N.D.U.A. & T., Faizabad	85.48	95.00	131.00
31.	S.V.P.U.A. & T. Meerut	--	55.00	180.00
<b>Uttaranchal</b>				
32.	G.B.P.U.A. & T., Pantnagar	215.25	305.20	195.00
<b>West Bengal</b>				
33.	B.C.K.V.V., Mohanpur	80.33	126.26	94.00
34.	U.B.K.V.V., Coochbehar	--	--	90.00
35.	W.B.U.A. & F.S., Kolkata	110.00	185.00	190.00

[Translation]

**Development of Tourism in States**

175. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any

specific scheme for the development of tourism in the States including Bihar and Jharkhand during the current financial year; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the funds earmarked for the purpose, State-wise.

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI

JAG MOHAN): (a) The Department of Tourism, Government of India, has formulated schemes for Integrated Development of Tourist Circuits, Product/Infrastructure & Destination Development and Assistance of Large Revenue Generating Projects for development of tourism infrastructure in the country during the Tenth Five Year Plan. States Governments/UT Administrations including the State of Bihar and Jharkhand have been requested to submit proposals for Central financial assistance during the current financial year.

(b) The Central financial assistance is provided to the State Governments/UT Administrations for tourism projects based on the merits of the proposal, subject to availability of funds and their inter-se priority.

#### Centrally Sponsored Tourism Schemes for Bihar

176. SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether several Centrally Sponsored Schemes related to tourism are proposed to be implemented in Bihar; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) The following works have been sanctioned in Bihar during the year 2002-03 under the project for Integrated Development of Vaishali-Nalanda-Rajgir-Bodhgaya-Varanasi Circuit:

S.No	Name of work	Amount Sanctioned (Rs. in lakh)
1.	Improvement of Abhishek Pushkarni at Vaishali	75.00
2.	Tourist facility near ropeway, Rajgir	55.00
3.	Tourist facility at Kund	60.00
4.	Development of Bimbsar Avenue, Rajgir	50.00
5.	Tourist facility at Nalanda	25.00
6.	Development of Mayasarovar	150.00
7.	Development of Meditation Park	75.00
8.	Signages	15.00
Total		505.00

#### Setting up of Agricultural Research Centres by Multinational Companies

177. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have allowed certain multinational companies to set up agriculture research centres in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to improve the seed industry so as to make it conform to international standards from the viewpoints of technique, quality and prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Certain multinational companies such as Indo-American Hybrid Seed (India) Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore; Monsanto India Ltd., New Delhi; Proagro Seed Co. Limited, Gurgaon; Rallis India Limited, Mumbai; Seminis Vegetable Seeds (India) Limited, Pune; Tokita Seed India (P) Ltd., Gurgaon; Unicorn Agrotech Limited, Hyderabad; Nunhems Seeds Pvt. Ltd., Gurgaon; John Hamilton & Co. Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore etc. have their agricultural research centres in India.

(c) The following steps have been taken by the Government of India:

1. Seed Policy, 2002 has been prepared with specific aim and objectives to improve the quality of seeds conforming to international standards. Meanwhile action under the Seeds Act, 1966 is being taken.
2. The Seeds Act, 1966 has prescribed minimum standards for germination, genetic purity and physical purity under Section 6(a) and 6(b) of the Seeds Act for labelling the notified kind/variety of seeds. The labelling of seed is compulsory for notified kind/variety.
3. Under Section 17 (a) of the Seeds Rules, Government of India has prescribed standards namely Indian minimum Seed Certification Standard for certifying the seeds. Certification is obligatory.
4. Labelling and certification standards have been prescribed to meet international standards.
5. Government of India (GOI) encourages Indian Seed Companies and individual seed producing agencies to obtain membership and participation in International Organisation like International Seed Testing Association (ISTA), Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) etc.
6. GOI has recommended to ISTA for accreditation of the seed testing laboratories of Indo-American Hybrid Seeds Company, Bangalore, Namdhari Seeds Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore, Adventa Seeds Ltd., Hyderabad and MAHYCO, Jaina to issue 'Orange Certificate' of ISTA for sampling and testing their seed produce. The ISTA Executive committee has accredited the Seed testing laboratory of Indo-American Hybrid Seeds (India) Pvt. Ltd. with effect from November 15, 2002 and authorized to issue International Certificates. This would facilitate conforming to international standards.
7. GOI is processing the case to obtain OECD membership for certifying the seeds to be traded in the International Market.

8. India is globally competitive in regard to quality, price etc. for seed exports which mainly comprises two major categories namely, i) customs production for exports, and ii) export of indigenously bred varieties.
9. In order to make the availability of seeds to the farmers on par with International Seed Companies, GOI has reduced the duty on imported seeds.

[English]

**Irregularities in Taj Heritage Corridor  
Project Contract**

178. SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government had prior knowledge about the Taj Heritage Corridor Project right from November, 2002 when the Government of Uttar Pradesh informed Ministry of Environment and Forests that Rs.17 crore had been sanctioned to National Project Construction Corporation (NPCC) to make a detailed project report, a site layout plan and a project design;
- (b) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh awarded the work contract to NPCC without calling tenders; and
- (c) if so, whether NPCC sub-contracted the work to M/s Ishvakoo (India) Private Limited without a tender and paid Rs.13 crore to it out of the money released by the Government of Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) to (c) The Government of U.P. has taken up reclamation work in river Yamuna without any approval of the Taj Heritage Corridor Project from the Ministry of Environment and Forests. On 16th July, 2003 the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India has ordered Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) to inquire into the entire issue and submit an Interim Report to the Hon'ble Court within a period of four weeks and has given two months time for the submission of the final report by CBI whereafter appropriate orders will be passed. The matter is, therefore, sub-judice.

**Quality of Sub-Surface Water**

179. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY:  
SHRI BHASKARRAO PATIL:  
SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Central Ground Water Board has recently revealed that sub-surface water in various parts of the country is highly unsafe;
- (b) if so, the facts and the details thereof;
- (c) whether the level of ground water has also fallen and the schemes formulated to maintain its level has proved ineffective;
- (d) if so, the details and the reasons thereof;
- (e) whether in view of sufficient rainfalls during the current monsoon the Government propose to ensure increase in ground water level; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) The Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), under the Ministry of Water Resources monitors ground water quality throughout the country on regular basis. The studies carried out by the CGWB indicates that the ground water in major parts of the country is by and large potable. There are, however, areas which have poor quality of ground water mainly due to the contamination from industrial and domestic effluents, excessive use of fertilizers, mining wastes, saline water ingress and due to the nature of the ground water bearing rock formations. The names of States and locations where ground water has been found contaminated and reasons thereof are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d) As per observations made by the CGWB, significant decline in the levels of ground water have been observed in certain pockets in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, NCT of Delhi, Jharkhand, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

Studies undertaken to monitor effects of the artificial recharge schemes are shown positive impact in terms of rise in ground water level and sustainability of ground water structures in the areas where such schemes have been implemented.

(e) and (f) The Government is encouraging rain water harvesting activities through mass awareness and training programmes by involving various Government and Non-Government organisations. During 2003-04, the CGWB has a programme to organise 51 training programmes and 51 mass awareness programmes on rain water harvesting in the country.

**Statement**

*State-wise details of Contamination of Ground Water in some areas of the districts due to various Contaminants*

Sl. No.	State	Salinity	Iron	Fluoride	Nitrate	Arsenic	Heavy Metals
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	East Godavari, West Godavari, Krishna, Guntur, Prakasam	--	Prakasam, Nellore, Anantapur, Nalgonda, Rangareddy, Adilabad	Vishakhapatnam, East Godavari, Krishna, Prakasam, Nellore, Chittoor, Aanatapur, Cuddapah, Kurnool, Mehboobnagar, Rangareddy, Medak, Adilabad, Nalgonda, Khammam	--	Anantapur, Mehboobnagar, Prakasam, Visakhapatnam, Cuddapah, Nalgonda.
2.	Assam	-	Northern Bank of Brahmaputra	Nagaon, Karbi Anglong	--	--	Digboi
3.	Bihar	Begusarai	Champan, Muzaffarpur, Gaya, Munger, Deoghar, Madhubani, Patna, Palamau, Nalanda, Nawada, Banka	Girdih, Jamui, Dhanbad	Palamau, Gaya, Patna, Nalanda, Nawada, Bhagalpur, Sahebganj, Banka	--	Dhanbad, Muzaffarpur, Begusarai.
4.	Gujarat	Banaskantha, Junagarh, Bharuch, Surat Mehsana Ahmedabad Surendranagar Kheda, Jamnagar	-	Kachch, Surendranagar Rajkot, Ahmedabad, Mehsana, Banaskantha, Sabarkantha.	-	--	--
5.	Haryana	Sonepat, Rohtak, Hissar, Sirsa, Faridabad, Jind, Gurgaon, Bhiwani Mahendragarh.	-	Rohtak, Jind, Hissar, Bhiwani, Mahendragarh, Faridabad.	Ambala, Sonapat, Jind, Gurgaon, Faridabad, Hissar, Sirsa, Karnal, Kurukshetra, Rohtak, Bhiwani, Mahendragarh	-	Faridabad
6.	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	-	Kulu, Solan, Una	-	Purwanoo Kalamb
7.	Karnataka	Bijapur, Belgaum, Raichur, Bellary, Dharwar	-	Tumkur, Kolar, Bangalore, Gulbarga, Bellary, Raichur	-	-	Bhadrawati
8.	Kerala	Ernakulam, Trichur, Alleppey	-	Palghat	-	-	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9.	Madhya Pradesh	Gwalior, Bhind, Morena, Jhabua, Khargaon, Dhar Shivpuri, Shejapur, Guna Mandisor, Ujjain Amravati, Akola.	-	Brind, Morena, Guna, Jhabua, Chhindwara, Seoni, Mandla, Raipur, Vidisha	Sehore	--	Bastar, Korba, Ratlam, Nagda
10.	Maharashtra	Amravati, Akola.	-	Bhandara, Chandrapur, Nanded, Aurangabad	Thane, Jaina, Beed, Nanded Latur, Osmanabad, Solapur Satara, Sangli, Kolhapur, Dhule, Jalgaon, Aurangabad, Ahmednagar, Pune, Buldana Amravati, Akola, Nagpur	--	--
11.	Orissa	Cuttack, Baleswar, Puri	Parts of Coastal Orissa	Bolangir	-	--	Angul, Talcher
12.	Punjab	Bhatinda, Sangrur, Faridkot, Firozpur.	-	Ludhiana, Faridkot, Bhatinda, Sangrur, Jalandhar, Amritsar	Patiala, Faridkot, Firozpur Sangrur, Bhatinda	--	Ludhiana, Mandi Gobindgarh
13.	Rajasthan	Bharatpur, Jaipur, Nagaur, Jalore Sikri, Jodhpur	Bikaner, Alwar, Dungarpur	Barmer, Bikaner, Ganganganagar, Jalore, Nagaur, Pali, Sikri	Jaipur, Churu, Ganganganagar, Bikaner, Jalore, Barmer, Bundi, Swai Madhopur.	-	Pali, Udaipur, Khetri
14.	Tamil Nadu	Karaikal, Pondicherry, Nagapattanam, Quide-Millet, Pudukottai, Ramnathapuram, North Arcot-Arnedkar, Dharmapuri Salem, Trichy, Coimbatore	-	Dharampuri, Salem, North Arcot-Arnedkar, Villupuram-Padayatchi, Muthramalingam, Tiruchirappalli, Pudukottai	Coimbatore, Periyar, Salem	-	Manali, North Arcot
15.	Tripura	-	Dharannagar -- Kaulshaher, Khowai, Ambasa, Amapur and Parts of Agartala Valley	-	-	-	-
16.	Uttar Pradesh	Agra, Mathura, Mainpuri, Banda	-	Bulandshahar, Aligarh, Agra, Unnao, Rae-Bareilly	Orai, Jhansi, Lalitpur, Faizabad, Sultanpur, Maharaiganji, Gorakhpur, Deoria	-	Singrauli, Basti, Kanpur, Jaunpur, Allahabad, Saharanpur, Aligarh
17.	West Bengal	-	Midnapore, Howrah, Hooghli, Bankura	Birbhum	Uttar Dinajpur, Malda, Birbhum, Nadia, Midnapur, Howrah, Murshidabad, Purulia	Malda, South-24 Parganas, Nadia, Hooghly, Murshidabad, Bardhaman, Howrah	Durgapur, Howrah Murshidabad, Nadia.
18.	NCT of Delhi	Najafgarh, Karjhwala, and Mehrauli Blocks.	-	-	City of Shahdara and Mehrauli Blocks	-	Alipur, Karjhwala, Najafgarh, Mehrauli City and Shahdara Blocks.

**Excess Courier Cargo**

180. DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBHA MANDLIK:

SHRI C.N. SINGH:

SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently asked the DGCA to conduct surprise checks at various airports to ensure that cargo carried by various courier companies on scheduled domestic flights does not exceed the prescribed limit;

(b) if so, the number of surprise checks conducted by the DGCA till date; and

(c) the outcome thereof alongwith the number and the details of airlines found guilty and the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has conducted surprise checks at various airports to ensure that cargo carried by various courier companies on schedule domestic flights does not exceed the prescribed limits.

(b) A total of 60 surprise checks have been conducted by the DGCA till date.

(c) No discrepancies were observed except in two cases involving Indian Airlines Ltd. and Jet Airways who were found to be carrying excess cargo than that was recorded. Details of the observations are:

(i) The cargo consignment on Indian Airlines flight on 22.06.2003 was found to be 121 kgs., more than the recorded weight.

(ii) The cargo consignment on Jet Airways flight on 18.6.2003 was found to be 10 kgs more than the recorded weight.

Airlines as part of their safety oversight programme, are required to carry out regular checks with respect to loading of aircraft and accuracy of load and trim sheets. In the instance cases, the airlines were asked to ensure compliance with the requirement.

**Fishing Harbour Project in Orissa**

181. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to the reply given to the Unstarred Question No.4396 dated April 21, 2003 and state:

(a) the target date set for completion of the Dharma Stage-II Fishing Harbour Project in Orissa; and

(b) the status of the said project as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The target set for completion of Dhamra stage-II fishing harbour in Orissa is 23-03-2001. The Government of Orissa, which is implementing agency has reported that 86% of the project work has been completed till date.

**Per-Capita Allocation for Agriculture**

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

(a) the per-capita amount allocated for agriculture in the country during the last three years;

(b) the States where per-capita allocation by the State Governments is more than the Central per-capita allocation; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to provide more funds for agriculture?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The details of funds allocated to the Ministry of Agriculture and the States under their State Plan Allocations for agriculture during the last three years were as follows. The Percapita allocation has been worked out on the basis of the population as per 2001 census.

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Allocation to Ministry of Agriculture	State Plan Allocation for Agriculture	Percapita allocation
2000-2001	2894.55	4805.05	76.23
2001-2002	2969.00	5608.53	84.92
2002-2003	3242.00	6114.02	92.63

(c) The Government is continuously making concerted efforts in getting higher allocation for agriculture sector.

**Damage due to illegal Mining**

183. SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the illegal mining activity at Fatehpur Sikri, Agra is causing irreparable damage to Buland Darwaza and other historical buildings;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the names of persons and organisations who have been granted permit for mining activities using dynamite; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to preserve and protect these historical monuments and natural surroundings and environment?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) The illegal mining activities within the radius of 10 km of Fatehpur Sikri, may endanger its historical buildings including Buland Darwaza.

(b) As per information made available by the field office, the Government of Uttar Pradesh has issued 40 leases for mining operations of which one has been cancelled, 5 leases have expired, 34 leases were also cancelled but were later on revoked by the order of the Court of Commissioner,

Agra. In all the cases of lease, blasting is not permitted as per the conditions of the lease; however, there are occasional complaints in this regard. Names of the persons granted permit for mining activities are as given in the statement enclosed.

(c) The Agra Circle of the Archaeological Survey of India has been requesting the State Government of Uttar Pradesh and district authorities of Agra from time to time to stop illegal mining activities near Fatehpur Sikri. A Project Report for integral development of the Fatehpur Sikri has been submitted by the Archaeological Survey of India to the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India wherein the mining and quarrying operation within 10 km. radius of the World Heritage Monument have been proposed to be prohibited. In compliance to the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, the Government of Uttar Pradesh has filed an affidavit on 16.10.2001 with necessary comments on the proposal of the Archaeological Survey of India. The Chief Secretary of Uttar Pradesh has issued instructions to the district authorities of Agra to stop mining activities within 10 km of Fatehpur Sikri. The Commissioner, Agra Division has also been addressed by the Director General, Archaeological Survey of India to intervene and direct the concerned authorities to stop forthwith such illegal mining/quarrying operations within the 10 km radius of Fatehpur Sikri, a World Heritage Monument.

**Statement***Detailed List of lease holders of the mining operation at Fatehpur Sikri, a World Heritage Monument*

Sl. No.	Name and address of Lease Holder	Name of the area	Block Number	Raqlba	Period	Remark
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Sh. Munna Samar, S/o. Sh. Umeri, Kirawali	Jetana	05	5.00 acre	29.01.2005	Due to the use of explosive, lease was cancelled but later revoked by the order of the Court of Commissioner, Agra.
2	Sh. Bharat Singh, S/o. Sh. Mohan Singh, and Sh. Bhima, S/o. Sh. Kishan Singh, Kirawali	Jetana	012	5.00 acre	05.10.200	-do-
3	Sh. Umed Singh, S/o. Pyarealal, Kirawali	Jetana	10	5.00 acre	29.01.2005	-do-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4	Sh. Diwan Singh, S/o. Sh. Hardam Singh. Kirawali	Sandha	410	6.00 acre	05.01.2005	-do-
5	Sh. Ram Singh, S/o. Nawal Singh, Kirawali	Jetana	23	2.30 acre	05.01.2005	-do-
6	Sh. Ramesh Chand & others S/o. Sh. Param, Kirawali	Vacchhat	04	5.00 acre	05.01.2005	-do-
7	Sh. Rakesh Kumar, S/o. Sh. Munna Yaha, Kirawali	Jetana	16	3.00 acre	08.06.2005	-do-
8	Sh. Devi Singh, S/o. Kirawali	Jetana	12	5.00 acre	05.04.2005	-do-
9	Smt. Omvati, W/o. Harish Chandra Garg, Kirawali	Jetana	04	5.00 acre	29.12.2005	-do-
10	Sh. Hira Singh, S/o. Kishan Singh, Kirawali	Chhyaran	289	2.00 acre	31.05.2005	-do-
11	Sh. Prem Singh, S/o. Sh. Nenia Ram, Kirawali	Jetana	11	5.00 acre	19.03.2005	-do-
12	Sh. Santoshi, S/o. Giriraj, Kirawali	Nayapath		5.00 acre	04.01.2005	-do-
13	Sh. Hardum Singh, S/o. Data Singh, Kirawali	Sandha	299	8.00 acre	19.03.2005	-do-
14	Sh. Manoj Kumar, S/o. Sh. Janak Singh, Kirawali	Sandha	289	3.00 acre	14.04.2005	-do-
15	Sh. Mahabir, S/o. Sh. Raghubansh, Kirawali	Jetana	22	6.50 acre	14.03.2005	-do-
16	Sh. Rajbir Singh, S/o. Lakhan Singh, Kirawali	Jetana	20	3.00 acre	11.07.2005	-do-
17	Smt. Birma Devi, W/o. Kedar Nath, Kirawali	Rashulpul	276	5.00 acre	01.06.2005	-do-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
18	Sh. Pritam Singh, S/o. Atar Singh, Kirawali	Jetana & Sandha	289	5.00 acre	01.06.2005	-do-
19	Sh. Ram Prasad, S/o. Sh. Cheta, Kirawali	Vacchhat	06	6.00 acre	24.02.2005	-do-
20	Sh. Bhagaban Singh, S/o. Sh. Rebat Singh, Kirawali	Jetana	07	5.00 acre	29.01.2005	-do-
21	Sh. Ashok Kumar, S/o. Sh. Vijendra Singh, Kirawali	Vacchhat	02	5.00 acre	05.01.2005	-do-
22	Sh. Prem Chand, Singh, S/o. Shyama Kirawali	Verawali	45	5.50 acre	26.07.2005	-do-
23	Sh. Jagbir Singh, S/o. Gobardhan Singh, Kirawali	Vacchhat	01	5.00 acre	14.05.2005	-do-
24	Sh. Bhagla Singh S/o. Sh. Karam Singh, Kirawali	Mandi	01	6.00 acre	15.03.2005	-do-
25	Sh. Umesh Shisodiya, S/o. Ramendra Singh, Kirawali	Sandha	410	5.00 acre	09.01.2005	-do-
26	Sh. Rambir Singh, S/o Harbillash, Kirawali	Vacchhat	05	5.00 acre	05.01.2005	Cancelled
27	Sh. Kedar Nath, S/o. Gauri Shankar Kirawali	Jetana	08	5.00 acre	11.09.2005	Due to the use of explosive, lease was cancelled but later revoked by the order of the Court of Commissioner Agra.
28	Sh. Chhatar Singh, S/o. Sh. Deepa, Kirawali	Jetana	06	5.00 acre	11.09.2005	-do-
29	Sh. Ashok Kumar S/o. Vijendra Singh, Kirawali	Dabar	230	5.00 acre	21.05.2005	-do-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
30	Sh. Dharam Vir Singh. S/o. Jay Shankar, Kirawali	Jetana	15	3.00 acre	29.11.2005	-do-
31	Sh. Prithviram Singh S/o. Janak Singh, Kirawali	Sandha	298	5.00 acre	18.06.2005	-do-
32	Sh. Dara Singh. S/o. Ram Bilas, Kirawali	Takhtur	137	2.00 acre	13.12.2005	-do-
33	Sh. Ram Prasad, S/o. Ram Bharose, Kirawali	Jetana	14	3.00 acre	08.02.2006	-do-
34	Sh. Mang Singh, S/o. Bhajana Lal, Kirawali	Pakhtla	555	2.00 acre	05.01.2003	Period of expired
35	Sh. Rambir Singh, S/o. Bed Singh, Kirawali	Sandha	410	4.00 acre	08.02.2003	-do-
36	Sh. Bhupchand, S/o. Netaram, Kirawali	Rasulpur	276	3.00 acre	16.03.2003	-do-
37	Sh. Uday Singh, S/o. Rambilas, Kirawali	Sandha	289	2.00 acre	26.03.2003	-do-
38	Sh. Sitaram Singh S/o. Pritam Singh, Kirawali	Baskhabati	45	2.50 acre	03.08.2003	-do-
39	Sh. Mahabir Singh, S/o. Bhola Ram, Kirawali	Pakhtla	556	2.00 acre	16.03.2004	Due to the use of explosive, lease was cancelled but later revoked by the order of the Court of Commissioner, Agra.
40	Sh. Mahabir Singh, S/o. Bhola Ram, Kirawali	Pakhtla	434	2.00 acre	16.03.2004	-do-

**Modified Genes in Crops**

by the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee during the last two years for introduction of modified genes in crops; and

184. SHRI ANADI SAHU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(b) their impact on crops?

(a) the number of applications received and cleared

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The question relates to the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India. The information is being collected from the concerned Ministry and will be submitted in due course.

#### **Revenue Realisation**

185. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the lower revenue realisation by the Indian Airlines was on account of frequent changes in flight schedule, high rate of cancellation of tickets by agents, poor punctuality and operation on uneconomic routes;

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

(c) whether some amount is outstanding with the agents of Indian Airlines for more than three years;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the efforts made to realise the said amount;

(e) whether the Airlines had suffered losses to the extent of Rs. 1028.43 crores during 1992-93 to 2001-02; and

(f) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) Revenue earnings of Indian Airlines in the year 2002-03 is estimated to be about 17% more over the year 2001-02.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The total amount outstanding against the defaulting agents for more than 3 years is Rs. 2.66 crores. Indian Airlines has taken various steps to liquidate the dues such as invoking bank guarantee, initiating legal action, taking up the matter with Travel Agents Association of India/ International Air Transport Association etc.

(e) and (f) Indian Airlines incurred a loss of Rs. 1059.94 crores during the years 1992-93 to 2001-02. The primary reasons for the cumulative losses can be attributed to factors like grounding of A-320 fleet for nearly one year in 1990-91, merger of Vayudoot with Indian Airlines bringing substantial financial burden on the company, operation on commercially unviable routes for socio-economic reasons, increase in ATF prices and airport user charges over the years, enhancement of insurance premium rates after September 11, 2001 incidents in USA, increase in security expenses on introduction of Sky Marshals in flights, appreciation of foreign currency rates etc.

#### **National Water Policy**

186. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reviewed and revised the National Water Policy to incorporate it in the policy "Inter-linking of rivers";

(b) if so, the details of the revised policy since drawn out if any; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY):

(a) The provision in National Water Policy (2002) in respect of Water Resources Planning include:

"3.5 Water should be made available to water short areas by transfer from other areas including transfers from one river basin to another, based on a national perspective, after taking into account the requirements of areas/basins."

The matter of Inter-linking of rivers is duly covered under above provision. Hence need for any revision in this regard is not felt necessary at this stage.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### **Modernisation of Biju Patnaik Airport**

187. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI:

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB:

SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the extension of the runway at the Biju Patnaik Airport has been delayed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to remove hurdles in its completion;

(d) whether the Government have received a proposal from Government of Orissa to upgrade the Biju Patnaik Airport of Bhubaneswar to an International Airport;

- (e) if so, the steps taken thereon; and
- (f) whether the Government propose to introduce a daily Airbus flight between Delhi-Bhubaneswar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) Extension of runway at Biju Patnaik airport was completed, except for a small patch of land through which a State Government road was passing through.

(b) The delay is due to non-diversion of the road by the State Government.

(c) After constant follow-up, the State Government has now agreed to divert this road. Extension of runway work on this small patch of land will be taken up by Airports Authority of India (AAI), after road is diverted.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Declaration of an airport as international airport depend upon traffic potential and demand from airlines for operation of international flights. At present, no airline has requested AAI to operate scheduled international flights through Bhubaneswar airport.

(f) Indian Airlines is unable to operate a daily service of A-320 on Delhi-Bhubaneswar route due to aircraft resource constraints.

#### **Workshop on Reforms in Agricultural Extension**

188. SHRIMATI PRABHA RAU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Regional Workshop on Reforms in Agricultural Extension was held in the month of May, 2003 jointly by the Ministry of Agriculture and the World Bank;

(b) if so, whether the experts from Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Nepal and Pakistan also attended this workshop; and

(c) if so, the outcome of the discussions held therein?

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

(c) The workshop provided for refining the following areas of extension reforms:

- Public delivery of extension in decentralized systems.

- Public-Private partnership in technology dissemination,
- Use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT),
- Human Resource Development (HRD) strategies,
- Ensuring access to extension to women and vulnerable groups, and
- Implementing effective Monitoring and Evaluation systems.

#### **Statutory Minimum Price of Sugarcane**

189. SHRIMATI MINATI SEN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the impact of recent hike in the Statutory Minimum Price of Sugarcane on the sugar industry;

(b) whether in the absence of correction in the pricing policy of the Centre and States, several sugar units face the prospect of closure; and

(c) if so, the remedial steps proposed to be taken by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) The sugar industry has, in general, expressed difficulties in regard to payment of the revised Statutory Minimum Price (SMP) of sugarcane at the rate of Rs.69.50 per quintal for the 2002-03 sugar season. In order to assist the sugar industry, several steps have been initiated by the Government. These include creation of Buffer Stock of 20 lakh tonnes of sugar in December, 2002 for a period of one year, reimbursement of internal transport charges and neutralization of ocean freight disadvantage on exports of sugar.

#### **Sick F.P.Is**

190. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Food Processing Industries running in various States are becoming sick due to burden of Government taxes;

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

(c) if not, the reasons for these industries becoming sick; and

(d) the percentage of such industries which have become sick upto March, 2003?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (d) The Food Processing Industries operate both in the organized and unorganized sectors. Information on the number of sick units State-wise is not maintained centrally. However, as per information available with BIFR, since its inception and upto 31st March, 2003, 186 food processing industries were registered with them under the provisions of Industrial Companies (Special Provision) Act, 1985. Factors such as low capacity utilization, low demand in the market, inefficient management, etc. could also be responsible for poor performance of food processing industries.

#### **Hurdles on Taxi Track**

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

(a) whether the hurdles on taxi track at Mumbai Airport has been cleared;

(b) If so, whether the Airport Authorities have asked the Maharashtra Government to remove encroachments near taxi tracks;

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) the time wasted due to these obstacles;

(e) the reasons for delay in the extension of taxi track;

(f) the efforts initiated by airports authority in this regard; and

(g) the benefits likely to accrue therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) State Government has repeatedly assured and fixed different dates for removal of these encroachments but the encroachments are yet to be removed.

(d) Airports Authority of India (AAI) entered into a tripartite agreement in February, 2001 with Shivshahi Punarvasan Prakalp Limited (SPPL)/Slum Rehabilitation Authority (SRA) and the area was to be cleared by June 2001. This is yet to be cleared. Heavy aircraft such as B-747, etc.

needs additional time to the tune of maximum 2 minutes for backtracking before take-off from the runway, after entering from Taxiway-B3.

(e) Shivshahi Punarvasan Prakalp Limited (SPPL) has not made the available land to AAI cleared of encroachments. Besides, SPPL has also not constructed boundary wall as a deposit work on behalf of AAI as per a separate agreement.

(f) AAI and the Ministry have repeatedly requested Government of Maharashtra for removal of encroachers from the land falling under proposed B-3 taxi track. Meetings have also been held at various levels with Maharashtra Government.

(g) Extension of B-3 taxi track will result in augmenting the capacity of main runway at Mumbai Airport. It will reduce the holding time for the aircraft for landing/takeoff; saving in time and fuel cost for the airlines.

[Translation]

#### **Upgradation of Amausi Airport**

192. DR. ASHOK PATEL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the air traffic from Amausi Airport is still conducted manually though the airport is likely to be upgraded as an International airport;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the names of the airports which are functioning without radar system as on date;

(d) whether the Government propose to provide radar facility at these airports in the near future; and

(e) if so, by when they are likely to become operational?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) Air Traffic Control (ATC) services at Amausi airport, Lucknow are provided by procedural control. The arriving aircraft are controlled with the use of Category-I Instrument Landing System at this airport.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Out of 67 operational airports in India, primary radars for radar surveillance are provided at the 8 airports located at Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Trivandrum, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad and Guwahati where level of traffic

demands such a facility. Remaining 59 airports do not have primary radar. Secondary surveillance radars are provided at these 8 airports and also at Nagpur, Varanasi and Mangalore airports and at another location at Berhampur away from any airport which provide surveillance coverage over all continental air-routes in Indian airspace as per International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) requirements.

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

### River Linking Project

193. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to seek German expertise in river-linking project as enunciated by the Prime Minister during his recent visit to foreign countries;

(b) if so, whether any agreement in this regard has been signed; and

(c) if so, to what extent the German expertise would be utilized for river linking project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY):

(a) No, Sir. There is no such proposal at present.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

### Decline in Foreign Tourists

194. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether tourists flow in India is much lower than that of other developed countries;

(b) if so, the details and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to attract foreign tourists?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) There are a number of countries which attracted more tourists than India during the year 2002. While India received 2.36 million tourists, some of the countries which attracted more tourists than India during the year 2002 are as follows:

S.No.	Name of the country	Tourist Arrivals (in million)
1.	France	76.7
2.	Spain	51.7
3.	USA	41.9
4.	Italy	39.8
5.	China	36.8
6.	U.K.	23.9
7.	Mexico	19.7
8.	Canada	20.0
9.	Austria	18.6
10.	Germany	18.0
11.	Hungary	15.9
12.	Poland	14.0
13.	Hongkong (China)	16.6
14.	Malaysia	13.3
15.	Portugal	11.7

The main competitive constraints facing the tourism sector in India include poor quality of infrastructure and environment in and around many of main tourist sites, the security scenario in the region that affects the perception of India as a safe & secure destination, inadequate quantity and quality of transportation service and related infrastructure, lack of facilitation services at entry points etc.

(c) Various steps taken by the Government to attract foreign tourists include:

- Direct approach to the consumers through Electronic and Print media through new and catchy messages.
- Creation of World Class Collaterals.
- Centralized Electronic Media Campaign.
- Direct co-operative marketing with the Airlines, tour operators and wholesalers overseas.
- To attach greater focus in the emerging markets particularly in the region of China, North East Asia and South East Asia.

Participation in Trade Fairs & Exhibitions

Optimize Editorial PR and Publicity.

Use of Internet and web marketing.

- Generating Tourist Publications.
- Re-enforced hospitality programmes including grant of air passages to invite the media personnel, tour operators on familiarization tour to India to get first hand knowledge on various tourism products.

In addition to the above, the Deptt. of Tourism, Govt. of India has the following short-term and long-term Plans to promote tourism thereby attracting foreign tourists:

- Positioning and maintaining tourism development as a National priority activity;
- Enhancing and maintaining the competitiveness of India as a tourism destination;
- Improving India's existing tourism products and expanding these to meet new market requirements;
- Creation of world class infrastructure;
- Special thrust to rural and small segment tourism;
- Attention to civilizational issues and issues pertaining to civic administration, good governance and also of social and cultural values; and
- Development of tourism circuits and tourism-cum-cultural hubs.

#### **Neelachal Steel Plant**

195. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Neelachal Steel Plant has started commercial production;
- (b) if so, the date of which it was started;
- (c) the details of pig iron and other items produced by the plant since then;
- (d) whether the Government have a proposal for the expansion of the said plant; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) and (b)

Neelachal Ispat Nigam Limited (NINL) started production of Pig Iron from 11.12.2001.

(c) Since commissioning, year-wise production of Pig iron and Granulated Slag has been as under:

	(In Metric Tonnes)		
	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04 (Till 30.6.03)
Pig Iron	26,500	3,60,000	1,15,000
Granulated Slag	11,500	1,25,000	42,000

(d) and (e) NINL during its 2nd phase has plans to set-up steel making facilities for producing steel billets.

#### **Barrage Across Chitravathi**

196. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:

SHRI G. GANGA REDDY:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high level team from the Government of Andhra Pradesh has urged the Union Government to intervene and direct the State Government to stop further construction works at the Chitravathi Project in Karnataka; and

(b) if so, the action taken so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh had urged Hon'ble Prime Minister to cause the inspection of the project site at Paragodu. The Central Water Commission (CWC) convened a meeting of representatives of Government of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka to discuss the inter-State Projects on 15.6.2003 and 16.6.2003 at Hyderabad and Bangalore respectively. Member, CWC inspected the project site across Chitravathi river near Paragodu village. Thereafter, the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh with an All Party Delegation met Hon'ble Prime Minister and Hon'ble Union Minister (WR) on 21st June, 2003 and urged the Union Government to intervene and direct the State Government to stop further construction works at the Chitravathi project in Karnataka. Consequently, the CWC has convened another Inter State meeting on 27.6.2003 at New Delhi under Chairmanship of the Chairman, Central Water Commission to sort out the issue where representatives of the Government of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh were present.

**Field Trial of Genetically Engineered  
Potato by ICAR**

197. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has recently conducted any field trial of genetically engineered potato;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) the time by which this variety is likely to be launched in the market; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to verify its nutritional value and toxicological contents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir. Field trial on per plant basis has been conducted by National Centre for Plant Genome Research and Central Potato Research Institute jointly at ICAR field stations as per the guidelines of the Review Committee on Genetic Manipulation (RCGM), Government of India.

(b) Compilation of data and their analysis are in progress.

(c) After the multilocation trials on plot basis for two years, this genetically modified potato is likely to be launched in the market once it gets approved by the regulatory bodies namely RCGM and Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC), Government of India. Thereafter, its multiplication, supply to farmers, marketing etc., will follow eventually.

(d) The toxicological studies have been completed while the nutritional studies are underway.

**National Watershed Policy**

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

(a) whether the Government propose to link National Watershed Policy to the technology mission of pulses, oilseed and cotton;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the present status of implementation of the proposal; and

(d) the action plan finalised for the next five years

to evolve and implement an integrated natural resource management strategy addressing issues like soil, water and country's bio-diversity and their use in a sustainable manner?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) The National Agriculture Policy (July 2000) includes the policy on Watershed Development in Rainfed Areas. It provides that integrated and holistic development of rainfed areas will be promoted by conservation of rain water by vegetative measures on watershed basis and augmentation of biomass production through agro and farm forestry with the involvement of the watershed community. Oil seeds, pulses and cotton are generally cultivated in the rainfed areas.

(d) The major Centrally Sponsored Schemes being implemented by various Ministries during X Plan period on watershed basis for development of rainfed areas, drought prone areas, wastelands and degraded forest area are as follows:

A. Ministry of Agriculture

1. National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPA)

2. Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas (W'DPSCA)

3. Soil Conservation in the catchment of River Valley Projects and Flood Prone Rivers (RVP & FPR)

B. Ministry of Rural Development

4. Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP)

5. Desert Development Programme (DDP)

6. Integrated Wasteland Development Programme (IWDP)

C. Ministry of Environment & Forests

7. National Afforestation Programme

**Environment Impact Assessment Committee**

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

(a) whether the Union Government have constituted an Environment Impact Assessment Committee;

(b) if so, the details of the reports submitted by the Committee to the Government since inception;

(c) whether the recommendations made by the

Committee have been totally implemented by the Government; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Committees have been constituted for the sectors of Industries, Mining, Thermal Power, Infrastructure, River Valley and Nuclear Power Projects.

(b) to (d) The proposals referred to the Union Government for environmental clearance under the provisions of EIA Notification, 1994 and subsequent amendments thereto, are reviewed by the respective Sectoral Committees and recommendations made for environmental clearance/rejection. Based on these recommendations, proposals are then processed for appropriate decision.

#### **Steel Authority of India Limited**

200. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) is making sweeping changes in its strategy to tap key customers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether SAIL proposes to reduce the manpower to cut its administrative expenses; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/being taken to get hold of large share of steel market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) and (b) As a part of its marketing strategy to continually improve customer service; and increase customer satisfaction, Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has implemented Key Account Management Process under which Key Customer Accounts have been identified all across the country.

(c) and (d) SAIL proposes to cut its administrative expenses by reducing its manpower to 1 lakh through Voluntary Retirement Scheme and natural separation. It has reduced its manpower since 1996-97 by around 46,000. The manpower of SAIL as on 31.3.2003 is 1,37,496.

Some of the salient features of SAIL's marketing strategy to increase market share are:

(1) Marketing function reorganised along product lines for greater focus on products and market segments.

(2) Entering into MOUs with customers to ensure advance order coverage.

(3) Increasing the reach of the product and widening of customer base through authorised/rural dealers.

(4) Thrust on order booking & servicing of steel requirements of projects/project based customers

(5) Special emphasis on sale of value added products.

#### **Construction of New Terminals**

201. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether global majors have been engaged in construction of new terminals at all major airports in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Restrictions in Emigration Clearance**

202. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have imposed new restriction on emigration clearance for the persons going abroad creating hardship for the prospective emigrants from the Kerala State;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **National Agricultural Insurance Scheme**

203. COL. (RETD.) DR. DHANI RAM SHANDIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the number of the farmers especially belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes category who have been benefited in Himachal Pradesh and Uttaranchal under the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) during the last two years and till date, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): The National Agriculture Insurance Scheme (NAIS) was introduced in 1999-2000. Information relating to Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe (SC/ST) farmers is not maintained separately by the Implementing Agency (IA). The total number of farmers which includes SC/ST farmers who benefited under the NAIS in Himachal Pradesh in 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 (Kharif) is 56048. This data is not available for Uttaranchal as the implementation of the scheme has started only in 2002-2003.

[Translation]

#### Civil Aviation Projects in Jharkhand and Bihar

204. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to launch any project for expansion and strengthening of civil aviation infrastructure in Bihar and Jharkhand during the current and the next financial years;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the expenditure incurred or proposed to be incurred on each of these projects annually; and

(c) the estimated profits likely to be earned therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) Airports Authority of India (AAI) has sanctioned following projects in the States of Bihar and Jharkhand during the current financial year.

- (i) Construction of New Terminal Building for 500 passengers and associated works including strengthening of runway and expansion of apron at Gaya airport. AAI has incurred Rs. 3.98 crore upto current financial year.
- (ii) Provision of Shoulders to runway, taxiway, apron and construction of perimeter road, turning pad at both end of runway 07 and 25 at Patna Airport. AAI has incurred Rs.0.55 crore up to current financial year.
- (iii) Acquisition of 6.42 acre of land for improving runway usability land at Patna Airport. AAI has incurred Rs.4.72 crore upto current financial year.
- (iv) Construction of structural steel canopy at Patna airport. AAI has incurred Rs.0.45 crore upto current financial year.

AAI has plans to take up following projects in the States of Bihar and Jharkhand during the next financial year.

- (i) Construction of Technical Block-cum-Control Tower at Gaya airport.
- (ii) Construction of Isolation Bay and link taxiway at Gaya Airport.
- (iii) Construction of Perimeter road at Ranchi airport.
- (iv) Expansion of Terminal Building at Ranchi airport.
- (v) Provision of new Fire Station at Ranchi airport.

Budget for next financial year is yet to be approved by AAI on above projects.

(c) The above airports are loss making airports. Any increase in revenue by implementing of the above projects will not make any significant change in the profit of AAI.

[English]

#### Revival of IISCO

205. SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI:

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA:

SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken decision on the rehabilitation proposal submitted by the Industrial Development Bank of India (operating agency) for revival of Indian Iron and Steel Company (IISCO), a subsidiary of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether SAIL is looking for a joint venture partner for revival of IISCO;

(d) if so, the action taken so far and by when the proposal is likely to be implemented;

(e) whether the Government have decided to reduce workforce in IISCO and also give VRS to all the employees of Kulti Works of IISCO; and

(f) if so, the number of workers opted VRS and compensation paid to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) and (b) As +

directed by Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR), Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) has submitted a rehabilitation proposal based on Government's approval, to the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI), the Operating Agency, who in turn have submitted the proposal to BIFR. The scheme is currently awaiting BIFR's decision.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. During the ninth session of the Indo-Russian Working Group in Moscow in May, 2003, the matter regarding participation of M/s Tyazhpromexport (TPE) of Russia in a joint venture for IISCO was discussed, and it was agreed that TPE will review and indicate the possibilities of their participation in the proposed joint venture within two months to the Government of Russian Federation who, in turn, will notify the Indian Government.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. Out of 2,900 employees at Kulti Works, 2,866 have opted for VRS and around Rs.144 crore has been disbursed till June, 2003 towards separation of 2,543 employees released so far.

#### **Setting up of Labour Welfare Fund**

206. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY:

SHRI BHASKARRAO PATIL:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether various State Governments have requested the Union Government to set up Labour Welfare Fund for economically weaker labours as Delhi Government is setting up in the capital;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) the response of the Union Government on these requests?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) No request has been received from the State Governments to set up Welfare Fund for the economically weaker labour. However, some States like Kerala, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu have earlier constituted and are implementing several welfare funds for specific categories of the unorganised sector workers. The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi and very recently Government of Madhya Pradesh have constituted welfare funds for the workers covered under the Building and other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996 and the Building and other

Construction Workers Welfare Cess Act, 1996 for their respective states.

#### **Water Level in Delhi**

207. DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK:

SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN:

SHRI C.N. SINGH:

SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the water level in Delhi has registered a sharp decline this year;

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

(c) whether the Central Ground Water Board has conducted any study in this regard;

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

(e) the measures suggested by the Board to maintain the ground water level in the Capital;

(f) whether the rules framed by the Board to maintain ground water level are frequently violated in the Capital; and

(g) if so, the action taken by the Government against the persons/agencies/companies who violated the orders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (d) The Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), under the Ministry of Water Resources monitors ground water levels throughout the country on regular basis. The monitoring data of May, 2003 compared to May, 2002 indicate fall in ground water in around 49% of monitoring wells in the range of 0 to 2 meters is NCT of Delhi whereas some wells show fall of more than 4 meters also. Decline in ground water level has been observed in most parts of the South and South-West districts and some parts of New Delhi and Central districts. Decline in ground water level is attributed to over-exploitation of ground water and deficient rainfall. The CGWB prepares maps and reports about ground water levels, which are distributed to various user agencies.

(e) Measures suggested by the Board to maintain the ground water level in NCT of Delhi are as follows:-

(Rs./ Crores )

(1) The Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) has notified South and South-West districts of NCT of Delhi, prohibiting further digging of wells and abstraction of ground water resource for sale and supply by private agencies without prior approval of CGWA.

(2) Adoption of roof top rain water harvesting system has been made mandatory for group housing societies, institutions, schools, hotels, industrial establishments and farmhouses located in 'notified areas'.

(3) The CGWB has implemented artificial recharge projects at 19 sites under its Central Sector Scheme on "Study of Recharge to Ground Water" in NCT of Delhi. The CGWB has also provided technical guidance to various Government agencies like DDA, NDMC, CPWD, PWD, Delhi Cantt., MES in construction of water harvesting structures. Further, the Board has provided designs for rain water harvesting to a number of group housing societies, industries, educational institutions, hotels and individuals. The CGWA is organizing mass awareness and training programmes for promotion of rain water harvesting.

(f) and (g) Few cases of illegal drilling of tubewells in notified areas of NCT of Delhi have been reported which have been referred to the concerned Deputy Commissioner of NCT of Delhi, who have taken action like sealing of illegal tubewells.

#### **Rourkela Steel Plant**

208. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rourkela Steel Plant has been running at a loss;

(b) if so, since when and the annual losses incurred by the steel plant during the last three years; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to improve the working of the steel plant and to avoid losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP) has been incurring losses since 1995-96 and the losses incurred by it during the last three years are:

Year	Loss
2000-01	445
2001-02	1036
2002-03	593

(c) The steps being taken to improve the working of RSP are as under:

- Intensive cost control.
- Control on capital expenditure.
- Market oriented product-mix.
- Rightsizing Manpower.
- Increased capacity utilization.

#### **Import of Duty Free Liquor by Five Star Hotels**

209. SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Director General of Foreign Trade has issued any notification allowing Five Star Hotels to import duty free liquor;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received representations from small pubs and restaurant owners serving imported liquor protesting against the said notification; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to safeguard their interests?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Director General of Foreign Trade has issued a Public Notice No.8/2002-07 dated 14th May, 2003. According to this notice "hotels (having approval as three star or above categories by the Department of Tourism, Government of India) and other service providers in tourism sector registered with Department of Tourism, Government of India shall be entitled to duty free import equivalent to 5% of the average foreign exchange earned by them in preceding three licensing years."

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Director General of Foreign Trade has been requested to consider their representations.

**Financial Assistance to Dependents of Beedi Workers for Major Surgeries**

210. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to provide financial assistance to the dependants of the beedi workers for major surgeries such as kidney transplantation, heart surgery, cancer and tuberculosis;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have also decided to enhance the maternity benefits for women beedi workers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Under the Beedi Workers Welfare Fund, there is a scheme for reimbursement of treatment of expenses for kidney transplantation and coronary by-pass surgery for beedi worker. For treatment of cancer, the reimbursement of expenses is allowed for treatment of a beedi worker as well as his dependents. In its meeting held on 25th June, 2003 the Central Advisory Committee (CAC) on Beedi Workers Welfare Fund has recommended that the dependants of the beedi workers may also be covered for reimbursement of expenditure incurred on kidney transplantation, by-pass surgery and tuberculosis.

(c) and (d) At present there is a provision for maternity benefit for women beedi workers up to Rs.500/-. In the above mentioned meeting the CAC also recommended to increase the maternity benefit to Rs.1000/-.

**Job Opportunities Abroad**

211. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether growth of job opportunities abroad has compensated the fall in employment growth during the post reform years since 1993 onwards;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the new job opportunities in the traditional destinations of America, Britain, Canada and other developed Western countries and in the new destinations of

Gulf countries, Singapore and Malaysia etc., have contributed to the employment scenario, during these years;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the extent to which the job opportunities drawn for traditional and non-traditional destinations, especially IT professionals have shown decline in recent two-three years, category-wise and the remedial steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. While there has been a slight fall in the growth of employment within the country, there has been an increase in employment opportunities abroad.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. New job opportunities for management, finance, IT professionals and other technical personnel like engineers, doctors, nurses etc. have opened up in both the traditional and new destinations.

(e) Since such specific data is not maintained, it can not be said whether there has been any decline in the recent past.

**New National Environment Action Plan**

212. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated a new National Environment Action Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the difference between the new and old 'Action Plans';

(d) whether any provision has been made for providing funds to State Pollution Control Boards under the new action plan;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) and (b) The Expert Committee constituted by the Ministry for formulation of National Environment Action Plan has submitted its report in June 2003 to the Ministry. The Action Plan concentrates on the following areas and specific industries:

1. Effective implementation of regulations on hazardous substances.
2. Implementation of Bio-medical Waste (Management and handling) Rules.
3. Treatment and disposal of Municipal Solid Waste.
4. Reduction of pollution level in critically polluted areas.
5. Abatement of Pollution in
  - small scale industries,
  - distilleries,
  - brick kilns,
  - stone crushers.
6. Utilization of fly ash.
7. Abatement of pollution in metro cities including NCR.
8. Rectification of ground water contamination.
9. Enforcement of environmental clearance conditions.

(c) The National Environment Action Plan is a sequel to the State of Environment (SOE) Report released by the Ministry. The SOE envisaged priority areas for the preparation of Environment Action Plan.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) The Committee is of the opinion that the recent enactment of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess (Amendment) Act, 2003 for increasing the cess rate would certainly go a long way in improving the finances of the State Pollution Control Boards.

#### **Indian Expatriate Workers in Saudi Arabia**

213. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether 1.3 million Indian expatriate workers in Saudi Arabia will be hit by proposed move by that Government to replace them with its nationals in 21 job categories;

(b) if so, whether the Saudi Arabian Labour Ministry has already proposed gradual replacement of expatriate workers employed in these jobs over the next three years;

(c) if so, the total number of Indians that have been affected by this decision;

(d) whether the Government of India have taken up this issue with Saudi Arabia; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) The Saudi Arabian Government has decided that the number of expatriates are to be reduced over a period of ten years, i.e. by 2013, so as not to exceed 20% of the Saudi population. Further, under the nationality-wise ceiling no single country would have an expatriate community above 5 lakhs.

(b) In 1996, the Government of Saudi Arabia had declared the policy of "Saudiisation" i.e. to replace gradually the expatriate workforce with Saudi nationals. However in spite of the Saudi Government's announcement, Saudiisation has not so far been successful.

(c) As per information available, it is anticipated that during the next five years there will be no significant impact of the Saudi Government's policy decision on recruitment from India.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

#### **Dues towards PIA**

214. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) owes a few crore rupees to Indian Airlines since 1999; and

(b) if so, the action taken to recover these dues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) and Indian Airlines had bilateral arrangements for providing ground handling, security and other services to each other's flight at airports in their respective countries. The pending cases of disputes in respect of handling, security, loaning of aircraft spares etc. (about Rs. 40 lacs) are subject to reconciliation.

(b) Cases are reviewed/sorted out by mutual discussions between the concerned officials of two airlines.

### Import and Use of Hazardous Waste

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

(a) whether the Union Government has banned the import of wastes containing mercury, cyanide and arsenic;

(b) if so, whether despite ban on the import of wastes it is being continuously in use in the country; and

(c) if so, the concrete steps the Government propose to take to ensure ban on import and use of hazardous wastes in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) As per information available, no hazardous wastes containing mercury, arsenic and cyanide are in use in the country. In the Hazardous Waste (Management & Handling) Amendment Rules notified under the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, twenty nine hazardous wastes including mercury, arsenic and cyanide wastes have been banned for import and export. A number of concrete steps have been taken by way of development of guidelines, strengthening & capacity building of the State Pollution Control Boards and creation of awareness among all stake-holders to ensure effective implementation of the Hazardous Waste (Management & Handling) Rules.

### Schemes of Civil Aviation at Mumbai Airport

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

(a) the schemes of Civil Aviation launched or proposed at Mumbai Airport during the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) the total amount sanctioned for these schemes;

(c) whether any progress has been made in these schemes, so far;

(d) if so, the details thereof and whether the work on these schemes is going on as per schedule; and

(e) the details of the amount sanctioned and expenditure incurred till date thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) The major schemes commenced/proposed by Airports Authority of India at Mumbai airport during the Tenth Five Year Plan are

construction of New Equipment & Maintenance Workshop, New taxi parking area behind project office at Terminal-2, New Domestic Terminal Complex (phase II), 4 nos. of remote parking bays on north of abandoned taxi-track, Interim Cargo shed, International Courier Terminal, Bridge across Mithi river and extension of B-3 taxi-track towards 27 end, new taxi link track connecting new hangar area with the main runway, new fire station at Terminal-1B, 2 nos. hangars for non scheduled operators, parallel taxi track connecting main running at 09 end upto the junction of taxi track connecting new hangar area, export cargo terminal, modification and expansion of existing Terminal 2A and 2B, replacement of 4 nos. escalators at Terminal 2A and replacement of 3 nos. A/C plants at Terminal 2A.

(b) In the Tenth Five Year Plan an amount of Rs. 551.25 crores have been sanctioned for Mumbai airport.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The major work completed in the X Five Year Plan at a cost of Rs. 8.80 crores is construction of new fire station and the major works in progress during 2003-2004 are the New Equipment & Maintenance Workshop, construction of residential accommodation, construction of new taxi parking area behind project office at Terminal-2, replacement of 4 nos. escalators and 3 nos. AC plants at Terminal-2A. Work on schemes are going as per schedule.

(e) Out of Rs. 551.25 crores sanctioned, the total expenditure incurred in the Tenth Five Year Plan so far is Rs. 24.90 crores.

[Translation]

### Brahmaputra Board

217. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY:

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Brahmaputra Board constituted in 1980 to control floods of Brahmaputra river is likely to be reconstituted;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and by when the new Board would start functioning;

(c) whether the Government propose to give more financial powers to the Board;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have extended the jurisdiction of Brahmaputra Board to North Bengal in respect of areas falling within the Brahmaputra basin; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY):

(a) to (d) The Hon'ble Prime Minister of India during his visit to North East in January, 2000, had desired to reform the Brahmaputra Board and make its functioning more effective for implementation of flood management schemes. Keeping this in view, Brahmaputra Board has framed a proposal for its revamping which is being examined for necessary amendments.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

[English]

#### User Fees

218. DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the user charges at Indian airports are amongst the highest in the world;

(b) if so, the reasons for the same;

(c) the details of user charges applicable to airlines at Indian airports such as landing navigation, parking and housing charges for aircraft alongwith the comparative rates in Dubai, Sharjah, Thailand and Sri Lanka; and

(d) the corrective steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) No Sir. India is at the 80th place in respect of landing charges for aircraft of MD-80/B-737 type and at 100th place in the case of B-747 type of aircraft.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The landing charges for MD-80/B-737 type of aircraft weighing 63500 kgs at United Arab Emirates (Sharjah and Dubai), Thailand and Sri Lanka are 207, 152 and 254 in

US Dollars, respectively as compared with Indian rate of 332 in US Dollars. Similarly the charges for B-747 type of aircrafts weighing 394600 kgs. are 1365, 1082 and 1578, dollars respectively as compared with Indian rate of 2043 in US Dollars.

(d) The corrective steps taken are:

- Switching over to weight-cum-distance formula for calculation for Route Navigation Facility Charges giving benefit of 15-20% per annum to domestic carriers.
- Freezing of user charges for a period of one year (2003-04) with no upward revision in the airside user charges.
- Reduction in the Terminal Navigational Landing Charges by 25% effective from 1.4.2003.
- Reduction in Landing and Parking charges at airports in North Eastern Region, Jammu & Kashmir, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep by 25% of the current rates.

#### Airport Modernisation during Ninth Plan

219. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the airports where the upgradation and modernisation programmes were undertaken during the Ninth Plan alongwith the amount spent thereon; and

(b) the details of the modernisation activities carried out during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) Airports Authority of India (AAI) has spent a total amount of Rs.1687 crores in the Ninth Five Year Plan on its schemes and projects implemented at various airports.

These schemes/projects include construction of New Technical Block cum Control Tower at Chennai, Vadodara and Indore; construction of Terminal Building at Bangalore, Bhubaneshwar, Dimapur, Hyderabad, Indore, Guwahati, Imphal, Jammu, Jodhpur, Bagdogra, Silchar, Tirupati, Patna and Port Blair Airports; strengthening and extension of Runway and Allied works at Agra, Chennai, Calicut, Delhi, Dimapur, Goa, Gaya, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Indore, Jabalpur, Jorhat, Mumbai, Raipur, Rajkot, Rajamundry, Ranchi, Shimla, Thiruvananthapuram, Tirupati, Udaipur, Vijayawada; construction of Import Cargo at Amritsar are completed. Extension of Apron, construction of Boundary Wall, Taxi-track, Remote Parking Bays etc. are taken up depending upon the traffic requirement and availability of funds and resources.

Such projects depend upon the traffic requirements, on the basis of demands from airlines availability of resources, weather conditions etc. and are taken up in a phased manner depending upon the particular need of the airport. All the works such as construction of Fire Station, Hangar, Cargo Complex, Boundary Wall terminal building Control Tower, extension and strengthening of runway etc. are as per schedule. The Progress of work of all the projects are closely monitored at Regional levels as well as at Corporate level for timely completion.

**Project on Transgenics for Combating Diseases of Crops**

220. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:

SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) propose to formulate a Rs. 40 crore project on transgenics aiming to combat disease that destroys 14 crops;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether mandatory approval has been obtained from the Ministry of Finance and Planning Commission;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether environmentalists have viewed this untested technology harmful on the health of human beings and animals; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) The proposed project on "Transgenics in Crops" will comprise two technical components viz. functional genomics to provide basic material and information on the genes and their expression for agronomically important traits, and the transgenic development, which would be of applied value in selected crops. The project also envisages strengthening the capacity and expertise of the participating centres through need based human resource development activities.

The traits to be targeted for transgenic research component shall be: (i) resistance to insect pests (in rice, sorghum, maize, pigeonpea, chickpea, Brassica, cotton,

tomato and brinjal); (ii) resistance to fungal diseases (in rice and banana); (iii) resistance to viral diseases (in soybean, cotton, tomato, potato, banana, papaya and cassava); (iv) tolerance to abiotic stresses (in Brassica); (v) extended shelf life (in tomato).

(c) and (d) The project proposal has been submitted to Planning Commission for approval in principle.

(e) and (f) Bio-safety and environmental concerns are important as also raised by environmentalists. Before the environmental release of any transgenic crop, the Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology and the Ministry of Environment and Forests ensure the biosafety following a system of well laid out safety guidelines.

**Concessional Fares by IA and AI**

221. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines, Alliance Air and Air India announced concessional air fares for holiday travellers this year;

(b) if so, the details of the concessions and the reduction in fares offered; and

(c) how far they were successful in capturing/cornering the holiday-air-travels indicating the fare collections vis-a-vis private air operators?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Air India has introduced off-season holiday packages to boost inbound tourists to India as well as to improve seat factors on the Gulf/ India and UK/ Europe/ India routes during the lean season. Air-India holiday packages were introduced in the Gulf & Middle East from March 15, 2003 and are valid till September 30, 2003 with a black out period from June 25, 2003 to July 15, 2003. These holiday packages cover two destinations, viz., Goa and Kerala. The duration of holiday packages for Goa is 3 nights 4 days and for Kerala is 6 nights 7 days. The special fares used to put together these holiday packages are approximately 20% lower than the current market fares applicable from these markets, namely, UAE, Oman, Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia. Air-India has not introduced its own holiday packages from UK and Europe. However, the Indian Association of Tour Operators (IATO) has been offered fares for putting together their own holiday packages to India from UK and Europe. The fare given to IATO is at the same level as is available with tour operators/ Travel agents in Europe. The fares given to IATO are valid only during specified lean period in the specific route i.e. UK/

India/ UK and Europe/ India/ Europe, the period specified is 19th August, 2003 to 30th September, 2003 and 15th March, 2004 to 30th June, 2004. The fares cannot be sold separately, i.e. without any land arrangements and can only be used as part of regular brochure tour package. Moreover, the ticket on these fares can only be issued in the country of origin of travel and by a licensed tour operator in that country.

(c) Although Air India holiday packages were welcomed by the tourism trade, their launch unfortunately coincided with the build up of tensions in the Gulf region. Consequently passengers from the Gulf countries were disinclined to undertake leisure travel. As a result, these holiday packages were unable to attract substantial number of tourists due to the uncertain situation.

As regards Indian Airlines, they had not announced any special Air fares for holiday travellers this year but has on-going concessional airfares and holiday packages which were introduced in the past and are continuing.

#### **Legislation Against Theft of Antiques**

222. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to amend the law to check theft of antiques;

(b) if so, the main features of the proposed amendment Act;

(c) whether the Act proposes to provide punitive power to CBI to carry out search and seizure operations on its own;

(d) by when the said legislation is likely to take effect;

(e) whether the CBI has over 15000 antiquities lying with it; and

(f) if so, the efforts being made by the Government to recover these antique items?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (d) The amendments to the Antiquities and Art Treasures Act, 1972 are under process. These include empowering CBI to carry out search and seizure operations, etc.

(e) As per information given by CBI, 536 antiquities are lying with them.

(f) Since these are court properties, these can be

taken over by the Government only after court cases are over.

#### **Production of Milk**

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

(a) the annual production of milk in the entire country and dairy farms of the National Dairy Research Institute (NDRI) during the last three years;

(b) whether the production of milk in the farms of NDRI has shown a declining trend during the said period;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action taken by the Government to increase the production of Milk?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The annual production of milk in the entire country and in the farms of NDRI, Karnal during the last three years is as below:

Year	Production in '000 tonnes	
	All India	NDRI Farm
1999-2000	78779	1.29
2000-2001	81430	1.34
2001-2002	84570	1.28

(b) There has not been a declining trend in the production of milk in the farms of NDRI, Karnal.

The dairy farm at NDRI, Karnal is maintained as an experimental research farm and groups of animals are released from time to time for various research and academic programmes and subjected to different regimens of feeding, management and experimental treatments. Hence there is a fluctuation in milk yield from time to time.

(c) Question does not arise.

(d) To increase the production of milk the Government is implementing a number of policies and programme concentrated on control of animal diseases, creation of disease free zones, scientific management and upgradation of genetic resources, increasing availability of nutritious feed and fodder.

**Suicides by Farmers**

224. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of suicides by farmers reported in the country from July 2002 to June 2003, State-wise;

(b) whether despite Government's announcement for non-recovery of principal amount of loans in drought hit areas during 2002-03, the banks, including rural and cooperative banks continued to coerce the farmers for immediate recovery of loans and interests; and

(c) If so, the Government's reaction thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No report has been received from any State regarding suicides by farmers during July, 2002 to June, 2003.

(b) No reports have been received regarding use of coercive measures for recovery of loans during 2002-03 in drought affected areas.

(c) Does not arise.

**Theft of Heritage Pistol**

225. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY:

SHRI BHAN SINGH BHAURA:

SHRI BHASKARRAO PATIL:

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA:

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:

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

(a) whether the pistol symbolising the historical surrender of the Pakistan forces in the 1971 Bangladesh war has mysteriously disappeared from the National Museum at New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details and facts in this regard;

(c) whether the Government have conducted any inquiry for the lapse in security at the museum; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof and the steps taken to prevent such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (d) On 28th June, 2003 a Pistol from the Maritime Heritage Gallery in National Museum, New Delhi has been reported missing. The case has been reported to Delhi Police for investigation.

Immediately after the above incident, the Director General, National Museum reviewed the security with all heads of various Departments of the Museum and the Deputy Commandant of Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) and has taken steps to tighten the security and prevent recurrence of such incidents.

**Health Care Facilities to Wild Animals**

226. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:

SHRI BHASKARRAO PATIL:

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:

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

(a) whether the Central Zoo Authority has recently taken steps to provide proper treatment to zoo animals in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a seminar on 'Health Care Management of Wild Animals' was also held at New Delhi recently;

(d) If so, the details of personalities who participated in the seminar and the outcome thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to provide health care facilities to wild animals in zoos?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) and (b) Providing proper treatment to zoo animals is primarily the responsibility of the concerned state government and the Central Zoo Authority (CZA) only provides technical and financial assistance for proper management and development of zoos on scientific lines including specifying the minimum standards for their housing, upkeep and veterinary care. Recently, on 20-6-2003, CZA has written to the Chief Wildlife Wardens of all the states emphasizing upon the compliance of guidelines issued on monitoring of hygiene and incidence of blood borne diseases in zoos.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Seventy delegates including eminent veterinarians from abroad (3 from U.S.A., 1 from Kenya and 1 from Singapore), Deans and Professors of Universities and

Veterinary Institutes, Zoo Veterinarians and Zoo Directors from all over the country participated in the workshop. The workshop appraised the status of the health care management of wild animals in the country and evolved a strategy for future improvement in this area.

(e) The steps taken to provide health care facilities to wild animals in zoos include:

- (1) Minimum standards on veterinary care of animals kept in zoos have been prescribed and communicated to the states.
- (2) Functioning of zoos with respect to the prescribed standards is evaluated by the CZA and permission to operate is given to only such zoos that conform to the norms.
- (3) During the year 2002-03, a sum of Rs. 137.30 lakhs has been provided to State Governments for upgradation of health care facilities for zoo animals.

#### Interest Rate on EPF

227. SHRI N. N. KRISHNADAS: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Board of Trustees of Employees Provident Fund (EPF) has recommended to the Union Government interest rate between 8-9 percent on EPF for the year 2003-04.

(b) If so, the response of the Union Government thereto;

(c) whether the Union Government have taken a decision to pay 0.5 percent bonus interest;

(d) If so, the details thereof; and

(e) If not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (e) The Central Board of Trustees, Employee's Provident Fund in its 161st meeting held on 31.05.2003 recommended as under:

"The Board decided that an interim rate of interest @ 9% and 0.5% bonus be paid to retiring members till a final notification/ decision was arrived at. The Board further decided

that the bonus be paid only to statutorily covered employees and not to those who came into the Employees' Provident Fund fold voluntarily."

The Government of India is yet to notify the rate of interest for the year 2003-04 for crediting interest in the accounts of Employees' Provident Fund members under para 60(1) of Employees' Provident Fund Scheme, 1952.

14.00 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Fourteen of the Clock.*

(MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

...(Interruptions)

MR.. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House shall now take up Papers to be laid on the Table of the House.

...(Interruptions)

14.0½ hrs.

*(At this stage, Shri Ramdas Athawale and some other hon. Members came and stood near the Table)*

[English]

14.01 hrs.

#### PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): On behalf of Shri Braja Kishore Tripathy, I beg to lay on the Table :

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:

(i) Review by the Government of the working of the Mecon Limited, Ranchi, for the year 2001-2002.

(ii) Annual Report of the Mecon Limited, Ranchi, for the year 2001-2002, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing

reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 7773/03]

- (3) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Mecon Limited and the Ministry of Steel for the year 2003-2004.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 7774/03]

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA): I beg to lay on the Table :-

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:
- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Ranchi Ashok Bihar Hotel Corporation Limited, Ranchi, for the year 2000-2001.
  - (ii) Annual Report of the Ranchi Ashok Bihar Hotel Corporation Limited, Ranchi, for the year 2000-2001, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 7775/03]

- (3) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the India Tourism Development Corporation Limited and the Ministry of Tourism for the year 2003-2004.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 7776/03]

...(Interruptions)

14.04 hrs.

## RESIGNATION BY MEMBER

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have to inform the House that hon. Speaker has received a letter dated 30th May, 2003 from Shri Sushil Kumar Shinde, an elected Member from Solapur Parliamentary Constituency of Maharashtra, resigning from the membership of Lok Sabha with effect from 30th May, 2003 (Forenoon).

Hon. Speaker has accepted his resignation with effect from 30th May, 2003 (Forenoon).

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will hear you. First of all you go to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Minister wants to make a statement. Please hear him. Please go back to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Minister wants to make a statement. At least hear him first.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Kindly hear him. He wants to make a statement.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, July 22, 2003.

14.06 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, July 22, 2003/Asadha 31, 1925 (Saka).*

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