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Singh, Kunwar Manvendra (Mathura)	Singh, Shri Uday (Purnea)

Singh, Shri Vijayendra Pal (Bhilwara)	Thupstan, Shri Chhewang (Ladakh)
Singh, Shri Vishvendra (Bharatpur)	Tirath, Shrimati Krishna (Karol Bagh)
Singh, Shrimati Kanti (Arrah)	Topdar, Shri Tarit Baran (Barrackpore)
Singh, Shrimati Pratibha (Mandi)	Tripathi, Shri Chandra Mani (Rewa)
Sippiparai, Shri Ravichandran (Sivakasi)	Tripathy, Shri Braja Kishore (Puri)
Solanki, Shri Bharatsinh Madhavsingh (Anand)	Tytler, Shri Jagdish (Delhi Sadar)
Solanki, Shri Bhupendrasinh (Godhara)	Vaghela, Shri Shankar Singh (Kapadvanj)
Sonowal, Shri Sarbananda (Dibrugarh)	Vajpayee, Shri Atal Bihari (Lucknow)
Soren, Shri Shibu (Dumka)	Vallabhaneni, Shri Balashowry (Tenali)
Srikantappa, Shri D.C. (Chikmagalur)	Varma, Shri Ratilal Kalidas (Dhandhuka)
Subba, Shri M.K. (Tezpur)	Vasava, Shri Mansukhbhai D. (Bharuch)
Subbarayan, Shri K. (Coimbatore)	Veerendra Kumar, Shri M.P. (Calicut)
Sugavanam, Shri E.G. (Krishnagiri)	Velu, Shri R. (Arakkonam)
Sujatha, Shrimati C.S. (Mavelikara)	Venkatapathy, Shri K. (Cuddalore)
Suklabaidya, Shri Lalit Mohan (Karimganj)	Venkatswamy, Shri G. (Peddapalli)
Suman, Shri Ramji Lal (Firozabad)	Venugopal, Shri D. (Tiruppattur)
Sumbrui, Shri Bagun (Singhbhum)	Verma, Shri Beni Prasad (Kaisarganj)
Surendran, Shri Chengara (Adoor)	Verma, Shri Bhanu Pratap Singh (Jalaun)
Suryawanshi, Shri Narsingrao H. (Bidar)	Verma, Shri Rajesh (Sitapur)
Swain, Shri Harihar (Aska)	Verma, Shri Ravi Prakash (Kheri)
Swain, Shri Kharabela (Balasore)	Verma, Shrimati Usha (Hardoi)
Taslimuddin, Shri (Kishanganj)	Vijayan, Shri A.K.S. (Nagapattinam)
Thakkar, Smt. Jayaben B. (Vadodara)	Vijayashankar, Shri C.H. (Mysore)
Thangkabal, Shri K.V. (Salem)	Vinod Kumar, Shri B. (Hanamkonda)
Thomas, Shri P.C. (Muvattupuzha)	Virendra Kumar, Shri (Sagar)
Thummar, Shri V.K. (Amreli)	Virupakshappa, Shri K. (Koppal)

Vundavalli, Shri Aruna Kumar (Rajahmundry)

Waghmare, Shri Suresh (Wardha)

Yadav, Dr. Karan Singh (Alwar)

Yadav, Kunwar Devendra Singh (Etah)

Yadav, Prof. Ram Gopal (Sambhal)

Yadav, Shri Akhilesh (Kannauj)

Yadav, Shri Anirudh Prasad alias Sadhu (Gopalganj)

Yadav, Shri Baleshwar (Padrauna)

Yadav, Shri Bhal Chandra (Khalilabad)

Yadav, Shri Chandra Pal Singh (Jhansi)

Yadav, Shri Devendra Prasad (Jhanjharpur)

Yadav, Shri Dharmendra (Mainpuri)

Yadav, Shri Giridhari (Banka)

Yadav, Shri Jay Prakash Narayan (Monghyr)

Yadav, Shri Kailash Nath Singh (Chandouli)

Yadav, Shri M. Anjan Kumar (Secundrabad)

Yadav, Shri Mitrasen (Faizabad)

Yadav, Shri Paras Nath (Jaunpur)

Yadav, Shri Rajesh Ranjan alias Pappu (Madhepura)

Yadav, Shri Ram Kripal (Patna)

Yadav, Shri Ramakant (Azamgarh)

Yadav, Shri Sita Ram (Sitamarhi)

Yadav, Shri Umakant (Machhlishahar)

Yaskhi, Shri Madhu Goud (Nizamabad)

Yerrannaidu, Shri Kinjarapu (Srikakulam)

Zahedi, Shri Mahboob (Katwa)

Zawma, Shri Vanlal (Mizoram)

OFFICERS OF LOK SABHA**THE SPEAKER**

Shri Somnath Chatterjee

THE DEPUTY-SPEAKER

Shri Chamjit Singh Atwal

PANEL OF CHAIRMEN

Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal

Shri Giridhar Gamang

Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan

Shri Ajay Maken

Dr. Laxminarayan Pandey

Shri Balasaheb Vikhe Patil

Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan

Shri Arjun Sethi

Lt. Col. (Retd.) Manabendra Shah

Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav

SECRETARY-GENERAL

Shri G.C. Malhotra

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**COUNCIL OF MINISTERS****CABINET MINISTERS****Dr. Manmohan Singh**

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

- (i) Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions;
- (ii) Ministry of Planning;
- (iii) Department of Atomic Energy; and
- (iv) Department of Space.

Shri Pranab Mukherjee

The Minister of Defence.

Shri Arjun Singh

The Minister of Human Resource Development.

Shri Sharad Pawar

The Minister of Agriculture and Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution.

Shri Lalu Prasad

The Minister of Railways.

Shri Shivraj V. Patil

The Minister of Home Affairs

Shri Ram Vilas Paswan

The Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers and Minister of Steel.

Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of Urban Development.

Shri S. Jaipal Reddy

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting and Minister of Culture.

Shri Sish Ram Ola

The Minister of Mines.

Shri P. Chidambaram

The Minister of Finance.

Shri Mahavir Prasad

The Minister of Small Scale Industries and Minister of Agro and Rural Industries.

Shri P.R. Kyndiah

The Minister of Tribal Affairs and Minister of Development of North Eastern Region.

Shri T.R. Baalu	The Minister of Shipping, Road Transport and Highways.
Shri Shankersinh Vaghela	The Minister of Textiles.
Shri K. Natwar Singh	The Minister of External Affairs.
Shri Kamal Nath	The Minister of Commerce and Industry.
Shri H.R. Bhardwaj	The Minister of Law and Justice.
Shri P.M. Sayeed	The Minister of Power.
Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh	The Minister of Rural Development.
Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi	The Minister of Water Resources.
Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar	The Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas and Minister of Panchayati Raj.
Shrimati Meira Kumar	The Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment.
Shri K. Chandra Shekhar Rao	The Minister of Labour and Employment.
Shri Shibu Soren	The Minister of Coal.
Shri A. Raja	The Minister of Environment and Forests.
Shri Dayanidhi Maran	The Minister of Communications and Information Technology.
Dr. Anbumani Ramadoss	The Minister of Health and Family Welfare.

MINISTERS OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)

Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev	The Minister of State of the Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises.
Shri Jagdish Tytler	The Minister of State of the Ministry of Overseas Indians Affairs.
Shri Oscar Fernandes	The Minister of State of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.
Shrimati Renuka Chowdhury	The Minister of State of the Ministry of Tourism.
Shri Subodh Kant Sahay	The Minister of State of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries.

Shri Kapil Sibal	The Minister of State of the Ministry of Science and Technology and Minister of State of the Department of Ocean Development.
Shri Vilas Muttemwar	The Minister of State of the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources.
Kumari Selja	The Minister of State of the Ministry of Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation.
Shri Praful Patel	The Minister of State of the Ministry of Civil Aviation.
Shri Prem Chand Gupta	The Minister of State of the Ministry of Company Affairs.

MINISTERS OF STATE

Shri E. Ahamed	The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs.
Shri Suresh Pachouri	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.
Shri Bijoy Handique	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.
Shrimati Panabaka Lakshmi	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
Dr. Dasari Narayan Rao	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Coal and Minister of State in the Ministry of Mines.
Dr. Shakeel Ahmad	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology.
Rao Inderjit Singh	The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs.
Shri Naranbhai Rathwa	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways.
Shri K.H. Muniyappa	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Shipping, Road Transport and Highways.
Shri M.V. Rajasekharan	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Planning.
Shri Kantilal Bhuria	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture and Minister of State in the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution.

Shri Manikrao Hodlya Gavit	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs.
Shri Shriprakash Jaiswal	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs.
Shri Prithviraj Chavan	The Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office.
Shri Taslimuddin	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture and Minister of State in the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution.
Shrimati Suryakanta Patil	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Development and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.
Shri M.A.A. Fatmi	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Human Resource Development.
Shri A. Narendra	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Development.
Shri R. Velu	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways.
Shri S.S. Palanimanickam	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance.
Shri S. Regupathy	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs.
Shri K. Venkatapathy	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Law and Justice.
Shrimati Subbulakshmi Jegadeesan	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
Shri E.V.K.S. Elangovan	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
Shrimati Kanti Singh	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Human Resource Development.
Shri Namo Narain Meena	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Environment and Forests.
Shri Jay Prakash Narayan Yadav	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Water Resources.
Dr. Akhilesh Prasad Singh	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture and Minister of State in the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution.

LOK SABHA DEBATES

Vol. XI, First Day of the Fifth Session of Fourteenth Lok Sabha

LOK SABHA

Monday, July 25, 2005/Sravana 03, 1927 (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.

RE: BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO SPEAKER

[English]

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, before we start the proceedings of the House, on behalf of the House, I would like to wish you a very happy birthday and wish you a happy and prosperous life in the service of the nation...
(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : For me, there is no chance of prosperity!

Thank you very much. Very kind of you.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI (Gandhinagar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I join the Leader of the House in greeting you on your birthday today...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I am extremely grateful to all the hon. Members.

(Interruptions)

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I also join the Leader of the House in greeting you on your birthday today.

MR. SPEAKER : Thank you hon. Members. I need your kind support and help.

(Interruptions)

11.02 hrs.

OBITUARY REFERENCES

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, I have to inform the House of the sad demise of two of our sitting colleagues and six of our former colleagues, namely Shri Sunil Dutt, Shri P.K. Vasudevan Nair, Shri Hukam Ram, Shri Murlidhar Mane, Shri Chhangur Ram, Shri Laxminarain Tripathi, Shri Balram Singh Yagav and Dr. Biplab Dasgupta.

Shri Sunil Dutt was a sitting Member of the Lok Sabha representing the Mumbai North-West Parliamentary constituency of Maharashtra. He also represented the same constituency in the Eighth to Tenth and Thirteenth Lok Sabhas from 1984 to 1996 and 1999 to 2004.

He was the Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports at the time of his demise.

An able Parliamentarian, he was a Member, Consultative Committee constituted under the Punjab State Legislature (Delegation of Powers) Act, 1987 in the Ninth Lok Sabha and a Member, Committee on Human Resource Development from 1999 to 2000.

Displaced by the partition of India in 1947, Shri Dutt by dint of his hard work and sheer grit and determination established himself as a versatile actor, producer and director in the Hindi film world. He acted in nearly hundred films. At Frankfurt Film Festival in 1967, the grand Prix Award was conferred on Shri Dutt for his path-breaking one-actor feature film, "Yadein". Of his all time great moves,

"Mother India" and "Dard Ka Rishta", the film made in aid of cancer patients, stand out among his several popular movies. Accomplishment in films was just one facet of the multifaceted personality of Shri Dutt. He served with distinction as the Sheriff of Mumbai from 1982 to 1983. He was Patron of Spastic Society of India.

A zealous philanthropist, he took innumerable initiatives for the welfare of the deprived, under-privileged and needy sections of the society *inter alia* by facilitating medical help in the treatment of cancer and establishment of cancer treatment hospitals and also providing relief to the victims of natural calamities such as earthquake, etc.

During the days of Indo-Pak conflicts of 1965 and 1971 Shri Dutt and his Ajanta Arts Welfare Troupe, through inspirational and entertainment programmes bolstered the morale of the Indian Jawans in border areas.

An advocate for peace and communal harmony, Shri Dutt organised and led Mahashanti Padyatra from Mumbai to Amritsar in 1987, travelling over two thousand kilometres for promoting peace and harmony in Punjab. He undertook a peace march from Nagasaki to Hiroshima in Japan in 1988 for the cause of world peace and nuclear disarmament. His exemplary efforts, sincerity and dedication won him accolades from all over the world.

Shri Dutt was conferred many honours and awards for achievements and welfare activities. Some of the major awards and honours conferred upon him were — Padmashree in 1968; "Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan Award" for International Peace, Communal Harmony, Unity and National Integration by Aalami Urdu Conference, New Delhi, 1988; Maulana Abdul Kalam Azad Award for National Integration and Communal Harmony in 1997; Rajiv Gandhi National Sadbhavana Award in 1998 for promoting peace, harmony, fight against violence and terrorism; and National Integration Award from Priyadarshini Academy, Mumbai in 1989 for outstanding contribution to the cause of national integration.

Even as the Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports, Shri Dutt took many novel initiatives. These are the chalking up of the National Plan under National youth Policy and Convergence, Strategies for empowering youth clubs with particular focus on adolescent youth. Another scheme named the 'Gandhi Garodaya Sankalp Abhiyan' has been launched for facilitating development of a few self-reliant villages in accordance with Gandhiji's principles of Gram Swaraj.

The Ministry of Sports under his stewardship also finalised arrangements for the smooth and successful conduct of Commonwealth Games to be held in Delhi in 2010. Special anti-doping steps were taken to encourage healthy competition among sportspersons. To further encourage the sportspersons, the scale of rewards under the various schemes implemented by the Government have been suitably enhanced.

Shri Dutt was a noble soul with a vision and zeal to perform and contribute, be it the film industry, philanthropy or social work. He campaigned for peace and communal harmony, against drug abuse and for better care for cancer and AIDS patients.

Shri Sunil Dutt passed away on 25 May, 2005 at Mumbai, Maharashtra at the age of 76.

Shri P.K. Vasudevan Nair was a sitting Member of the Lok Sabha, representing the Thiruvananthapuram Parliamentary Constituency of Kerala. Earlier, he was a Member of the Second, Third and the Fourth Lok Sabhas, from 1957 to 1970, representing, respectively the Thiruvalla, Ambalapuzha and the Peermade Parliamentary Constituencies of the State.

Shri Nair was the Leader of the Parliamentary Party of the Communist Party of India and the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Labour and a Member of the General Purposes Committee of the House at the time of his demise. During his earlier career as a Member of the House he had actively served in the various Parliamentary

Committees. He was a Member of the Committee on Petitions from 1960 to 1970; House Committee from 1962 to 1965; Estimates Committee from 1963 to 1965; and the Business Advisory Committee from 1966 to 1967. He was also a member of the Consultative Committee under the Kerala State Legislature (Delegation of Powers) Act 1965.

One of the most respected leaders of modern Kerala, Shri Nair served the State and the country with distinction. He was a Member of the Kerala Legislative Assembly from 1977 to 1982 and a Minister of Industry in the Government of Kerala from 1977 to 1978 before becoming its Chief Minister in October 1978 which office he held till October 1979 and he had left a great impact on the State during that short period.

Coming into public life from his student days, during the pre-Independence period, Shri Nair was the President of the Students Union of the Union Christian College, Alwaye from 1945 to 1946 and of the Kerala Student's Federation from 1948 to 1951 and later of the All India Youth Federation. He was also the President of the Kerala Peoples' Arts Club, Kayamkulam, and the Chairman of the prestigious Vayalar Ramavarma Trust in Kerala.

A widely travelled person, Shri Nair visited the erstwhile Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia and Hungary, to name a few countries. A very well-read leader, he had authored a biographical book besides a large number of booklets on political and social issues. He was also the Editor of 'Navayugam' a political weekly, published in Kerala.

Shri Vasudevan Nair was one of the leading figures of the Left Movement in the country and a committed champion of the working class and the downtrodden. He was a man of strong ideological conviction and of impeccable integrity. Throughout his life, he had selflessly served the cause of the poor and the deprived people of the country. Known for his extremely friendly demeanour

and suave and affable nature, Shri Vasudevan Nair was an able administrator, a veteran parliamentarian and an outstanding public figure. In spite of his failing health in recent months, he used to take active interest in the proceedings of the House and in the functioning of the Standing Committee on Labour of which he was the Chairman. His demise is an irreparable loss to the political life in the country.

Shri P.K. Vasudevan Nair who was ailing for some-time passed away on 12 July, 2005 at New Delhi at the age of 79.

Shri Hukam Ram was a member of the Sixth Lok Sabha from 1977 to 1979 representing Jalore parliamentary Constituency of Rajasthan.

An able parliamentarian, Shri Hukam Ram was a member of the Committee on Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

A teacher by profession, Shri Hukam Ram was an active social worker. He relentlessly worked for the uplift and welfare of the needy and the poor. He was instrumental in setting up of Meghwal Colony at Bali and a Hostel for Scheduled Castes at Falna in Pali District, Rajasthan. He held the office of President, Scheduled Castes and Tribes Employees' Welfare Association, Rajasthan; Vice-President of all-India Federation of Scheduled Castes and Tribes; Vice-President of Backward Classes and Minorities Employees' Welfare Association, Bapu Bhavan, New Delhi; and the Secretary, Shri Meghwal Samaj, Pali District, Rajasthan.

Shri Hukam Ram passed away on 12 May, 2005 at Pali, Rajasthan at the age of 79.

Shri Murlidhar Mane was a member of the Eighth Lok Sabha from 1984 to 1989 representing Nasik Parliamentary Constituency of Maharashtra.

Shri Mane was a member of the Committee on Government Assurances from 1987 to 1989.

Shri Mane served as a member, Advisory Board, Regional Employment Exchange, Nasik from 1975 to 1980. He was also a member of the Maharashtra State Wildlife Advisory Board during 1983.

A committed social worker, Shri Mane organised blood donation and family planning camps and youth rallies. He worked for the development of slums and eradication of illiteracy. He took keen interest in organising the youth with a view to bringing them into the mainstream of the national life.

Shri Muralidhar Mane passed away on 24 May, 2005 at Mumbai, Maharashtra at the age of 56.

Shri Chhangur Ram was a member of the Seventh Lok Sabha from 1980 to 1984 representing Lalganj Parliamentary Constituency of Uttar Pradesh.

Earlier, Shri Chhangur Ram was a member of the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly from 1962 to 1967 and 1969 to 1974.

An agriculturist and social worker, Shri Chhangur Ram was the President, Zila Gramin Mazdoor Union, Azamgarh; Vice-President, Prantiya Gramin Mazdoor Union. Lucknow and member, Akhil Bhartiya Gramin Mazdoor Federation. He served as the administrator of 'Adarsh Purv Madhyamik Vidyalaya' and was the founder and Chairman of 'Lok Nirdhan Sansthan', Singhapur.

Shri Chhangur Ram passed away on 16 June, 2005 at Azamgarh, Uttar Pradesh at the age of 73, after a brief illness.

Shri Laxminarain Tripathi was a member of the Tenth Lok Sabha from 1991 to 1996 representing the Kaisarganj Parliamentary Constituency of Uttar Pradesh.

An able parliamentarian, Shri Tripathi was a member of Committee on Papers Laid on the Table from 1992 to 1994 and Committee on Energy from 1993 to 1995.

An active social worker Shri Tripathi was the Founder President of Jansangharsh Samiti, an organisation set up for social service. He also founded a Trust named 'Pandit Satya Dev Mani Tripathi Jankalyan Evam Manav Seva Sansthan'. This Trust is presently running two Senior Secondary schools.

Shri Laxminarain Tripathi passed away under tragic circumstances on 19 June, 2005 at Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, at the age of 65.

Shri Balram Singh Yadav was a Member of the Eighth, Twelfth and Thirteenth Lok Sabhas from 1984 to 1989 and 1998 to 2004 representing the Mainpuri Parliamentary Constituency of Uttar Pradesh.

Shri Yadav was also a Member of Rajya Sabha from 1990 to 1996, representing the State of Uttar Pradesh. He was a Member of the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly from 1969 to 1974 and again from 1980 to 1984.

An able administrator, Shri Yadav served as Minister of State for Mines from 1991 to 1995 and Minister of State for Planning and Programme Implementation from 1995 to 1996 in the Union Council of Ministers. Earlier in the Uttar Pradesh Government, he served as a Deputy Minister from 1969 to 1970 and Cabinet Minister from 1971 to 1973 and again from 1980 to 1984.

An active parliamentarian, Shri Yadav was a member of the Committee on Public Undertakings; Committee on Petroleum, Chemicals and Fertilizers; House Committee; and Consultative Committee, Ministry of Civil Aviation from 1998 to 1999. He was also a member of the Committee on Public Undertakings; Committee on Science and Technology, Environment and Forests from 1999 to 2000 and member, Public Accounts Committee during 2000-2001.

An agriculturist and advocate by profession, Shri Yadav was associated with the Co-operative Movement in his initial years of public life. He was Chairman, Uttar

Pradesh Mandi Parishad Limited and Uttar Pradesh Agro Industrial Corporation Limited, Lucknow from 1980 to 1982. He also held the position of Senior Vice-President, Yuva Kalyan Board, Uttar Pradesh from 1982 to 1984.

A widely traveled person, Shri Yadav was member of Indian Parliamentary Delegation to Yugoslavia in 1986 and to Turkey in 1992 and 1998.

Shri Balram Singh Yadav passed away on 4 July, 2005 at Etawah, Uttar Pradesh, at the age of 66.

Dr. Biplab Dasgupta was a Member of the Ninth Lok Sabha from 1989 to 1991 representing the Calcutta South Parliamentary Constituency of West Bengal.

He was a sitting Member of the Rajya Sabha at the time of his demise. Earlier he was a Member of the Rajya Sabha from 1994 to 2000 also.

An able parliamentarian, Dr. Dasgupta was a member, Consultative Committee, Ministry of Planning and Programme Implementation in 1990. During his membership of the Rajya Sabha he served as a member. Committee on Finance from 1994 to 1999; Joint Committee on Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament from 1996 to 2004; Committee on Science and Technology, Environment and Forests from 2004 onwards and Consultative Committee for the Ministry of Panchayati Raj.

An economist by profession, and a renowned political and social worker, teacher and educationist, Dr. Dasgupta was educated at reputed centres of learning such as the Calcutta University, College of Arts and College of Law; London School of Economics; and Institute of Computer Science, London University. He was the General Secretary, All India Students' Federation, Calcutta District Committee from 1957 to 1959 and the Association of Indian Communists of Great Britain from 1971 to 1977. He was the Convenor, U.K. Committee for Civil Liberties in India from 1975 to 1977.

Dr. Dasgupta was Lecturer in Statistics and Economics, London University, from 1965 to 1972; Reader and Fellow, Institute of Developmental Studies, University of Sussex from 1972 to 1980; Professor of Economics, Calcutta University from 1980 to 1998; Member, Senate, Calcutta University from 1984 to 1988; President, Governing Body, South Calcutta Law College since 1984; Visiting Professor, Institute of Social Studies, the Hague in 1980 and Jawahar Lal Nehru University, Delhi from 1984 to 1988 and Director, Centre for Urban Economic Studies Calcutta University 1980 to 1987 and again from 1992 to 1998. He also undertook various temporary assignments as Consultant and Expert for the International Labour Organisation and other bodies of the United Nations.

Dr. Dasgupta was also the Honorary Executive Vice-Chairman, West Bengal Comprehensive Area Development Corporation from 1978 to 1987 and Joint Secretary, All India Kisan Sabha from 1986 to 1989.

An erudite scholar, Dr. Dasgupta was the author of many academic works like, *The Oil Industry in India*; *The Naxalite Movement*; *Patterns and Trends in Indian Politics*; *Migration from Rural Areas*; *Agrarian Change and the New Technology in India*; to name a few. He also wrote three travelogues in Bengali. They are: *Killimanjaror Deshe*; *Atlantic Africa*; and *Sahara*. Till his last day he was the Editor of the well-known Bengali journal *Nandan*.

A widely travelled person, Dr. Dasgupta attended many international seminars, conferences and workshops all over the world.

In his passing away the country has lost a multifaceted personality, an outstanding scholar, an economist of repute, and a champion of the downtrodden and of the working class.

Dr. Biplab Dasgupta passed away on 17th July, 2005 at Kolkata at the age of 66 after a brief illness.

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.

Hon. Members, as you are all aware, the entire country was shocked and deeply saddened to learn of the terrorist bomb blasts in London on 7th and 21st July, 2005. The bomb blasts 7th July resulted in the loss of many innocent lives and injury to many more. The President and the Prime Minister condemned the terrorist acts and expressed sympathy and solidarity with the people of the UK in their hour of grief. India, being a victim of terrorism for more than two decades, shares with deep empathy the anguish and pain of the people of the UK at these heinous acts.

We are also deeply shocked and grieved by the horrendous terrorist attacks on civilians in Sharm-el-Sheikh, Egypt in the early hours of Friday, 23rd of July, 2005, on the auspicious occasion of the Arab Republic of Egypt's National Day, resulting in large-scale civilian deaths and injury. We strongly condemn this ruthless attack on innocent civilians by terrorists, and offer our sincere condolences to the bereaved families and to the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt.

Such terrorist attacks underscore the need to strengthen our cooperation in a coordinated and concerted manner in order to free the world of this scourge.

We deeply mourn the loss of lives in these dastardly acts and the House expresses its deep sense of anguish and sorrow over these incidents.

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

11.22 hrs.

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

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Poaching of Wild Animals

*1. SHRI RAJNARAYAN BUDHOLIA :
SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE :

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

(a) whether the Government has recently received a number of complaints in regard to disappearance/ poaching of wild animals/endangered species such as blackbugs, leopards and tigers in certain States;

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

(c) the number of cases booked and the action taken by the Government against the poachers State-wise and the steps initiated to prevent such recurrence in future;

(d) whether the employees of Forest Department are also reported to be responsible for the poaching; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI A. RAJA) : (a) to (c) Disappearance of tigers has been reported only from the Sariska Tiger Reserve of Rajasthan. Information regarding poaching of tigers, leopards and other wild animals as received from States is at statement-I. Case-wise details of causative factors and action taken by State in each are not collated in the Ministry. The steps taken by the Government of India to protect wildlife and check the trade in their parts and derivatives are at statement-II.

(d) No such categorical report has been received.

(e) Question does not arise.

Statement-I

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Year	Tiger	Lion	Elephant	Leopard	Rhino	Peafowl
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2001	1	—	—	—	—	—
		2002	—	—	—	1	—	—
		2003	—		—		—	
		2004	—		—			
		Total	1			1		
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2001	—	—	—	—	—	—
		2002	—	—	—	—	—	—
		2003	—		—			
		2004	—		—			
		Total			0			
3.	Assam	2001	—	—	—	—	10	—
		2002	—	—	—	—	5	—
		2003	—		1		6	
		2004	—		—		1	
		Total	0		1	0	22	
4.	Bihar	2001	—	—	—	—	—	—
		2002	—	—	—	—	—	—
		2003	—					
		2004	—					
		Total						

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
5.	Delhi	2001	—	—	—	6	—	—
		2002	—	—	—	—	—	—
		2003	—		—			
		2004	—		—			
		Total				6		
6.	Chhattisgarh	2001	—	—	—	—	—	1
		2002	—	—	—	—	—	—
		2003	—		—			
		2004	—		—			
		Total						1
7.	Goa	2001	—	—	—	—	—	—
		2002	—	—	—	—	—	—
		2003	—		—			
		2004	—		—			
		Total				0		
8.	Gujarat	2001	—	2	—	—	—	6
		2002	—	—	—	—	—	5
		2003	—	1	—			
		2004	—	—	—			
		Total		3		0		11
9.	Himachal Pradesh	2001	—	—	—	7	—	—
		2002	—	—	—	—	—	—
		2003	—		—			
		2004	—		—			
		Total				7		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10.	Jharkhand	2001	—	—	2	—	—	—
		2002	—	—	1	—	—	—
		2003	—					
		2004	—					
		Total			3			
11.	Karnataka	2001	—	—	12	—	—	—
		2002	—	—	3	—	—	—
		2003	—		5			
		2004	—		6			
		Total			26			
12.	Kerala	2001	3	—	5	—	—	—
		2002	—	—	5	—	—	—
		2003	—		2			
		2004	—		3			
		Total	3		15			
13.	Madhya Pradesh	2001	4	—	—	2		6
		2002	—	—	—	—	—	—
		2003	—		—			
		2004	1		—			
		Total	5			2		6
14.	Maharashtra	2001	17	—	—	6	—	3
		2002	3	—	—	1	—	—
		2003	—		—			

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		2004	—		—			
		Total	20			7		3
15.	Meghalaya	2001	—	—	2	—	—	—
		2002	—	—	—	—	—	—
		2003	—		—			
		2004	—		—			
		Total			2			
16.	Mizoram	2001	—	—	—	—	—	—
		2002	—	—	1	—	—	—
		2003	—		2			
		2004	—		—			
		Total			3			
17.	Orissa	2001	—	—	7	—	—	—
		2002	—	—	2	—	—	—
		2003	—		6			
		2004	—		7			
		Total	0		22			
18.	Punjab	2001	—	—	—	—	—	—
		2002	—	—	—	—	—	—
		2003	—		—			
		2004	—		—			
		Total				0		
19.	Rajasthan	2001	—	—	—	2	—	—
		2002	1	—	—	2	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		2003	—		—			
		2004	—		—			
		Total	1			4		
20.	Tamil Nadu	2001	—	—	5	26	—	3
		2002	—	—	3	1	—	—
		2003	—		5			
		2004	—		1			
		Total	0		14	27		3
21.	Uttar Pradesh	2001	20	—	1	28	—	2
		2002	1	—	—	—	—	1
		2003	—		1			
		2004	—		—			
		Total	21		2	28		3
22.	Uttaranchal	2001	—	—	2	6	—	—
		2002	—	—	—	4	—	—
		2003	—		—			
		2004	—		—			
		Total			2	10		
23.	West Bengal	2001	2	—	7	3	1	—
		2002	—	—	—	1	—	—
		2003	—		3			
		2004	—		2			
		Total	2		12	4	1	
Grand Total			53	3	102	96	23	27

Statement-II

Steps taken by the government for protection and conservation of wildlife are as under:

- (i) Legal protection has been provided to wild animals against hunting and commercial exploitation under the provisions of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- (ii) Several rare and endangered species of wild animals have been included in the Schedules of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, thereby giving it highest degree of protection.
- (iii) The Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 has been amended and made more stringent. The punishment in cases of offences has been enhanced. The Act also provides for forfeiture of any equipment, vehicle or weapon that has been used for committing any wild life offence.
- (iv) Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has been empowered under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to apprehended and prosecute wildlife offenders.
- (v) Government of India has set up Regional and Sub-regional Offices for wildlife preservation in major export and trade centers of the country to prevent smuggling of wild animals and their products.
- (vi) Financial and technical help is provided to the State under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, viz. Project Tiger, Project Elephant and Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries for enhancing the capacity and infrastructure of the States for providing effective protection to wild animals.
- (vii) A National Wildlife Action Plan 2002-16 was adopted by the Indian Board for Wildlife under the chairmanship of Prime Minister in January

2002. The plan outlines the strategy for conservation and protection of wildlife in the country.

- (viii) Government of India is a signatory to many international conventions concerning biodiversity conservation and control of illegal trade in wild flora and fauna.
- (ix) Bilateral agreements have been signed with Nepal and Republic of China for controlling trans-boundary illegal trade in wildlife.
- (x) A Global Tiger Forum of Tiger Range Countries has been created for addressing international issues related to tiger conservation.

Guidelines for Child Labour

- *2. SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV :
DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Supreme Court has recently issued some guidelines in regard to child labour;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether some State Governments are not complying with the aforesaid guidelines;
- (d) if so, the details thereof State-wise and the action being taken by the Government to ensure compliance of the aforesaid guidelines by such States; and
- (e) the outcome of the action taken?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO) : (a) Guidelines have been issued with regard to child labour by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in their Judgement passed in 1996 in the case of M.C. Mehta Vs. State of Tamil Nadu and Others.

(b) The main directions given in the judgement passed in 1996 include the following :

- Undertaking and completing the survey to identify and enumerate working children employed in hazardous industries/occupations/process within a period of six months.
- Payment of compensation amounting to Rs. 20,000/- for every child employed in hazardous industries/occupations/processes by the offending employer.
- Constitution of Child Labour Rehabilitation-cum-Welfare Fund.
- Investment of the corpus of the Fund in a manner, which will yield the best possible return.
- Giving alternative employment to an able bodied adult member of every family, which had sent its child (children) for employment in hazardous industry/occupation/process. In the event of failure to do so, ensure deposit by the State Government @ Rs. 5000/- per child into the corpus of the Child Labour Rehabilitation-cum-Welfare Fund.
- Provision of access to educational opportunity to all children withdrawn from hazardous work in suitable educational institution.
- Providing access to of access to educational opportunity for at least two hours a day for children in non-hazardous jobs and permitting them to work from four to six hours a day.
- Opening a separate Cell in the Labour Deptt. of the State Government and entrusting the responsibility of monitoring to the Secretary of that Deptt.
- Making Inspectors appointed under Section 17 of the Child Labour (Prohibition and

Regulation) Act, 1986 fully accountable to the District Magistrate and the latter to keep a close and constant surveillance on the performance of the these Inspectors.

(c) No, Sir. The State Governments are complying with the guidelines issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court relating to child labour and have been submitting their reports in this regard. Based on these reports, the Hon'ble Supreme Court is apprised of the action taken by the State Governments through affidavits filed by this Ministry.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

[English]

Decline in Ground Water Level

*3. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL :
DR. K. DHANARAJU :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware that level of ground water has gone very low in various States and farmers find it difficult to get water for irrigation;

(b) if so, the details of States from where the Union Government has received reports in this regard; and

(c) the steps being taken to recharge the water level in the States?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI) : (a) to (c) A long-term analysis of ground water levels by the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), under the Ministry of Water Resources, during the years 1995-2004, indicates decline in ground water levels in some parts of districts of various States of the country, which has caused hardship to farmers also. The names of these States/districts having pockets of declining water level in the last 10 years (1995-2004) are given in the statement enclosed.

'Water' being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments to formulate plans for augmenting water resources. The CGWB has prepared a report entitled "Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Ground Water", which envisages recharge of 36453 Million Cubic Meter volume of surplus monsoon runoff, through construction of 39.25 lakhs artificial recharge and roof top rain water harvesting structures. The CGWB has implemented a Central Sector Scheme for Study of Recharge to Ground Water in the country during the VIII and IX Five Year Plans. The CGWB has also proposed a Scheme at an estimated cost of Rs. 175 crores for Artificial Recharge to Ground Water and Rainwater Harvesting during the remaining period of the X Five Year Plan.

In addition to the above, following steps have been taken by the Union Government, States, Local bodies to meet the ground water shortage:—

- (i) Circulation of a Model Bill in the year 1970 which was re-circulated in 1992 and again in 1996 to all the States/Union Territories to enable them to enact suitable legislation for regulation and control of ground water development. A revised Model Bill, 2005 to regulate and control the development and management of ground water has been again circulated to all the States/Union Territories.
- (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 scheme to check the declining trend of ground water levels.
- (iii) Central Ministries/Departments of Railways, Defence, Posts, Telecommunications, Central Public Works Department and National Highways Authority of India have been requested to provide roof top rain water harvesting structures in the building under their control.

- (iv) States/UTs have been requested to provide water harvesting structures in building under their administrative control.
- (v) All the States/Union Territories have been requested for advising the local bodies in their respective States/Union Territories to allow rebate in property tax to persons, who adopt roof top rainwater harvesting in their premises.
- (vi) CGWB has provided technical guidance on rain-water harvesting to around 1800 agencies, including State Government agencies, educational institution, private entrepreneurs and individuals.
- (vii) The Centra Ground Water Authority (CGWA) constituted under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 has notified 11 critical areas on consideration of over-exploitation of ground water resources and 32 over-exploited areas for registration of ground water structures.
- (viii) Launching of a website on Roof Top Rain-water Harvesting (www.cgwb.net) to make aware and educate the public about various techniques of harvesting rainwater and store it for future use.
- (ix) Organisation of mass awareness programmes and training courses on rainwater harvesting and artificial recharge of ground water.
- (x) Water conservation campaign has been launched keeping in view the various target groups like youth and children, women, farmers and villagers, policy and opinion makers. Publicity through print media, telecasting of spots on the television, broadcasting messages on radio, holding of seminars, workshops, conferences etc., have been undertaking for the purpose.

- (xi) The Government of Gujarat has banned new tubewells in 54 talukas where there is over-exploitation of ground water. Metropolitan areas have notified rules under which no new building plan is approved without corresponding rainwater harvesting structure and Department of Roads and Buildings has been directed to ensure that all major Government constructions have adequate rainwater harvesting facilities.
- (xii) The Government of Maharashtra has adopted a resolution to promote the scheme on rain-water harvesting which provides that all houses should have provision for rain water harvesting without which house construction plan should not be sanctioned.
- (xiii) The Government of Tamil Nadu has launched the implementation of rainwater harvesting scheme on a massive scale in all Government buildings, private houses/Institutions and commercial buildings in urban and rural areas.
- (xiv) The Government of Nagaland has made provision of roof top rainwater harvesting compulsory for all new Government buildings.
- (xv) The Government of NCT of Delhi has issued instructions for setting up rainwater harvesting systems in Government buildings. Moreover, the Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation has amended. Building Bye-laws, 1983, making provision for water harvesting through storing of water run-off including rainwater in all new buildings on plot of 100 square meters and above in Delhi mandatory.
- (xvi) The Government of Rajasthan has made it compulsory for all State buildings on plots measuring more than 500 sq.mts. to adopt rain-water harvesting for recharging the ground water aquifers.
- (xvii) The Government of Karnataka has initiated action to amend building bye-laws in major cities having population of more than 20 lakh to make rainwater harvesting mandatory.
- (xviii) The Government of Haryana has amended the Haryana Municipal Building Bye-laws 1982, to incorporate the provision of roof top rainwater harvesting compulsory.
- (xix) The Government of Kerala has enacted legislation making roof top rainwater harvesting mandatory in all new constructions in municipal areas.
- (xx) The Government of West Bengal has taken up promotion of roof top rainwater harvesting in Government building in seven priority districts.
- (xxi) The Government of Uttar Pradesh has issued circular to all local bodies making roof top rain-water harvesting mandatory in all new constructions in municipal areas.
- (xxii) The Government of Meghalaya has instructed the concerned Department to provide funds under their respective annual plan for construction of roof top rain-water harvesting structures in Government buildings.
- (xxiii) The Administration of Daman and Diu has issued instruction to the local PWD for construction of roof top rainwater harvesting structures and accordingly, PWD has initiated action. It has also advised the local bodies such as Municipality and District Panchayat to make provision for construction of roof top rainwater harvesting structures.

Statement

*Name of Districts showing fall of water level (in parts) in last 10 years
(1995-2004) during Pre-Monsoon period*

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	Districts showing declining trends (more than 20 cm per year)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Adilabad, Anantapur, Chittoor, Cuddapah, East Godavari, Guntur, Hyderabad, Karminagar, Khammam, Krishna, Kurnool, Mahbubnagar, Medak, Nalgonda, Nellore, Nizamabad, Prakasam, Ranga Reddy, Srikakulam, Visakhapatnam, Vizianagaram, Warangal, West Godavari
2.	Assam	Jorhat, Nagaon, Sonitpur
3.	Bihar	Bhagalpur, East Champaran, Munger, Muzaffarpur, Navada, Saharsa, Saran
4.	Chhattisgarh	Bastar, Bilaspur, Dhamtari, Durg, Janjgir-champa, Kanker, Kawardah, Koriya, Mahasamund, Raigarh, Raipur, Rajnandgaon, Surguja
5.	Delhi	New Delhi, North West, South West
6.	Gujarat	Ahmedabad, Amreli, Banashkantha, Bharuch, Bhavnagar, Dangs, Gandhinagar, Jamnagar, Junagarh, Kheda, Kutch, Mehsana, Panchmahal, Rajkot, Sabarkantha, Surat, Surendranagar, Vadodara, Valsad
7.	Haryana	Ambala, Bhiwani, Faridabad, Fatehabad, Gurgaon, Hissar, Jhajjar, Jind, Kaithal, Karnal, Kurukshetra, Mahendragarh, Panipat, Rewari, Rohtak, Sirsa, Sonapat
8.	Himachal Pradesh	Kangra, Kullu, Mandi, Sirmur, Solan, Una
9.	Jharkhand	Dhanbad, Dumka, Hazaribagh, Lohardaga, Pacchim Singhbhum, Palamu, Purvi Singhbhum, Ranchi
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	Jammu, Kathua, Rajouri, Udhampur
11.	Karnataka	Bagalkot, Bangalore, Belgaum Bellary, Bidar, Bijapur, Chamrajnagar, Chikmagalur, Chitradurga, Coorg, Dakshin Kannada, Dharwad, Gadag, Gulbarga, Hassan, Haveri, Kolar, Koppal, Mandya, Mysore, Raichur, Shimoga, Tumkur, Uddupi, Uttar Kannada
12.	Kerala	Idduki, Kanoor, Kasargod, Kollam, Kottayam, Mallapuram, Palakkad, Thiruvananthapuram, Thrissur, Wayanad

1	2	3
13.	Madhya Pradesh	Barwani, Balaghat, Betul, Bhind, Bhopal, Chhatarpur, Chhindwara, Damoh, Datia, Dewas, Dhar, Dindhori, Guna, Gwalior, Harda, Hoshangabad, Indore, Jabalpur, Jhabua, Katni, Khandwa, Mandsaur, Morena, Mandla, Narsinghpur, Neemuch, Panna, Raisen, Rajgarh, Ratlam, Rewa, Sagar, Satna, Sehore, Seoni, Shahdol, Shajapur, Sheopur, Shivpuri, Sidhi, Tikamgarh, Ujjain, Umaria, Vidisha, West Nimar
14.	Maharashtra	Ahmadnagar, Akola, Amravati, Aurangabad, Beed, Bhandara, Buldana, Chandrapur, Dhule, Gadchiroli, Gondia, Hingoli, Jalgaon, Jalna, Kolhapur, Latur, Mumbai, Nagpur, Nanded, Nandurbar, Nashik, Osmanabad, Parbhani, Pune, Raigad, Ratnagiri, Sangli, Satara, Sindhudurg, Solapur, Thane, Wardha, Washim, Yavatmal
15.	Orissa	Angul, Baleshwar, Bargarh, Cuttack, Dhenkanal, Ganjam, Jaipur, Jharsuguda, Kalahandi, Koraput, Kendujhaar, Mayurbhanj, Nawapara, Phulbani, Puri, Rayagada, Sambalpur, Sundargarh
16.	Punjab	Amritsar, Bhatinda, Faridkot, Fatehgarh, Ferozepur, Gurdaspur, Hoshiarpur, Jalandhar, Kapurthala, Ludhiana, Mansa, Moga, Nawashahar, Patiala, Ropar, Sangrur
17.	Rajasthan	Ajmer, Alwar, Banswara, Baran, Barmer, Bharatpur, Bhilwara, Bikaner, Bundi, Chittorgarh, Churu, Dausa, Dholpur, Dungarpur, Hanumangarh, Jaipur, Jaisalmer, Jalore, Jhalawar, Jhunjhunu, Jodhpur, Karauli, Kota, Nagaur, Pali, Rajsamand, Sawaimadhopur, Sikar, Sirohi, Tonk, Udaipur
18.	Tamil Nadu	Chennai, Coimbatore, Cuddalore, Dharmapuri, Dindigul, Erode, Kancheepuram, Kanyakumari, Karaikal, Karur, Madurai, Namakkal, Nilgiri, Perambalur, Ramanathapuram, Salem, Sivaganga, Thanjavur, Theni, Tiruchirappalli, Tirunelveli, Thiruvallur, Tiruvannamalai, Tuticorin, Vellore, Vellupuram, Virudhnagar
19.	Uttar Pradesh	Agra, Aligarh, Allahabad, Auraiya, Azamgarh, Badaun, Baghpat, Ballia, Bijnor, Chandauli, Chitrakoot, Deoria, Etawah, Fatehpur, Gautam Budh Nagar, Ghaziabad, Gonda, Hamirpur, Hathras, Jalaun, Jhansi, Kanpur Dehat, Kanpur Nagar, Lakhimpur Kheri, Lalitpur, Lucknow, Mahoba, Mathura, Meerut, Mirzapur, Pratapgarh, Saharanpur, Sitapur, Sultanpur, Unnao
20.	Uttaranchal	Dehradun, Haridwar
21.	West Bengal	Bankura, Bardhaman, Birbhum, Howrah, Hugli, East Medinipur, Malda, Murshidabad, Puruliya, South-24 Parganas, West Medinipur

1	2	3
22.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	Dadra and Nagar Haveli
23.	Pondicherry	Pondicherry

[Translation]

Attachment of all Joint Forest Management Committees

*4. SHRI KRISHNA MURARI MOGHE :
DR. RAM LAKHAN SINGH :

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

(a) whether there is a lack of coordination and efficiency in execution of various works pertaining to rural development schemes in villages adjacent to forests;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to attach all the Joint Forest Management Committees under the National Afforestation Programme with forest development agency;

(c) if so, whether any action has been taken in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the time by which attention is likely to be paid towards it?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI A. RAJA) : (a) No such case has come to the notice of the Ministry of Environment and Forests. Schemes relating to rural development are being implemented by Ministry of Rural Development mainly through the Panchayati Raj Institutions. However, the Ministry of Environment and Forests is implementing the National Afforestation Programme (NAP) through decentralized setup of Forest Development Agency (FDA) at the Forest

division level, and Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) at the village level. In order to seek greater participation of the villagers, there is a provision for Entry Point Activity in NAP whereunder community assets as prioritised by the local villagers are created.

(b) to (e) Assistance is provided under NAP for selected JFMCs to undertake afforestation activity within the available budget. However, there is also a provision under NAP to provide assistance for constitution of JFMCs in all other forest fringe villages in the jurisdiction of the FDA.

[English]

Shortfall in Wheat Procurement

*5. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH :
SHRI MOHAN SINGH :

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the stocks of foodgrains including wheat recorded in the country during the last three years and the current year;

(b) whether there has been a decline in stocks due to shortfall in procurement of wheat during the current year;

(c) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor, State-wise;

(d) whether the quantity so procured is sufficient to meet the requirement of wheat in the country during the current year;

(e) if not, whether the Government is contemplating to import wheat;

(f) if so, the details thereof indicating the countries from where it is likely to be imported; and

(g) the steps being taken to adequate availability of wheat in the country to check the rise in price?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) The stock of foodgrains in the Central Pool including wheat, as on 1st July in the last three years, and the current years are given below:

(in lakh tonnes)

Year	Wheat	Rice	Coarsegrains	Total
2002	410.74	219.37	0.36	630.47
2003	241.94	109.74	0.03	351.71
2004	191.52	107.63	6.41	305.56
2005	144.54	100.71	5.88	251.13

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) There has been a decline in stocks of wheat by 46.98 lakh tonnes between 1.7.2004 and 1.7.2005 due to (i) increase in the offtake of wheat under the TPDS and welfare schemes, and (ii) due to shortfall in the procurement of wheat in the current year by 20.1 lakh tonnes, as compared to the previous year. The state-wise details are as under:

Procurement of Wheat

(quantity in '000 tonnes)

State/U.T	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3
Bihar	15	1
Delhi	2	2

1	2	3
Haryana	5115	4529
Madhya Pradesh	349	484
Punjab	9240	9010
Rajasthan	279	159
Uttar Pradesh	1741	560
Uttaranchal	54	40
Total	16795	14785

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

(g) The following four measures are, inter-alia, being taken to ensure adequate availability of wheat in the country and to check the rise in prices:

- Monitoring wholesale and retail prices in all major centres of the country on a weekly basis.
- Adequate issue of wheat under the TPDS and other welfare schemes.
- Release of wheat under the open market sales scheme.
- Ensuring adequate stocking of wheat in all the regions of the country.

Farmers Benefitted under NAIS

*6. SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI :
SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of farmers benefitted under National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) since its inception, State-wise;

(b) the total funds released to farmers till date with the break-up of State and Central share therein, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government has received any complaints regarding the inordinate delay in sanctioning of insurance amount to respective farmers;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of complaints received during the said period, State-wise;

(e) the action taken thereon;

(f) whether the Government has received any proposals from the States for remodeling of the entire schemes;

(g) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(h) whether the Government proposes to establish district/zonal level Agriculture Insurance offices in all the States; and

(i) if so, the details thereof and the details of the offices set up in the country till date, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) and (b) Statement-I comprising number of farmers benefited and total claims released from Rabi 1999-2000 to Kharif 2004 under National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) is enclosed.

(c) and (d) As per the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) admissible claims are sanctioned and settled by Agriculture Insurance Company of India Ltd. (AIC) which is the Implemented Agency of NAIS.

Delay in settlement of claims was reported by various implementing States including States of Karnataka, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh in different crop seasons. Payment of claims were delayed due to one or more reasons of late submission of yield data by the States/UTs, anomalies in the insurable area and crop loans advanced, non remittance of funds by the Central and State Governments.

(e) to (i) The proposals with regard to reducing the unit area of insurance, improving the guaranteed yield, raising the level of indemnity, providing insurance cover to prevented sowing risk, post-harvest losses, perennial horticultural crops, timely payment of claims and expanding the network of Implementing Agency to district/taluka level etc. were received from different States.

A Joint Group constituted by the Government of India to study the improvements required in the existing Crop Insurance Schemes have addressed inter-alia, all proposals of the States for improving the Crop Insurance Scheme in its report submitted to the Government. The report is being processed in consultation with the State Governments and other stakeholders.

A list of offices of AIC, at present, functioning in different States is enclosed as statement-II.

Statement-I

Number of farmers benefited and total claims released from Rabi 1999-2000 to Kharif 2004 season under National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS)

(Amount Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	State/UT	Claims			Farmers Benefited
		Paid	GOI share	State share	
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	63122.32	20351.72	20351.72	1708057

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.	Assam	51.67	34.00	34.00	7128
3.	Bihar	4992.40	2001.05	2001.05	395981
4.	Chhattisgarh	16462.50	7416.54	7416.54	952298
5.	Goa	2.23	0.97	0.97	696
6.	Gujarat	165822.06	70927.68	70927.68	3429719
7.	Haryana	118.20	4.88	4.88	16600
8.	Himachal Pradesh	491.63	211.88	211.88	65341
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
10.	Jharkhand	295.43	118.15	118.15	60934
11.	Karnataka	94203.11	41421.07	41421.07	2700791
12.	Kerala	1253.00	510.86	510.86	36834
13.	Madhya Pradesh	37549.51	13602.97	13602.97	2268974
14.	Maharashtra	73336.10	26696.90	26696.89	4304834
15.	Meghalaya	10.80	4.76	4.76	1161
16.	Orissa	38845.35	15722.71	15722.71	1346164
17.	Rajasthan	8171.38	1906.17	1906.17	302977
18.	Sikkim	1.28	0.54	0.54	86
19.	Tamil Nadu	6099.25	2583.11	2583.11	154395
20.	Tripura	8.24	2.49	2.49	847
21.	Uttar Pradesh	9469.07	1923.90	1923.91	1003015
22.	Uttaranchal	37.42	8.81	8.81	6411
23.	West Bengal	5472.40	1765.14	1765.14	336611
24.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.61	0.01	0.01	56

1	2	3	4	5	6
25. Pondicherry		110.71	42.97	42.97	2486
Total		525926.67	207259.28	207259.28	19102396

Note : Some of the claims of Kharif, 2004 are in process of settlement.

Statement-II

List of Offices of AIC

1. Ahmedabad Regional Office, Ahmedabad (Gujarat).
2. Bhubaneshwar Regional Office, Bhubaneshwar (Orissa).
3. Dehradun Regional Office, Dehradun (Uttaranchal).
4. Jaipur Regional Office, Jaipur (Rajasthan).
5. Mumbai Regional Office, Mumbai (Maharashtra).
6. Ranchi Regional Office, Ranchi (Jharkhand).
7. Bangalore Regional Office, Bangalore (Karnataka).
8. Chandigarh Regional Office, Chandigarh.
9. Guwahati Regional Office, Guwahati (Assam).
10. Kolkata Regional Office, Kolkata (West Bengal).
11. Patna Regional Office, Patna (Bihar).
12. Thiruvananthapuram Regional Office, Thiruvananthapuram (Kerala).
13. Bhopal Regional Office, Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh).
14. Chennai Regional Office, Chennai (Tamil Nadu)

15. Hyderabad Regional Office, Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh).

16. Lucknow Regional Office, Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh).

17. Raipur Regional Office, Raipur (Chhattisgarh).

Agricultural Growth Rate

*7. PROF. M. RAMADASS :
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the deteriorating performance in agriculture sector is leading to deceleration in the growth of Indian Economy;

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

(c) whether the Government has set a growth target of seven and eight per cent for the last two years of the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(d) if so, whether the growth rate of agriculture sector is showing declining trend;

(e) if so, the details and reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps being taken to tackle agricultural problems and achieve the target?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) The share

of agriculture including the allied sectors of forestry, logging and fishing constitute around 20 per cent of the total Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in real terms (1993-94 prices). Therefore, its performance will affect the overall growth of the Indian Economy.

(b) In the Tenth Five Year Plan, the focus has been laid on raising the productivity of land and water resources on a sustainable basis. Towards attaining the objective, emphasis has been laid on increased cropping intensity in agriculture. Thrust areas which have been identified for focussed and priority attention include micro irrigation technology comprising drip and sprinkler irrigation, agriculture credit, horticulture with focus on backward and forward linkages, development/strengthening of agriculture marketing infrastructure, grading and standardization and agricultural research.

(c) Based on the actual growth in the past three years of the Tenth Five-Year Plan (2002-05) and the behavioural relations underlying the Indian growth process, the Planning Commission in their Mid Term Appraisal of Tenth Plan have reassessed the likely growth in total GDP for the economy as 7.6 per cent in 2005-06 and 7.8 per cent in 2006-07.

(d) and (e) The growth rate in agriculture including allied sectors of forestry, logging and fishing computed in real terms (at 1993-94 prices) is showing a declining trend during the Ninth Plan and the first three years of the Tenth Plan (2002-05) as given below:

Plan Period		Actual Average Annual Growth in Agriculture, forestry and fishing sector %
Eighth Plan	1992-97	4.7
Ninth Plan	1997-2002	2.1
Tenth Plan (first three years)	2002-05	1.2

The deceleration in the growth of Indian agriculture has been largely due to aberrant weather and related shocks, caused mostly by deficient rainfall, inadequate public investment for irrigation and thereby little increase in the irrigated area. Successive Five Year Plan have witnessed a steady decline in public investment in real terms in agriculture, which aggravated the problems arising from deficient rainfall including successive years of drought. Analysis of trends in public investment in agriculture revealed that it declined in real terms (at 1993-94 prices) from Rs. 35640 crore during the Sixth Plan (1980-85) to Rs. 28793 crore during the Seventh Plan (1985-90) to Rs. 25298 crore in the Eighth Plan (1992-97). It declined further down to Rs. 23625 crore during the Ninth Plan (1997-2002). Since public investment consists almost entirely of expenditure on irrigation, decline in public investment has adversely affected production and productivity in Indian agriculture and increased dependence on monsoon.

The year 2002-03, the first year of the Tenth Plan, witnessed a sharp decline in agricultural growth by 7.0 per cent due to the severe drought that affected several States/regions in the country. The year 2003-04, the second year of the Tenth Plan, witnessed a favourable rainfall scenario which pushed up agricultural growth to 9.6 per cent. This also reflected the very low base of agricultural GDP in 2002-03. The year 2004-05, the third year of the Tenth Plan, witnessed deficient rainfall from the South-West monsoon, which adversely affected kharif crop production in many States. Though the deficiency in rainfall (-13%) in 2004 was far less serious than that in 2002 (-19%), it pulled down growth in agriculture to a modest rate of 1.1 per cent. The average annual growth in agricultural GDP for the first three years of the Tenth Plan therefore works out to a modest rate of 1.2% compared with the targeted growth of 4%.

(f) Keeping in view the importance of Agriculture in the economy, the Union Budget 2005-06 has been provided increased outlays in areas like horticulture and

irrigation including micro irrigation. The Budget has provided Rs. 630 crore in 2005-06 for the National Horticulture Mission, which will ensure end-to-end approach having backward and forward linkages covering research, production, post harvest management, processing and marketing, under one umbrella, in an integrated manner. The Budget has provided Rs. 4800 crore for the Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme for 2005-06 compared with Rs. 2800 crore in 2004-05. With a view to improving water use efficiency in Indian agriculture, the Budget has provided for Rs. 400 crore for promoting micro irrigation in 2005-06. Since the flow of credit is important in accelerating the pace of investment in agriculture, the disbursement of agricultural credit is proposed to be stepped up by 30 per cent in 2005-06 over the credit disbursement of Rs. 1,15,243/- crore in 2004-05, which exceeded the credit disbursement of Rs. 86,981 crore made in 2003-04 by 32 per cent. Cumulatively the measures sustained on a progressive basis are expected to lead to a reversal of deceleration in agricultural growth. Simultaneously since agriculture is a state subject, states will have to increase their budgetary outlays on agriculture.

Cleaning of Rivers and Lakes

*8. SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY :

SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA :

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

(a) the details of ongoing schemes for cleaning of rivers and lakes in the country;

(b) whether such schemes have not achieved the desired result;

(c) if so, the facts thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;

(d) the total amount spent on cleaning of rivers and lakes during last three years, State-wise, river-wise;

(e) the agency responsible for implementation for this project;

(f) whether the slum population around these rivers is one of the major factors for pollution;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) steps taken/proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI A. RAJA) : (a) to (c) Under the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP), various pollution abatement works are undertaken for improving the quality of water in major rivers, such as interception and diversion of sewage, setting up of sewage treatment plants, low cost sanitation, river front development, setting up of crematoria etc. Under the National Lake Conservation Plan (NLCP), in-situ measures are also undertaken in lakes, such as desilting, deweeding, bio-remediation, catchment area/ sewage treatment etc. Under the NRCP, there are at present 396 ongoing projects. Similarly, there are 27 ongoing projects under the NLCP. The details of ongoing projects under NRCP and NLCP are given at statements I and II respectively. The projects undertaken under the two programmes have resulted in improvement in the water quality.

(d) The total amount released under the NRCP and NLCP during the last three financial years, State-wise is given at the statements III and IV respectively.

(e) The National River Conservation Directorate which functions under the Ministry of Environment and Forests is responsible for the implementation of the programme through the concerned State Governments.

(f) to (h) Yes, Sir. The slum population around these rivers is one of the major factors for pollution. The non-point pollution arising therefrom is tackled through the scheme of low cost sanitation, river front development, setting up of crematoria etc.

Statement-I*Details of Ongoing Projects under National River Conservation Plan*

Sl. No.	State	River	I and D	STP	IWC	LCS	RFD	Misc.	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh								
		Godavari	3	7		1		1	12
		Musi		1					1
		Sub Total :	3	8	0	1	0	1	13
2.	Goa								
		Mandovi	1	2		1		1	5
		Sub Total :	1	2	0	1	0	1	5
3.	Gujarat								
		Sabarmati	1					1	2
		Sub Total :	1	0	0	0	0	1	2
4.	Jharkhand								
		Subarnrekha			3	3	3		9
		Damodar		1					1
		Sub Total :	0	1	3	3	3	0	10
5.	Karnataka								
		Bhadra	1						1
		Tungabhadra			1	1	3		5
		Cauvery	1	2	1	2	4	1	11
		Tunga		1			1		2
		Pennar	1						1
		Sub Total :	3	3	2	3	8	1	20

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<hr/>									
6.	Kerala								
		Pamba	1	1		1	1	2	6
		Sub Total :	1	1	0	1	1	2	6
7.	Maharashtra								
		Krishna	2	2					4
		Godavari	3	2				2	7
		Sub Total :	5	4	0	0	0	2	11
8.	Madhya Pradesh								
		Betwa	2	2					4
		Tapti	1	1					2
		Wainganga							0
		Khan	2	1					3
		Narmada				1		1	2
		Chambal	1						1
		Kashipra							0
		Sub Total :	6	4	0	1	0	1	12
9.	Orissa								
		Brahamini	1	1	3	3	1		9
		Mahanadi	2						2
		Coastal Area	1	1				4	6
		Sub Total :	4	2	3	3	1	4	17
10.	Punjab								
		Satluj	5	6	2			13	26
		Sub Total :	5	6	2	0	0	13	26

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11. Rajasthan									
	Satluj	1				1			2
	Sub Total :	1	0	0		1	0	0	2
12. Tamil Nadu									
	Cauvery	6	6	3		1	4	3	23
	Adyar	11	3					1	15
	Cooum								0
	Vennar	1							1
	Vaigai	2							2
	Tamrabarani		1						1
	Sub Total :	20	10	3		1	4	4	42
13. Delhi									
	Yamuna	0	0	0		0	0	0	0
	Sub Total :	0	0	0		0	0	0	0
14. Haryana									
	Yamuna	3	4	1		0	0	4	12
	Sub Total :	3	4	1		0	0	4	12
15. Uttar Pradesh									
	Ganga	14	6			2		6	28
	Yamuna							2	2
	Gomti	5	2			1	1	3	12
	Sub Total :	19	8	0		3	1	11	42
16. West Bengal									
	Ganga	43	23	1			11	68	146

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		Damodar			1				1
		Sub Total :	43	23	2	0	11	68	147
17.	Bihar								
		Ganga			1	1	2		4
		Sub Total :	0	0	1	1	2	0	4
18.	Uttaranchal								
		Ganga	9	4		7		4	24
		Sub Total :	9	4	0	7	0	4	24
19.	Sikkim								
		Rani Chu	1						1
		Sub Total :	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
		Grand Total	125	80	17	26	31	117	396

I and D—Interception and Diversion

STP—Sewage Treatment Plant

IWC—Improved Wood Crematoria

LCS—Low Cost Sanitation

RFD—River Front Development

Misc.—Miscellaneous Schemes

Statement-II**Details of Ongoing Projects under National Lake Conservation Plan**

Sl.No.	State	No. of Lakes	Name of Lake
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1	Banjara
	Sub Total :	1	
2.	Maharashtra		

1	2	3	4
		6	6 Lakes in Thane District
		1	Mahalaxmi
	Sub Total :	7	
3.	Tamil Nadu	1	Kodaikanal
	Sub Total :	1	
4.	Karnataka	1	Bellandur

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
		1	Kotekere			1	Nainital Lake
		1	Bhishma		Sub Total :	5	
		1	Lal Bagh	6.	Rajasthan	1	Mansagar
		1	Channapatna		Sub Total :	1	
		1	Sharanbhasveshwara	7.	West Bengal	1	Rabindra Sarovar
		1	Akkamahadevi		Sub Total :	1	Mirik
	Sub Total :	7		8.	Tripura	3	Lakes of Agartala
5.	Uttaranchal	4	Lakes of Nainital District		Sub Total :	3	
					Grand Total	27	

Statement-III**Statewise Details of funds released under the National River Conservation Plan**

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	State	River	Funds Released in last 3 years
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Godavri, Musi	1600.00
2.	Bihar	Ganga	25.00
3.	Jharkhand	Subarnrekha, Damodar	0.00
4.	Gujarat	Sabarmati	4254.00
5.	Goa	Mandovi	756.00
6.	Karnataka	Bhadra, Tungabhadra, Cauvery Tunga, Pennar	2568.00
7.	Maharashtra	Krishna, Godavri	4594.50
8.	Madhya Pradesh	Betwa, Tapti, Wainganga, Khan, Narmada, Chambal, Kshipra	3375.00
9.	Orissa	Mahanadi, Brahmani	970.00

1	2	3	4
10.	Punjab	Satluj	6031.00
11.	Rajasthan	Chambal	26.00
12.	Tamil Nadu	Cauvery, Adyar, Cooum, Vennar, Vaigai, Tambarbarni	29451.00
13.	Delhi	Yamuna	9375.00
14.	Haryana	Yamuna	477.00
15.	Uttar Pradesh	Ganga, Yamuna, Gomti	6564.00
16.	Uttaranchal	Ganga	727.00
17.	West Bengal	Ganga	6907.00
18.	Kerala	Pamba	75.00
19.	Sikkim	Rani chu	179.00
Grand Total			77954.50

Statement-IV

*Statewise details of funds released under the
National Lake Conservation Plan*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S. No.	State	Funds Released in last 3 years
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	80.00
2.	Maharashtra	219.82
3.	Tamil Nadu	71.00
4.	Karnataka	1427.44
5.	Uttaranchal	2111.18

1	2	3
6.	Rajasthan	1200.00
7.	West Bengal	400.00
8.	Tripura	50.00
Grand Total		5559.44

Medical Tourism

*9. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA :
SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has decided to use the cost advantage to hard sell India as a modern medical superpower;

(b) if so, the measures taken by the Government

to promote India as a leading destination for those seeking medical help;

(c) whether the Government has prepared any ready-reckoner for foreign tourists seeking specialist help;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the States which have been identified for promoting Medical Tourism?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (e) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Ministry of Tourism have formed a Task Force, headed by Secretary (Health) and senior officials of the concerned Ministries and experts in the medical field, with a view to promoting India as a Health Destination for persons across the globe so as to gainfully utilize the health care expertise and infrastructure available in the country. It has also been decided to promote and market India as a Healthcare destination through collaterals/print/electronic and internet media under the Ministry of Tourism's "Incredible India Campaign".

Flood Affected States

*10. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEV GAIKWAD :

SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware that there has been devastation in certain States due to heavy rains and floods this year;

(b) if so, the losses suffered by such States as a result thereof;

(c) whether the Government has provided any Central assistance to such States; and

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

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Statewise details of damages due to heavy rains and floods etc. during south west monsoon 2005 are given in the statement-I enclosed.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The details of central assistance provided by Central Government to various States are given in statement-II enclosed.

Statement-I

Damage due to Heavy Rains and Floods etc. during Southwest Monsoon 2005

Sl. No.	State	Total No. of districts	No. of districts affected	No. of Talukas affected	No. of villages affected	Population affected (lakhs)	Human Lives Lost	Cattles and Live stock	Cropped affected (lakh hect)	No. of Houses Damaged
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Assam	27	10	NR	502	12.00	13	NR	0.23	16
2.	Andhra Pradesh	23	9	377	NR	206.00	17	NR	0.25	8706

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	15	5	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
4.	Bihar	38	2	2	4	0.02	NR	NR	0.005	4
5.	Goa	2	NR	NR	NR	NR	1	6	NR	52
6.	Gujarat	25	20	80	6719	7.19	213	7563	NR	161628
7.	Haryana	20	9	NR	80	0.01	9	89	12.99	227
8.	Himachal Pradesh	12	6	156	195	3.63	2	116	0.15	1326
9.	Jammu and Kashmir		NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
10.	Karnataka	27	NR	NR	NR	1.50	68	95	0.37	2530
11.	Kerala	14	10	21	54	0.37	59	402	0.008	5528
12.	Madhya Pradesh		9	NR	3104	8.69	63	63,593	NR	88,613
13.	Maharashtra		3	NR	NR	NR	22	NR	NR	NR
14.	Meghalaya	7	2	2	25	0.07	1	NR	NR	NR
15.	Nagaland	11	1	NR	NR	NR	14	NR	NR	190
16.	Orissa		5	9	359	3.65	1	NR	0.20	NR
17.	Punjab	17	7	NR	195	NR	23	104	1.00	180
18.	Rajasthan		NR	NR	NR	NR	44	NR	NR	NR
19.	Sikkim	4	3	NR	NR	NR	NR	6	NR	4
20.	Tamil Nadu	30	NR	NR	NR	NR	17	43	NR	77
21.	Uttar Pradesh		NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
22.	Uttaranchal		NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
23.	West Bengal	13	NR	NR	2	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Total		285	101	647	11245	243.13	567	71967	15.203	269201

Note: NR — Not reported

Statement-II

*Central assistance provided by Central Government
to various States during 2005-06*

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of State	Central share of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF)	Additional releases made on adhoc basis/National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	129.03	—
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	10.62	—
3.	Gujarat	92.25	500.00
4.	Himachal Pradesh	75.52	—
5.	Karnataka	43.00	—
6.	Kerala	32.07	—
7.	Madhya Pradesh	95.335	—
8.	Maharashtra	83.59	103.97
9.	Nagaland	1.44	—
10.	Orissa	113.08	—
11.	Rajasthan	155.87	—
12.	Sikkim	6.58	—
13.	Uttaranchal	35.51	—

Note : In addition an amount of Rs. 5.51 crore has been released to Bihar and Rs. 1.00 crore to Uttaranchal for taking up critical anti erosion works.

[Translation]

**Decline in Land Fertility Due to use of
Chemical Fertilizers**

*11. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA :

SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has conducted any study over the decline in fertility of land due to the use of chemical fertilizers in agriculture;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the agricultural scientists have suggested measures to save the soil-fertility;

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

(e) the other measures being taken by the Government to save the fertility of soil?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) and (b) No all India study has been conducted about the decline in fertility of land due to use of chemical fertilizers in general. However, there are few instances of decline in carbon content and deficiencies of certain major and micro nutrients in soils in some parts of the country especially rise wheat belt of Indo-gangetic plains due to imbalanced use of chemical fertilizers and neglect of organic manures. The average consumption of chemical fertilizer in the country is 89.83 kg/ha. during 2003-04. This level of consumption is not considered to have any ill effect on the fertility of the land.

(c) and (d) The Long Term Fertilizer Experiments conducted by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) for over 30 years have indicated that balanced and integrated use of chemical fertilizers and organic sources of nutrients can sustain soil health and increased crop productivity.

(e) The Government is promoting Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) which includes soil test based balanced and judicious use of chemical fertilizers in conjunction with organic fertilizers like Farm yard Manure,

green manure, compost, vermicompost and biofertilizers etc. for sustaining soil health and its productivity and also promoting organic farming under new scheme on "National Project of Organic Farming" (NPOF) for implementation during 10th Plan period for promotion, production, certification and market development of organic produce in the country.

In addition, ICAR has developed balanced and integrated nutrient management packages for different crops/cropping systems under various agro ecological regions of the country, suitable technologies for urban and rural composting, vermi composting, green manuring, recycling of crop residues, etc. to supplement use of chemical fertilizers.

Rise in Prices of Medicines

*12. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a steep rise in the prices of certain medicines/life saving drugs during the last three years;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to strengthen the research and development exploring the possibilities of production of medicines at lower cost;

(d) whether the Government had constituted a committee to review the price control mechanism of medicines;

(e) whether the committee has since submitted its report; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) :

(a) and (b) The Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO, 95) does not make any distinction between Life Saving

drugs and other drugs. There is no specific norms or guidelines to determine as to which drugs can be classified as life saving drugs. Every drug, in general, is considered useful in saving and prolonging of life.

Presently 74 bulk drugs specified in the First Schedule of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO, 95) and the formulations based thereon are under price control and their prices are fixed/revised by the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) in accordance with the provisions of DPCO, 95. These drugs have been identified for inclusion under price control in the DPCO, 95 on the basis of criteria mentioned in the 'Modifications in Drug Policy, 1986', announced in September, 1994. These criteria take into account the extent of usage and the market competition in various drugs.

Prices of non-Scheduled formulations are fixed by the manufacturers themselves keeping in view the various factors like cost of production, marketing/selling expenses, R and D expenses, trade commission, market competition, product innovation, product quality etc. The Government takes corrective measures where the public interest is found to be adversely affected.

The percentage change in the whole sale price index (WPI) for drugs and medicines is less than for all commodities during the past 5 years, as given below:

Particulars of percentage change in WPI over preceding year

Year	Drugs and Medicines	All commodities
2000-2001	5.85	7.16
2001-2002	3.48	3.60
2002-2003	0.71	3.41
2003-2004	2.55	5.46
2004-2005	2.45*	6.42*

*Provisional.

(c) In March, 1999, the Government had constituted the Pharmaceutical Research and Development Committee (PRDC) under the Chairmanship of Dr. R.A. Mashelkar, Director General, CSIR to recommend measures to strengthen the Research and Development capability of the pharmaceutical industry in the country and to identify the support required by Indian Pharmaceutical companies to undertake domestic research and development. This Committee in its report submitted to the Government had recommended inter-alia, the establishment of a Pharmaceutical Research and Development Support Fund (PRDSF).

PRDSF has been established with a Corpus fund of Rs.150 crores under the administrative control of the Department of Science and Technology. Matter regarding increasing this fund is being examined in order to provide greater support for R and D activities.

Government is extending various fiscal incentives to encourage the domestic Pharma Industry to invest in R and D. The terminal date on weighted reduction of 150% of expenditure on in-house research and development facilities of companies engaged in the business of pharmaceuticals and the terminal date of 100% reduction of profits of companies carry on scientific Research and Development and approved by Department of Scientific and Industrial Research is extended from 31.3.2005 to 31.3.2007 in the income tax Act. Customs duty exemption is available on goods imported by recognised in-house R and D units for use in Government funded R and D projects, under notification 50/96-Customs. Customs duty exemption is also now available on specified goods (comprising of analytical and specialty equipment) imported by recognised in-house R and D units, for use pharmaceutical and biotechnology sector under notification no. 26/2003-Customs dated 1st March 2003.

(d) to (f) The Government constituted a Committee, on 19th August, 2004, under the Chairmanship of Joint

Secretary (Pharmaceutical Industry) to examine the span of price control (including trade margin) in the light of National Common Minimum Programme and the observations of the Supreme Court in SLP No. (C) 3668/2003 and to suggest measures for fulfilling the objective of National Common Minimum Programme to ensure the availability of life saving drugs at reasonable prices. Representatives from the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority, Department of Legal Affairs, Ministry of Law, Department of Health, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, alongwith the Drugs Controller General (India), are the Members of the Committee. The Committee held discussions with various drug industry associations, consumer groups, state drug control authorities etc.

This Committee has submitted its interim report to the Government. The Committee has recommended, inter-alia, intensive monitoring on the prices of all those drugs out of the selected basket (National List of Essential Medicines, 2003) which are not under price control, ceiling on trade margins of drugs, special schemes for people below poverty line, introduction of Rajasthan Model of Life Line Fluid Stores (hospital pharmacy stores run by Medicare Societies) for bulk purchase of drugs directly from manufacturer and selling them at reduced prices, compounding of offences under the Essential Commodities Act, establishment of DPCO cells in all States on the model of Kamataka, price negotiations at the time of launching of a new patented drug, efforts to increase public awareness, wide publicity to policies and decisions of the Government and NPPA etc. Follow up action has been initiated on the recommendations of the Committee made in its interim report.

The Government have also constituted a Task Force under the Chairmanship of Principal Adviser, Planning Commission to explore various options other than price control for achieving the objective of making available life saving drugs at reasonable prices.

[English]

Setting up of Steel Plant in Paradeep

*13. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK :
SHRI JUAL ORAM :

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Pohang Steel Company (POSCO) of South Korea to set up a steel plant at Paradip;

(b) if so, the salient features of the MoU alongwith the FDI, involved therein;

(c) whether land is being provided to POSCO at very low prices in the State;

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

(e) whether the rehabilitation aspect and provision of employment of the local people has been taken into account;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) :

(a) A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between Government of Orissa and Pohang Steel Company (POSCO) of South Korea on 22.6.2005 to set up a steel plant at Paradeep.

(b) Salient features of MoU are enclosed as statement.

(c) and (d) As per the MoU, in case of private land, the company shall pay the cost as determined under provisions of the Land Acquisition Act and incidental charges as mutually agreed upon. In case of Govt. land,

the company shall pay as per the rates determined by the prevailing Industrial Policy Resolution and for forest land, the company shall pay the rates as determined under the applicable Rules.

(e) to (g) As per the MoU, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Package would be implemented as per prevailing guidelines and practices for rehabilitation of displaced families. It has been stipulated in the MoU that preference will be given to the people of Orissa in the employment subject to need and their possessing the necessary qualifications. Further, POSCO will make every effort to improve their skill levels, if necessary, through specialized training.

Statement

Salient Features of the MoU alongwith the FDI Involved Therein

- POSCO has proposed to set up a 12 million tonnes integrated steel plant at Paradeep, district Jagatsinghpur, Orissa.
- The project would be implemented in two phases. Each phase will have two modules of 3 million tonnes per annum crude steel capacity.
- Proposed investment is of the order of around US \$ 12 billion (Rs. 51,000 crores approximately).
- First module of phase-I is to be commissioned by July 2010. 3 million tonnes capacity will be added every two years. Whole project is likely to be commissioned by July 2016.
- The product mix is slabs, hot rolled coils, plates and cold rolled coils.
- POSCO will also set up infrastructure necessary for the integrated steel plant, related projects and related mining of iron ore and other ores.

- The company will require approximately 6000 acres of land for steel project, associated facilities, including township.
- The cost of the private land will be in accordance with the provisions of Land Acquisition Act and incidental charges as mutually agreed upon. For Govt. land, the company shall pay as per the rates determined by the prevailing Industrial Policy Resolution. For Forest land, the company shall pay the rates determined under the applicable Rules. The Govt. of Orissa will assist the company in acquisition of land.
- For rehabilitation of displaced families, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Package would be implemented as per prevailing guidelines and practices.
- The State Govt. will recommend to the Govt. of India for allotment of a suitable coal block and coal linkages until it is ready for mining of its coal block.
- The company will need 600 million tonnes of iron ore. The company may swap certain quantities (not exceeding 30% of the total requirement of the Paradeep plant annually) of such iron ore which have high alumina content with equal quantity of low alumina content iron ore. Any export of iron ore by way of swap will be allowed only after an equivalent quantity of ore has been imported for the plant. The extent of the above quantity of iron ore by way of replacement for equal quantity of import of higher grade iron ore, will be within the framework of the Export-Import Policy of the Government of India applicable from time to time. It is clarified that no export of iron ore will be allowed from the captive mine except by way of full replacement through import of equal quantity of high grade ore and within the limits mentioned above.
- Prospecting license and captive mining leases for 600 million tonnes of iron ore would be granted in accordance with the prescribed procedure and completion of required milestones as specified in the MoU including approvals of Gol.
- Recommendation of mining lease will be made in two phases, commensurate with the first two modules and the last two modules of 3 million tonnes each based on progress and investment made therein.
- The State Government will assist the company to make arrangement for meeting iron ore requirement of suitable grade from OMC alongwith other private iron ore leases in the state for initial period under mutually agreeable terms and condition, if required by the company.
- Iron ore mining leases shall be granted initially for a period of 30 years and will be considered for renewal on an application by the company before expiry, for another 20 years.
- Export of additional 400 million tonnes of iron ore from India for existing steel plants of POSCO in South Korea would be regulated by the prevailing EXIM Policy. No min-able reserves would be provided purely for the purpose of the direct exports.
- The Govt. of Orissa agrees to provide all possible assistance to the company for acquiring mineral concession for limestone and dolomite within the ambit of the MMDR Act and MC Rules.
- State Government will facilitate suitable long-term arrangement with OMC and other leases for supply of chrome ore to meet the requirement of the plant.

- Water will be provided from suitable source(s) for construction and operation as per the prevailing rates, subject to availability.
- The Govt. of Orissa will ensure supply of 25 MW power during the construction stage. During the operation phase, the State Govt. will make best efforts to meet power requirements.
- For captive power plant, the State Govt. will facilitate fuel linkages, if required.
- The State Govt. would consider granting to the company such incentives and concessions as are provided in the relevant Industrial Policy Resolution in force on this date.
- The State Govt. shall recommend to the Central Govt. and facilitate granting of Special Economic Zone status as required by the company.
- The State Govt. shall coordinate with the Ministry of Railways for early completion of Daitari – Banspani rail link, development of Haridaspur – Paradeep rail link and Banspani – Paradeep rail link.
- The State Govt. shall provide all support to facilitate the early completion of the National Highway between Haridaspur (Chandikhol) and Paradeep and for upgradation of State Highway from Cuttack to Paradeep to a two lane road.
- The State Govt. shall actively consider construction of two lane, free access public roads connecting the steel project, the mine project and the integrated township development to the nearest National Highway or State Highway.
- The State Govt. shall assist for developing a new minor port adjacent to the existing major

port of Paradeep and dedicated berth at Paradeep, if required within the existing policy provisions.

- The State Government shall establish a special "Single Window Clearance Committee" to ensure clearance under State laws from agencies/ departments within specified time limits.

Linking of Rivers

*14. SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Bangladesh has opposed the Union Government's proposal to link the rivers;

(b) if so, whether they contend that the linking of rivers may lead to the complete flow of water to India only; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to resolve the issue with Bangladesh?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI) : (a) Government of Bangladesh has expressed apprehension at the proposal of linking rivers in bilateral meetings. The issue was discussed in the 35th meeting of the Joint Rivers Commission held in New Delhi in September, 2003. Similarly, the Bangladesh Prime Minister raised this issue during a bilateral meeting with our Prime Minister on the margins of Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Thailand Economic Co-operation (BIMST-EC) summit in May, 2004. It was raised also during the Foreign Office Consultations in June, 2005.

(b) and (c) Bangladesh feels that the inter-linking project would deprive them of sufficient water for their needs. The Government of India has assured the Bangladesh side that the project was at the conceptual stage. UPA Government gave emphasis in National

Common Minimum Programme (NCMP) for peninsular zone only and therefore apprehension in any International border including Bangladesh is not relevant at this stage. The Government of India has also stated that it would not taken any unilateral action, which would harm the interest of Bangladesh. This was reflected in the Joint Press Statement issued after the conclusion of the Consultations.

Child Labour Law

*15. SHRI MADAN LAL SHARMA :
SHRI SURESH ANGADI :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether some Non-Governmental Organisations have recently emancipated child labourers from some States including Delhi;

(b) if so, the names of such States and the number of child labourers emancipated during the last one year and thereafter till date, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government has conducted any enquiry in this regard;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof;

(e) whether the Government is contemplating to introduce a scheme for the rehabilitation of such children as a permanent solution to this problem;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether enforcement personnel of child labour laws are being given special training for better enforcement of child labour laws in the country; and

(h) if so, the details and the results achieved therefrom so far?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO : (a) to (d) The Labour

Departments in various State Governments have been empowered to rescue and rehabilitate children who are found to be working under the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986. There have been instances in the past where action has been initiated on the complaints of many Non-Governmental Organisations. It would not be correct to say that some NGOs have themselves emancipated child labourers in some states in the country. However, recently, an NGO had complained in this connection to the Government of Delhi who had taken action as per the Act and released 28 children who were found to be working in a zari factory. The enforcement of the Act for releasing and rehabilitating child labourers is a continuous process carried out by the Labour Departments in the various states. It would, therefore, not possible to give the names of the states and the numbers of children released on the basis of complaints by the NGOs.

(e) and (f) National Child Labour Project Scheme is the main scheme for the rehabilitation of child labour. Under the Scheme, funds are given to the Project Societies set up at the district level under the Chairmanship of District Magistrate. In the NCLP Scheme, special schools are run for the child workers to provide bridging education before they are mainstreamed into the regular school education system. The Special schools/Rehabilitation Centres provide following facilities to the children withdrawn from employment:

- Formal/Non-formal education;
- Vocational Training;
- Supplementary nutrition @ Rs.5/- per child;
- Stipend @ 100/- per month to children withdrawn from employment; and
- Health care facilities.

(g) and (h) Enforcement of the provisions of the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 is

done by the respective State Governments through their Labour Department and law enforcing personnel are given in-service training by the respective State Governments.

Quality of Cold Drinks

*16. SHRI PRABODH PANDA :
SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR :

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has issued a draft notification to revise standards to regulate the presence of metals and pesticides in soft drinks and beverages;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the types of drinks proposed to be covered under the said norms;

(c) whether the Government has taken the opinion of the experts/scientists in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) by when it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) and (b) Government do not issue any notification for the formulation or revision of Indian Standards which is done by Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) under the Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 1986. BIS are reviewing the existing Indian Standard for "Ready to Serve Non-alcoholic Beverages" (IS:2346), through the Sectional Committee for Drinks and Carbonated Beverages.

(c) and (d) The Sectional Committee is chaired by the Director of Defence Food Research Laboratory, Mysore and has representation of manufacturers, consumer groups and concerned Ministries and includes experts from Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore, Bhaba Atomic Research Centre, Mumbai, Central

Forensic Science Laboratory, New Delhi, Indian Council of Medical Research, New Delhi, National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad, National Institute of Occupational Health, Ahmedabad etc.

(e) Indian Standard : 2346, like most Indian Standards, is voluntary in nature. The notified standard remains valid till it is formally revised or rescinded.

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, on the recommendation of the Central Committee on Food Standards (CCFS), a Statutory Committee under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954, have issued a notification GSR 451 (E) dated 15.7.2004 under the PFA Rules, 1955, which has come into effect on 13.10.2004 whereby it has been made mandatory that water used in the manufacture of carbonated water shall conform to the standards of packaged drinking water under the said Rules.

[Translation]

Increase in Work Force

*17. DR. CHINTA MOHAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of work force in the country is estimated to increase by more than 30 per cent by the year 2011;

(b) if so, the prospective total number of work force in the country by the year 2011;

(c) whether the Government has identified different areas of employment to provide employment to these prospective work force;

(d) if so, the names of these areas of employment; and

(e) the approximate number of persons to be accommodated in each area?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO) : (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) The estimated workforce during 2011-2012 is projected to be around 451.53 million on current daily status basis.
- (c) Yes, Sir.
- (d) and (e) Sectors identified and estimated job potential during 10th plan is given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

Estimated Job Potential In Different Sectors

Sectors/Programmes	Total Additional job opportunities created over the 10th Plan (in lakhs)		Total (in lakhs)
	Growth based	Programme based	
1	2	3	4
Agriculture Including National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NSDRPA), Farm Management programme, Agro Clinics, Greening India Programme, Watershed and Wasteland Development, Medicinal Plant, Bamboo Development and Energy Plantation like Ethanol etc.	4.1	90.6	94.7
Mining and Minerals	-2.0		-2.1
Manufacturing (Excl. Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) and Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP)	14.2 (large manufacturer) 60.0 (SSI)		14.2 60.0
Electricity, Gas and Water	-2.1		-2.1
Construction	63.0		63.0
Trade, Hotels and Restaurants	112.3		112.3
Transport, Storage and Communications	55.1		55.1
Financial Sector	19.3		19.3
Community Sector	-27.1	32.0	4.9

1	2	3	4
Special Programmes			
Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) (SSI) and REGP (KVIC)		22.0	22.0
		20.0	20.0
Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana (SGRY)		12.9	12.9
Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) and		7.7	7.7
Swarna Jayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY)		8.0	8.0
Total	296.8	193.2	490.0

Note: Totals may not tally due to rounding off.

Unemployed Persons

*18. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN" :
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of unemployed persons is estimated to have increased considerably during the last three years;

(b) if so, the estimated number of unemployed people in the country during 1991-92 and in the year 2004-05;

(c) whether there has been a steady increase in the annual growth rate during these years;

(d) if so, the reasons for the growing unemployment despite the increase in the annual growth rate of the economy;

(e) the position of persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes in this scenario of growing unemployment; and

(f) the steps contemplated to increase employment opportunities?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO) : (a) and (b) Estimates of employment and unemployment are obtained through quinquennial labour force surveys conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation. Last two such surveys were conducted during 1993-94 and 1999-2000. As per these surveys, number of unemployed persons in the country on usual status basis during 1993-94 and 1999-2000 was around 7.5 million and 9 million respectively.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Major reasons for the growing unemployment in the country include declining job creating capacity of growth, economy not growing at the intended rate, growth rate of the labour force being higher than the growth rate of employment etc.

(e) and (f) As per the information available from the employment exchanges, as on 31 December 2003, around 66.3 lakh SC jobseekers and 23.1 lakh ST jobseekers, all of whom are not necessarily unemployed,

were registered with the employment exchanges for employment. Government is targeting creation of around 5 crore employment opportunities during the 10th Plan period. This will help the unemployed person including those belonging to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe categories.

[English]

Children In Mines and Quarries

*19. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR :
SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the International Labour Organisation (ILO) has recently observed that there are one million children aged between 5 and 17 presently toiling in mines and quarries all over the world;

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

(c) whether the Government has ascertained the exact number of children aged between 5 and 17 toiling in mines and quarries in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the efforts being made to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is no reference to India in the said report. However, mining occupations have already been prohibited as hazardous occupation under the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986.

(c) and (d) Occupation-wise date of child labour in the country is not maintained.

(e) The Government is implementing the National Child Labour Project Scheme for the withdrawal and

rehabilitation of children working in hazardous occupations and processes. The Scheme involves enrolling the working children in special schools and providing them education, vocational training, nutrition, health care, stipend, etc. and finally, mainstreaming them into regular schools.

Export of Foodgrains

*20. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the names of countries to which foodgrains are being exported at present;

(b) the quantum and value of wheat and rice, separately exported during each of the last three years and thereafter till date, country-wise;

(c) the quantum of wheat and rice proposed to be exported during the current year alongwith their rates, country-wise;

(d) the steps being taken to further increase the export of foodgrains during the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(e) whether there had been instances when the foodgrains exported from India were rejected; and

(f) if so, the steps taken by the Union Government to ensure that Indian exports are not rejected by the importers?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) Wheat and Rice are being exported at present to a number of countries in varying quantities. The major importing countries of Indian wheat and rice during 2004-05 are shown in the statement-I enclosed.

(b) The quantum and value of wheat and rice exported during last three years is as under:

Quantity in MTs/Value in Rupees Lakhs

Year	Rice Basmati		Rice-Non Basmati		Wheat	
	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
2002-03	7,10,292	2,06,259	40,76,347	3,63,408	35,70,890	1,70,018
2003-04	7,70,764	1,99,092	26,01,471	2,14,216	40,93,081	2,39,115
2004-05*	11,26,125	2,74,194	36,45,873	3,89,973	19,95,997	1,44,803

*As per latest figures available.

The details of top ten importing countries of wheat and rice from India in terms of quantity and value are shown in the statement-II enclosed.

(c) Wheat and rice are freely permitted for exports without any quantitative restrictions. No allocation of wheat and rice from Central Pool is being made with effect from 11th Aug'03 for the purpose of exports. Export on private account is market driven and the price and destination depend on demand and supply conditions, which vary from time to time.

(d) Some of the steps being taken to boost export of foodgrains include publicity, campaign, sending delegations abroad, participating in international trade fairs, organizing buyer-seller meets and providing financial assistance to exporters for improving quality, packaging, brand promotion of products and for conducting market surveys.

(e) During the last three years only one instance of rejection of an Indian wheat consignment, has come to the notice of the Government.

(f) Government has laid down quality norms for

certain agricultural products, with the objective to ensure that quality products are exported.

Statement-I

Top Ten Importing Countries of Indian Wheat/Rice

Position	Wheat	Rice-Non Basmati	Rice-Basmati
1.	Bangladesh	Bangladesh	Saudi Arabia
2.	UAE	Nigeria	Kuwait
3.	Sudan	S. Africa	UK
4.	Malaysia	Cote D' Ivoire	UAE
5.	Tanzania	Saudi Arabia	Yemen
6.	Yemen	Sri Lanka	USA
7.	Vietnam	UAE	Italy
8.	Sri Lanka	Senegal	France
9.	Oman	Somalia	Belgium
10.	Philippines	Guinea	Germany

Statement-II

Top Ten Importing Countries of Indian Wheat/Rice

Quantity in Metric Tonnes/Value in Rupees Lakhs

WHEAT

Sl. No.	Country	2002-03		2003-04		2004-05	
		Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Bangladesh	982839	46552	15566070	90009	1164396	84174
2.	UAE	120274	5910	361227	22316	199312	14813
3.	Sudan	4	0.16	21459	1538	99021	7744
4.	Malaysia	282725	13723	156457	8892	78277	5744
5.	Tanzania	—	—	132988	8724	72473	5300
6.	Yemen	89350	4347	347443	21714	70250	5417
7.	Vietnam	266768	12563	85454	5102	54941	3696
8.	Sri Lanka	147095	7655	322278	20616	48027	3357
9.	Oman	180	14	116133	7538	41070	3153
10.	Philippines	831181	37675	118830	6417	23948	1344

RICE—BASMATI

Sl. No.	Country	2002-03		2003-04		2004-05	
		Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
1.	Saudiarabia	293350	84028	436417	106796	680278	156780
2.	Kuwait	43488	12257	48862	13768	93768	23300
3.	UK	63	23	85849	21939	89224	25052
4.	UAE	64027	18111	40255	10488	60017	14012

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
5.	Yemen	13709	3117	15451	3609	35484	8964
6.	USA	30475	10363	26758	9337	24731	7819
7.	Italy	8607	1997	19143	4572	18813	4372
8.	France	12958	3258	12028	3158	15683	3660
9.	Belgium	10712	2744	11574	3096	14075	3284
10.	Germany	7657	2005	9160	2534	13171	3310

Quantity in Metric Tonnes/Value in Rupees Lakhs

RICE—NON BASMATI

S. No.	Country	2002-03		2003-04		2004-05	
		Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
1.	Bangladesh	791931	52178	1239260	89378	917540	83302
2.	Nigeria	156778	12414	168705	14761	537481	63980
3.	S. Africa	527048	64889	273143	21114	496178	49792
4.	Cote D' Ivoire	59686	2970	28154	2191	299567	29364
5.	Saudi Arabia	29892	3761	142064	16802	222370	30193
6.	Sri Lanka	40991	3728	2694	273	221493	25347
7.	UAE	48763	5243	110174	13162	149052	21271
8.	Senegal	77226	11328	—	—	148635	13169
9.	Somalia	21083	1560	54539	4337	131045	13896
10.	Guinea	9100	582	11500	980	56345	6087

[Translation]

Tiger Reserves

1. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has taken a decision to declare red-alert in the Tiger Reserves;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of Tiger Reserves in the country at present, State-wise;

(d) the main reasons for declining number of tigers in the Tiger Reserves; and

(e) the grants provided for the upkeep of these reserves during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Tiger Reserves were alerted to extensively search the forest areas in and around Tiger Reserves for steel traps, fire arms and other contraptions used for poaching wild animals. While emphasizing protection initiatives, it was directed to sensitize and involve local police in anti-poaching operations, apart from registration of fire arms, as required under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 for ensuring the

safety of wild animals.

(c) There are 28 Tiger Reserves in the country at present. The State-wise details are given in the enclosed statement-I.

(d) It has been reported by the State (Rajasthan) that tigers have disappeared from Sariska Tiger Reserve, and their population has declined in Ranthambhore. By and large, there are no evidences to infer that the tiger numbers have declined in all the other Tiger Reserves of the country as well.

(e) The Central Assistance provided for upkeep of these reserves during the last three years is given in the enclosed statement-II.

Statement-I

*Name of the Tiger Reserves in Tiger Range States with
Year of Creation and Area*

Sl. No.	Year of creation	Name of Tiger Reserve	State	Total area (In Sq. Kms.)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	1973-74	Bandipur	Karnataka	866
	1999-2000	Nagarhole-(extention)		643
2.	1973-74	Corbett	Uttar Pradesh	1316
3.	1973-74	Kanha	Madhya Pradesh	1945
4.	1973-74	Manas	Assam	2840
5.	1973-74	Melghat	Maharashtra	1677
6.	1973-74	Palamau	Bihar	1026
7.	1973-74	Ranthambhore	Rajasthan	1334
8.	1973-74	Simillipal	Orissa	2750

1	2	3	4	5
9.	1973-74	Sunderbans	West Bengal	2585
10.	1978-79	Periyar	Kerala	777
11.	1978-79	Sariska	Rajasthan	866
12.	1982-83	Buxa	West Bengal	759
13.	1982-83	Indravati	Madhya Pradesh	2799
14.	1982-83	Nagarjunsagar	Andhra Pradesh	3568
15.	1982-83	Namdapha	Arunachal Pradesh	1985
16.	1987-88	Dudhwa	Uttar Pradesh	811
	1999-2000	Katerniaghat-(extentiion)		551
17.	1988-89	Kalakad-Mundanthurai	Tamil Nadu	800
18.	1989-90	Valmiki	Bihar	840
19.	1992-93	Pench	Madhya Pradesh	758
20.	1993-94	Tadoba-Andheri	Maharashtra	620
21.	1993-94	Bandhavgarh	Madhya Pradesh	1162
22.	1994-95	Panna	Madhya Pradesh	542
23.	1994-95	Dampha	Mizoram	500
24.	1998-99	Bhadra	Karnataka	492
25.	1998-99	Pench	Maharashtra	257
26.	1999-2000	Pakhui	Arunachal Pradesh	862
27.	1999-2000	Nameri	Assam	344
28.	1999-2000	Bori, Satpura, Panchmari	Madhya Pradesh	148
Total				37761

Statement-II

The Release of Central Assistance under Project Tiger during 2002-03 to 2004-05

Tiger Reserve-wise Release

Sl. No.	Name of Tiger Reserve	2002-2003	2003-04	2004-05
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Bandhavgarh	17.87	90.12	85.00
2.	Bandipur	170.365	160.39	367.095
3.	Bhadra	119.195	108.93	119.197
4.	Buxa	3.00	52.45	50.75
5.	Corbett	168.00	200.91	200.12
6.	Dampa	98.32	67.56	94.37
7.	Dudhwa	32.75	173.585	175.215
8.	Indravati	32.48	80.25	27.75
9.	Kalakad Mundanthurai	125.00	35.00	80.00
10.	Kanha	232.37	282.86	197.50
11.	Manas	50.70	50.00	—
12.	Melghat	71.462	60.00	93.183
13.	Nagarjunsagar	21.10	22.89	15.00
14.	Namdapha	35.875	38.75	—
15.	Nameri	15.00	25.00	—
16.	Pakke	—	30.00	35.00
17.	Palamau	18.00	35.99	72.5005
18.	Panna	287.50	563.53	60.00

1	2	3	4	5
19.	Pench (MP)	47.80	68.97	97.43
20.	Pench (Mah.)	104.108	97.19	87.77
21.	Periyar	63.75	120.68	105.75
22.	Ranthambhore	225.92	14.245	—
23.	Sariska	69.00	144.085	79.00
24.	Satpura	47.90	97.92	170.00
25.	Similipal	32.88	151.91	116.4395
26.	Sunderban	138.33	172.72	274.74
27.	Tadoba-Andheri	446.22	71.26	75.00
28.	Valmiki	25.00	50.00	85.00
Total		2879.895	3067.2105	2763.78

[English]

**Environmental Clearance for
Industrial Plants**

2. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether environmental clearance is required to set up industries/plants in the country; and

(b) if so, the number of such cases cleared during the last three years, State-wise alongwith the norms fixed/ followed for such clearance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) Yes, Sir. Environmental clearance is required for setting up of 22 categories of industrial projects under the Environmental Impact Assessment Notification, 1994 and its subsequent amendments.

(b) Environmental clearance is granted to the industrial plants in accordance with the procedure laid down in the Environmental Impact Assessment

Notification, 1994. Number of such cases cleared during the last three years is given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

*State-wise List of Industrial Projects granted Environmental Clearance during the last Three Years
(From January 2002 till 30th June 2005)*

Sl. No.	State	2002	2003	2004	1st Jan. to 30th June 2005	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8	7	12	22	49
2.	Assam	1	1	2	0	4
3.	Bihar	0	0	0	0	0
4.	Chhattisgarh	2	1	3	2	8
5.	Gujarat	7	71	29	7	114
6.	Goa	0	0	0	0	0
7.	Haryana	2	2	6	16	26
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1	0	0	1	2
9.	Jharkhand	1	0	1	1	3
10.	Karnataka	3	1	10	4	18
11.	Kerala	0	0	0	0	0
12.	Maharashtra	15	18	20	4	57
13.	Madhya Pradesh	0	1	2	1	4
14.	Orissa	0	0	7	2	9
15.	Punjab	4	2	9	2	17
16.	Rajasthan	1	2	8	2	13

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
17.	Tamil Nadu	27	39	29	45	140
18.	Uttar Pradesh	0	4	8	1	13
19.	Uttaranchal	0	0	1	0	1
20.	West Bengal	5	10	2	1	18
Total		77	159	149	111	496

[Translation]

Production of Fodder

3. SHRI V.K. THUMMAR :
 SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO :
 SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA :
 SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any scheme is being implemented by the Union Government to augment the production of fodder in the country particularly Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh and Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the assistance provided for the purpose during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government has made any assessment of the success of this scheme in those States; and

(e) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. For production of fodder and fodder seeds and also improvement of quality of dry fodder, the following schemes have been taken up.

- (i) Central Fodder Development Organization including 8 Fodder Stations and Fodder Seed Minikit Testing Programme.
- (ii) Centrally Sponsored Scheme on "Assistance to States for Feed and Fodder Development" with 2 components i.e. Establishment of Fodder Banks and Enrichment of Straw/Cellulosic waste (From 2002-03 to 2004-05).
- (iii) A new Centrally Sponsored Fodder Development Scheme (From 2005-06).

(c) The details of assistance provided as grant and kind (fodder seed minikits) to the States during the last three years and the current year are given in the enclosed statement-I and II respectively.

(d) and (e) Evaluation of Central Fodder Development Organization has been taken up. On the basis of the appraisal of the scheme on "Assistance to States for Feed and Fodder Development", the new Centrally Sponsored Fodder Development Scheme has been prepared and is implemented from 2005-06.

Statement-I

The detail of assistance provided for fodder development during the last three years and the current year, State-wise

State	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
Arunachal Pradesh			99.00	—
Assam			68.35	—
Chhattishgarh	100.00		25.00	—
Himachal Pradesh	1.00	2.00	5.00	—
Jharkhand			150.00	—
Jammu and Kashmir	55.50			—
Karnataka	38.55	25.00	9.50	—
Kerala			90.00	—
Maharashtra		8.44	46.525	—
Mizoram	30.00	39.525	112.50	—
Nagaland	20.00	27.575	112.50	—
Punjab	20.00			—
Rajasthan		40.00	26.32	—
Sikkim			57.65	—
Tripura		57.46	50.00	—
Uttar Pradesh			337.658	—
Uttaranchal	76.75			—
Total	341.80	200.00	1190.003	—

Statement-II

Fodder seed minikits allotted to different States under the scheme — "Crops Minikit Testing Programme on Fodder Crops" during last three years 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05

		(Nos.)		
Sl. No.	State	2002-03	2003-04	Total
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	16000	16000	27300
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1500	3000	4300
3.	Assam	2000	4000	3000
4.	Bihar	15000	12000	17500
5.	Chhattisgarh	7600	7500	16800
6.	Goa	1000	2500	2300
7.	Gujarat	39000	36000	40651
8.	Haryana	11400	10000	21500
9.	Himachal Pradesh	13000	10000	8600
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	5000	6500	26692
11.	Jharkhand	6600	5000	4500
12.	Karnataka	32830	39000	43000
13.	Kerala	7000	10000	10100
14.	Madhya Pradesh	44000	40000	35686
15.	Maharashtra	20000	24000	50500
16.	Manipur	15000	2500	3300
17.	Meghalaya	1000	2500	2900

1	2	3	4	5
18. Mizoram		900	2500	—
19. Nagaland		700	2500	2000
20. Orissa		25000	20000	23600
21. Punjab		16000	25217	14908
22. Rajasthan		46633	99661	20453
23. Sikkim		1400	3500	1150
24. Tamil Nadu		12720	15000	10900
25. Tripura		1500	4000	5775
26. Uttar Pradesh		53000	47000	51238
27. Uttaranchal		6700	7500	16162
28. West Bengal		11000	14000	18500
29. Andaman and Nicobar Islands	—	—	—	5200
30. Delhi	—	—	3000	—
31. Pondicherry	—	—	—	25
Total		400083	474378	490120

The minikits have not been allotted during the current year.

[English]

Recommendation of Pharma Task Force

4. SHRI NAVJOT SINGH SIDHU : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the recommendations of Pharma Task Force; and

(b) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) A Task Force has been constituted under the Chairmanship of the Principal Adviser(PP), Planning Commission to explore various options other than price control for achieving the objective of making available life saving drugs at reasonable prices. No recommendations have been made so far by the Task Force.

Subsidy to Cotton Growers

5. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has received request from Government of Maharashtra for financial assistance to the tune of Rs. 400 crore to provide subsidy to cotton growers under the cotton monopoly scheme 2004-2005;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) to (c) The Government of Maharashtra has sought subsidy for making good the loss in cotton procurement under the monopoly procurement scheme of the Government of Maharashtra and export subsidy to make cotton export competitive on the lines applicable to Cotton Corporation of India (CCI).

The Ministry of Agriculture has supported the proposal for extending the benefit of export incentive to the Maharashtra State Cooperative Cotton Growers' Marketing Federation (MSCCGMF) on the same terms and conditions as are applicable to CCI. Though the Government has approved this proposal, the prospects of exports are dim in view of relatively low level of competitiveness of Indian cotton in the global market, particularly in view of higher global cotton production in 2004-05.

**Production of Milk and Milk
Products in Gujarat**

6. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the annual production of milk and milk products in Gujarat, commodity-wise;

(b) whether many of the milk factories in Gujarat have shut down their establishments due to heavy flood and rain recently;

(c) if so, the details of loss, if any; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to normalise the situation and to augment the production of milk products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) The annual production of milk and milk products in Gujarat, commodity-wise for the year 2004-05 is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) and (c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of (b) and (c) above.

Statement

**Milk and Milk Products in Gujarat State
Year 2004-05**

1. Milk—Total Milk Production	68.52	Lac Tonnes
2. Skim Milk Powder	40750.76	M. Tonnes
3. Whole Milk Powder	3811.79	M. Tonnes
4. Butter	36836.80	M. Tonnes
5. Ghee	21414.74	M. Tonnes

6. Milk Cream	4130.86	M. Tonnes
7. Mava	103.15	M. Tonnes
8. Cheese	4409.38	M. Tonnes
9. Butter Milk	67720.25	M. Tonnes
10. Amul Spray	42127.89	M. Tonnes
11. Ice Cream	14955.87	M. Tonnes
12. Amulya Powder	18702.45	M. Tonnes
13. Paneer	1542.59	M. Tonnes
14. Curd-Dahi	5551.00	M. Tonnes
15. Butter (PCC) and White	4881.59	M. Tonnes
16. Sweet Products	24736.37	M. Tonnes

[Translation]

Steel Production

7. SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN :
SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN :

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

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

(b) whether the target has been fixed for production of steel during the current year;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government has achieved the target;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN):

(a) The production of Finished (Carbon) Steel in the country during the last three years is given below:

(Quantity: In million tonnes)

	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05 (Prov.)
Finished (Carbon) Steel	33.67	36.957	38.385

(Source: Joint Plant Committee)

(b) In a liberalized and deregulated environment, targets for production of steel are determined by the individual steel plants, keeping in view the market demand and other related factors. Based on the demand and other market conditions the Government only makes an assessment of the likely production level.

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

[English]

Torture of Elephants in Tamil Nadu

8. SHRI A.K. MOORTHY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there have been complaints of torture and harassment of elephants in the State of Tamil Nadu in the name of recreation, etc.; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Trend of Agricultural Production

9. SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL:

SHRI GIRIDHARI YADAV :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the present trend of agricultural production in Maharashtra and Bihar;

(b) whether the above States are self-reliant in agricultural production and whether all necessary facilities are provided to these States by the Government; and

(c) if so, the extent to which assistance can be given to the farmers of these States under the New Agriculture Policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Export of Crops from Maharashtra

10. SHRIMATI KALPANA RAMESH NARHIRE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the crops produced in Maharashtra State and are being exported;

(b) whether the Government propose to increase the support price of crops to be exported; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Details of Completion of NRCP

11. SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the main features and details of National River Conservation Plan (NRCP), the time since when it being implemented and the number of works completed under this plan till date;

(b) the number of projects being run under the said project, State-wise;

(c) brief details of Chambal river (Rajasthan) project under the above project;

(d) whether 100 per cent funding by the Union Government has now been reduced to 70 per cent;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith with present status with regard to Chambal river (Rajasthan) project; and

(f) the details of expenditure till date on the said project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) The scheme of National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) is under implementation since 1995 to cover pollution abatement works in 158 towns along the polluted stretches of 32 rivers spread over 19 States at a total approved cost of Rs. 4704 crore including Central and State share. The objective of the NRCP is to improve the water quality of the rivers through the implementation of the following pollution abatement works.

- (1) Interception and diversion works to capture the raw sewage flowing into the river through open drains and divert them for treatment;
- (2) Sewage treatment plant for treating the diverted sewage;
- (3) Low cost sanitation works to prevent open defecation on river banks;
- (4) Electric and improved wood based crematoria to conserve the use of wood and help in ensuring proper cremation of bodies brought to the burning ghat;

(5) River front development works such as improvement of bathing ghats, etc.; and

(6) Other miscellaneous works like Afforestation, Public Participation etc.

Out of 915 number of projects sanctioned under NRCP, 519 projects have been completed so far.

(b) There are 396 number of ongoing projects under the said project. The State-wise details are as under:

Sl.No.	State	Ongoing Projects
1	2	3
(i)	Andhra Pradesh	13
(ii)	Bihar	4
(iii)	Jharkhand	10
(iv)	Gujarat	2
(v)	Goa	5
(vi)	Karnataka	20
(vii)	Maharashtra	11
(viii)	Madhya Pradesh	12
(ix)	Orissa	17
(x)	Punjab	26
(xi)	Rajasthan	2
(xii)	Tamil Nadu	42
(xiii)	Delhi	0
(xiv)	Haryana	12
(xv)	Uttar Pradesh	42
(xvi)	Uttaranchal	24

1	2	3
(xvii)	West Bengal	147
(xviii)	Kerala	6
(xix)	Sikkim	1

(c) to (f) The Chambal river project was included in the National River Conservation Plan for Pollution abatement of river Chambal from Kota and Keshoraipatan towns for which an amount of Rs. 13.21 crore was approved by the Government. The State Government had submitted detailed project reports for Rs. 1.16 crore against which an amount of Rs. 0.94 crore was released for implementation of schemes in Kota and Keshoraipatan. In Kota town 3 schemes i.e. low cost sanitation (LCS), river front development (RFD) and crematoria (CRE) were sanctioned by National River Conservation Directorate (NRCD) which have since been completed. In Keshoraipatan town 4 schemes i.e. LCS, RFD, CRE, interception and diversion (I and D) and Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) were sanctioned by NRCD out of which I and D and STP are currently under implementation. Others have since been completed.

Funding pattern under NRCP was modified with effect from January, 2002 from 100% Central funding to 70:30 cost sharing between the Central and the State Governments to bring in more involvement of the State Governments.

[English]

Setting up of Forest Development Authority

*12. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHA BARAD : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from the State Government of Gujarat for

setting up of Forest Development Authority in Junagadh District in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details of the same;

(c) whether the Union Government has considered the request of the State Government of Gujarat;

(d) if so, the time by which the Union Government would give its approval; and

(e) if not, the main reasons for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) Ministry of Environment and Forest has received a proposal from Forest Development Agency, Junagadh for consideration under the National afforestation Programme scheme;

(c) to (e) The proposal will be approved subject to availability of funds.

Scholarship for Children of Beedi Workers

*13. SHRI A.V. BELLARMIN : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of children of beedi workers who are entitled for Educational Scholarship for the year 2003-2004 and 2004-2005 in the country particularly in Tamil Nadu, State-wise;

(b) the number of children out of them were not paid for the year 2003-04 and for 2004-05, State-wise; and

(c) the steps are being taken for early payment of the scholarship for which the children are entitled?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO) : (a) and (b) The details are given in the statement enclosed.

(c) Funds have been sought under Supplementary demands so that payment of scholarships to the left over children may be made. In the meantime, the concerned

regions have been instructed to clear the back log of payment of scholarships for the year 2004-05, during the current financial year ie. 2005-06.

Statement

Total number of children of beedi workers entitled for scholarship for the year 2003-2004 and 2004-2005 and the number of students who were not paid scholarships during 2003-2004 and 2004-2005

Sl. No.	State	Eligible no. of students for grant of scholarship		No. of students who could not be paid scholarship	
		2003-2004	2004-2005	2003-2004	2004-2005
1.	Tamil Nadu	103607	101786	61010	31763
2.	Andhra Pradesh	98088	86935	50289	10187
3.	Karnataka	95519	166041	24272	95793
4.	Kerala	22232	30909	5846	15710
5.	Rajasthan	2107	4601	865	526
6.	Gujarat	5843	4329	501	2816
7.	Uttar Pradesh	8226	13394	1800	4800
8.	Orissa	49538	42535	25638	20189
9.	Madhya Pradesh	32533	35438	6679	10112
10.	Chhattisgarh	859	1497	Nil	Nil
11.	Bihar	5916	10637	311	235
12.	Jharkhand	2470	10680	238	169
13.	West Bengal	53773	98308	18028	54779
14.	Assam	299	351	Nil	Nil
15.	Tripura	928	1140	Nil	755
16.	Maharashtra	23019	39627	Nil	Nil

[Translation]

Export of Fertilizers

14. SHRI SITA RAM SINGH : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the name of the countries to whom India has been exporting fertilizers; and

(b) the foreign exchange earned therefrom during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN):

(a) India is primarily an importer of fertilizers and fertilizers inputs as necessary raw materials are not available in the country. However, small quantities of fertilizers are being exported to neighbouring land - locked countries. During the last three years fertilizers were exported to Nepal, Bangladesh, Sri Lank, Indonesia, Singapore, Sharjah and London.

(b) Department of Fertilizers do not maintain the details of foreign exchange earned by the exporters on export of fertilizers.

Water Resources Projects

15. SHRI SUBHASH SURESHCHANDRA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state the details of water resources projects being implemented by the Government in the States, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) Irrigation being a State subject the irrigation projects are planned formulated, executed and funded by the State Governments out of their own resources and as per their priorities. As on 1.4.2004 there are 169 major and 219 medium ongoing irrigation projects which have spilled over from Ninth Five Year Plan to Tenth Five Year Plan as detailed in the Statement enclosed.

Statement

(Rs. Crore/Th. ha.)

Sl. No.	Name of State	Number of Projects			Latest Estimated Cost		Balance cost as on 1.4.2004 (Anticipated)		Balance Potential as on 1.4.2004 (Anticipated)	
		Major	Medium	Total	Major	Medium	Major	Medium	Major	Medium
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	15	9	24	17593.75	481.28	8444.49	134.51	655.64	50.44
2.	Assam	5	5	10	1677.54	163.34	1284.12	60.63	123.78	13.17
3.	Bihar	9	3	12	4444.61	180.21	2237.84	66.32	667.36	11.97
4.	Chhattisgarh	3	5	8	1742.16	190.17	236.57	113.46	126.24	31.99
5.	Goa	1	0	1	966.56	0.00	464.95	0.00	13.68	0.00
6.	Gujarat	3	18	21	31118.35	843.44	14453.64	252.49	1575.84	62.68

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
7. Haryana		4	0	4	962.13	0.00	191.31	0.00	86.00	0.00
8. Himachal Pradesh		1	2	3	203.84	84.73	121.55	74.00	23.80	8.24
9. Jammu and Kashmir		0	7	7	0.00	226.30	0.00	83.23	0.00	24.21
10. Jharkhand		5	19	24	4670.05	1077.94	3246.62	565.55	418.57	83.54
11. Karnataka		16	18	34	19175.60	1363.25	7232.26	329.92	750.93	53.76
12. Kerala		4	4	8	1884.80	724.00	600.78	487.77	106.51	28.13
13. Madhya Pradesh		16	5	21	17777.83	218.80	11682.48	164.52	1577.85	46.61
14. Maharashtra		56	95	151	32543.65	7151.91	17683.61	3204.22	1917.26	403.54
15. Manipur		2	1	3	639.22	63.10	230.56	37.02	44.40	7.54
16. Meghalaya		0	1	1	0.00	57.07	0.00	34.48	0.00	5.15
17. Orissa		10	10	20	6504.12	674.40	3413.95	210.67	472.69	29.17
18. Punjab		1	0	1	1324.18	0.00	1196.09	0.00	0.00	0.00
19. Rajasthan		4	4	8	6497.19	366.76	2346.45	20.27	386.54	12.12
20. Tamil Nadu		0	2	2	0.00	105.36	0.00	19.24	0.00	7.19
21. Tripura		0	3	3	0.00	178.00	0.00	40.39	0.00	23.42
22. Uttaranchal		3	0	3	5334.4	0.00	5081.03	0.00	290.60	0.00
23. Uttar Pradesh		9	0	9	7534.32	0.00	3286.93	0.00	1440.28	0.00
24. West Bengal		2	8	10	2663.34	65.08	1666.92	22.55	516.76	4.03
Total		169	219	388	165257.35	14215.1	85102.15	6012.24	11194.7	906.9

*[English]***Survey of Bhadra Dam**

16. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA : Will the Minister of
WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any survey has been conducted for
Bhadra Dam Channel in Davangere which is coming from
Shimoga in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the outcome of the survey;

(c) whether the Union Government has given any assistance to the State Government for the purpose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) The Government of Karnataka has reported that for modernization of Bhadra Reservoir Canal system including Davanagere Branch Canal, the Government of Karnataka had constituted an expert Committee during December, 2001. The Committee after detailed inspection of the Canal System and deliberations has submitted the report to the State Government. In the report, the Committee has recommended the remedial measures to set right the deficiencies like reducing the seepage losses through the Canal system and losses in damaged structures as under:

1. Providing cement concrete lining to vulnerable reaches in Main Canals and Branches.
2. To repair the damaged structures.

(c) and (d) The Central Government has not provided any financial assistance to this project.

Decreasing Number of Migratory Birds in Delhi Zoo

17. SHRI TUKARAM GANGADHAR GADAKH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether migration of birds from Siberia and other parts of the world to Delhi Zoo during the onset of the winter season every year is decreasing for the last few years;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) the current statistical figure with the Government about these migratory birds; and

(d) the steps the Government is taking so that number of these birds increase every year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) No significant decline in the number of migratory birds visiting Delhi Zoo has been observed in the last few years.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No such census is carried out to ascertain the exact number of birds visiting Delhi Zoo.

(d) Necessary arrangements have been made in Delhi Zoo to provide flowing water in the ponds, enough food and safety to attract large number of migratory birds during winter.

Subsidy in Agricultural Sector

18. SHRI JOACHIM BAXLA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of subsidy being provided in different sectors of agriculture presently; and

(b) the extent of increase proposed to be affected therein during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) Details of Subsidy being provided in different sectors of Agriculture from 2000-01 to 2003-04 are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) The extent of increase proposed to be affected during current year cannot be quantified due to non-availability of information.

Statement*Subsidies to Agriculture Sector*

(Rs. in Crores)

Sl. No.	Item	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03 (Actuals)	2003-04 (RE) +
1.	Fertilizers (Total)	13800	12595	11015	11847
1.1	Indigenous fertilizer	9480	8044	7790	8521
1.2	Imported Fertilizer	1	47	—	NA
1.3	Sale of decontrolled fertilizer With concession to farmers.	4319	4504	3225	3326
2.	Electricity**	6056	9342	735	
3.	Irrigation##	13756	14602	150401	13627
	State Governments	13563	13302	14039	NA
	Local Bodies	193	1300	1362	NA
4.	Other subsidies given to marginal farmers and farmers' Cooperative Societies in the form of seeds, development of oil seeds, pulses etc.	927	979	1259	

Source: 1. Fertilisers and other subsidies given to marginal farmers: Expenditure Budget 2004-05, Vol. I of Central Government.

2. Electricity and Irrigation : Central Statistical Organization.

NA : Not available.

** : Includes all subsidies to Electricity Boards and Corporations, Separate estimates of Electricity subsidy accountable exclusively to agricultural sector are not available.

##: The rates for supply of water to farmers are kept low as a matter of policy, resulting in losses to the Government irrigation system. The excess of operating costs over the gross revenue is treated as imputed irrigation subsidy.

+ : Quick estimates.

**Demand of Peasants for Patta
in Forest Land**

demand of peasants for Patta in Forest land under their occupation in the north eastern States especially Assam; and

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

(b) if so, the reaction of the Union Government

(a) whether the Union Government is aware of the

thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) The Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, is aware of the demand of ownership rights of forest dwellers over the forest land traditionally under their occupation. The Ministry has already issued guidelines under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 on 18.09.1990 in this regard. The process of grant of such ownership rights under the said guidelines of 1990 was continuing till the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India imposed ban on de-reservation of forest land and regularisation of encroachment.

[Translation]

Investment in Agriculture Sector

20. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether no thrust is being given to investment in the agriculture sector;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether investment in the agriculture sector can remove the poverty and unemployment of rural India; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to promote investment in the agriculture sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. In order to raise the level of investment in agriculture sector including the allied sectors of forestry, logging the fishing, the Plan outlay of the Ministry of Agriculture has been raised by 43% from Rs. 4192 crore in 2004-05 (Budget Estimates) to Rs. 5998 crore in 2005-06 (Budget Estimates).

(c) and (d) People engaged in agriculture constitute

the majority of rural population. About 62% of the farmers operate marginal holdings of less than 1 hectare, while about 19% operate holdings of 1-2 hectares. Government has, therefore, been implementing a number of schemes covering price support aimed at ensuring remunerative prices for major agricultural commodities, compensation for crop loss, subsidized inputs, etc. Experience shows that the factors contributing to the poor economic lot of Indian farmers include poor marketing infrastructure, low levels of investment in irrigation and inadequate flow of credit to agriculture.

The Union Budget for 2005-06 has, therefore, proposed further step up in credit flow to agriculture, and introduced new schemes for promoting horticulture and marketing.

- (i) **Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP)** : It was launched in 1996-97 to encourage the states for completion of on-going irrigation projects through Central Loan Assistance. This has been reviewed recently and the focus has been on completion of last mile projects. In 2005-06 an outlay of Rs. 4800 crore has been provided to improve the pace of implementation compared with Rs. 2800 crore in 2004-05.
- (ii) **Micro Irrigation** : Rs. 400 crore has been allocated for promoting micro irrigation through crop and sprinkler irrigation in the year 2005-06 to enhance water use efficiency. There is also an outlay of Rs. 200 crore for Enhancing Sustainability of Dryland Rainfed Farming System and Rs. 100 crore for National Mission on Bamboo Technology and Trade Development.
- (iii) **Agricultural Credit** : The banking sector comprising cooperative banks, regional rural banks and commercial banks disbursed Rs. 1,15,243 crore in 2004-05, which is to be raised by 30% in 2005-06.

- (iv) **National Horticulture Mission** : A sum of Rs. 630 crores have been provided for promoting research, production, post harvest management, processing and marketing in an integrated manner.
- (v) **Development/Strengthening of Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure, Grading and Standardization** : A sum of Rs. 72 crore has been allocated to attract large investment from private and cooperative sectors to set up agricultural markets, marketing and support services such as grading, standardization etc.
- (vi) **Micro Irrigation** : A sum of Rs. 1150 crore has been provided for agricultural research and education in 2005-06 compared with Rs. 1000 crore in 2004-05.

Mines Near Sariska Tiger Reserve

21. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware that about fifty mines are running illegally with the nexus of officials of department of forests around "Sariska" Tiger Reserve in Alwar district of Rajasthan;

(b) whether Supreme Court in 1993 had issued guidelines not to run mining activities in this area with a view to Environmental Protection of this area; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto alongwith the present status of implementation of Supreme Court guidelines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected from the State Government of Rajasthan and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Mashelkar Committee Report

22. SHRI JAI PRAKASH (Mohan Lal Ganj) : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have studied the report submitted by Dr. Mashelkar Committee constituted for bringing organisational and procedural changes in Indian Council of Agriculture Research (CAR);

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government on the basis of said report;

(c) whether Dr. Mashelkar Committee had also considered the suggestions made by previously constituted Dr. Swaminathan Committee; and

(d) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) and (b) Report of Dr. Mashelkar Committee has been received on 18.7.2005 and is under process of examination.

(c) The Mashelkar Committee has considered all previous reports including the Dr. Swaminathan Committee Report.

(d) Not Applicable.

Agricultural Land Damaged Due to Tsunami

23. SHRI BHUPENDRASINH SOLANKI :
SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is considering to take steps to make the land agricultural damaged due to the tsunami waves; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) To reclaim/improve the land damaged due to tsunami, measures such as soil testing, scraping and removal of deposited salts, leveling of land surface, leaching of salts with good quality water, improving drainage, addition of organic matter, etc. are being taken, as per need.

Polluting Units in West Bengal and Jharkhand

24. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) The number of cases registered city-wise in West Bengal and Jharkhand under the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1994 during the last three years; and

(b) The action taken thereon under the said acts so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) In the State of Jharkhand, four cases have been registered in the cities of Hazaribagh and Sareikela-Kharsawa during last three years of Jharkhand State Pollution Control Board under Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981. Similarly, West Bengal Pollution Control Board has filed two cases in the cities of Serampore, district Hooghly and Durgapur district Burdwan.

(b) The Boards are enforcing the mandatory

provisions of these Acts and have also issued show cause notices, closure orders against polluting units for compelling the industry to comply with environmental norms as stipulated under various Acts.

Sanctioning of Forests Development Projects

25. SHRI CHANDRABHAN SINGH Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for leaving Madhya Pradesh and sanctioning only 35 projects out of present 523 projects for Forests Development at national level though the State of Madhya Pradesh has 25 per cent forest cover;

(b) the number of projects pending clearance of Government under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 pertaining to Madhya Pradesh; and

(c) by when these projects are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) The Ministry of Environment and Forests is implementing National Afforestation Programme (NAP) for development of forests. NAP is implemented through Forest Development Agency (FDA) at the forest division level and Joint Forest Management Committee (JFMC) at the village level. 47 FDA project proposals have been submitted by the Madhya Pradesh state, and out of which 44 projects have been approved upto 31.3.2005 to treat a total area of 73,350 hectares through 1402 JFMCs at a total cost of Rs.108.34 crore.

(b) and (c) 12 proposals received from Madhya Pradesh for forestry clearance, are under various stages of examination in the Ministry. The project proposals involving non-forestry use of forest lands, received from various states/Union Territories (UTs) are examined according to the procedure prescribed under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, Forest (Conservation) Rules,

2003, and the guidelines issued from time to time thereunder. The whole examination and the decision on the proposal is a continuous process, for which Central Government has prescribed a time limit of 60 days for itself for processing and taking decision on the complete proposal, under the Rules.

[English]

Pharmaceutical Technology Upgradation Scheme

26. SHRI UDAY SINGH : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to introduce pharmaceutical technology upgradation scheme especially for small pharma firms;

(b) if so, whether the Government has not asked for views of the genuine small units and exclusive associations of small scale pharma unit, but has asked for views of large scale units;

(c) if so, the justification thereof; and

(d) the remedial steps proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (d) The feasibility of framing a scheme for assisting pharmaceutical units in technology upgradation/modernisation is being considered in this Department. The Department had solicited the views of many industrial associations such as OPPI, IPA, IDMA etc. The views/comments of the Development Commissioner (Small Scale Industries) have also been solicited in this regard. The interests of the pharma industry including small scale sector would form the basis of such a scheme.

Construction of Recharge Structures

27. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether about 174 projects in States/Union Territories were taken up for construction of various recharge structures under the scheme of Artificial Recharge of Ground Water;

(b) if so, the details of the Projects, States/Union Territories-wise; and

(c) by when the work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. 174 projects were sanctioned in 27 States/Union Territories for construction of recharge structures under the Central Sector Scheme of 'Study of Recharge to Ground Water' during the IX Plan. State-wise details are enclosed as statement. Work on 13 projects is under progress. The matter is being pursued with the concerned State agencies for early completion of these ongoing projects.

Statement

State-wise Details of Artificial Recharge Projects Implemented by CGWB under Central Sector Scheme "Study of Recharge to Ground Water" During the IX Plan

Sl. No.	State	No. of schemes Sanc- tioned	No. of schemes Com- pleted	No. of schemes in progress	No. of schemes dropped
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10	10	0	0
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	1	0	0
3.	Assam	1	1	0	0
4.	Bihar	2	1	0	1

1	2	3	4	5	6
5.	Chandigarh	7	7	0	0
6.	Delhi	18	16	0	2
7.	Gujarat	3	3	0	0
8.	Haryana	8	4	4	0
9.	Himachal Pradesh	6	6	0	0
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	8	8	0	0
11.	Jharkhand	5	3	0	2
12.	Karnataka	2	2	0	0
13.	Kerala	13	13	0	0
14.	Madhya Pradesh	5	5	0	0
15.	Maharashtra	4	3	0	1
16.	Meghalaya	1	1	0	0
17.	Mizoram	1	1	0	0
18.	Nagaland	3	3	0	0
19.	Orissa	8	3	4	1
20.	Punjab	17	17	0	0
21.	Rajasthan	18	18	0	0
22.	Tamil Nadu	10	10	0	0
23.	Uttar Pradesh	10	8	1	1
24.	Uttaranchal	1	1	0	0
25.	West Bengal	7	4	2	1

1	2	3	4	5	6
26.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	3	1	2	0
27.	Lakshadweep	2	2	0	0
Total		174	152	13	9

[Translation]

**Special Scheme to Promote
Agricultural Yields**

28. SHRI RAMSEVAK SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to prepare a special scheme to promote the agricultural yields in the country;

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

(c) the amount provided to the States, particularly Madhya Pradesh under the said scheme during the last three years; and

(d) the amount proposed to be provided to the States particularly Madhya Pradesh during 2005-06?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) and (b) A number of schemes for increasing agricultural production and productivity in the country are already under implementation. These include the Scheme for Macro Management of Agriculture; Integrated Scheme on Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize (ISOPOM); Technology Mission on Cotton; and Technology Mission on Integrated Development of Horticulture in North Eastern Region and certain hill States. In addition., National Horticulture Mission was recently launched with a view to double the horticulture production by 2011-12. Yet another intervention

has been the launching of National Project on Organic Farming to improve the fertility of soil and promote production and productivity.

(c) An aggregate amount of Rs. 3092.29 crores was released during the last three years to various States under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Department of Agriculture and Cooperation out of which an amount of Rs. 205.17 crores was released to Madhya Pradesh.

(d) An outlay of Rs. 2085.62 crores under Centrally Sponsored Schemes of the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation has been earmarked for States and Union Territories including Madhya Pradesh (M.P.) in the current Annual Plan. The amount of funds to be provided to M.P. will depend upon the proposals sent by M.P. for various schemes.

Expansion of Rajaji National Park

29. MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Rajaji National Park situated in Uttaranchal has been expanded or is being expanded;

(b) if so, the area which is likely to be covered and the proposed plan for the rehabilitation of the original inhabitants of the area; and

(c) if not, the reasons for which the villagers of these areas are being asked to evacuate their villages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No revenue villages are being relocated. However, as per the settlement of the National Park previously carried by the respective District Magistrates, encroachments and areas of which leases have expired are being freed from encroachment as per the provisions

of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

Procurement of Agricultural Products

30. SHRI K.C. PALANISAMY : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the details and quantity of agricultural products including wheat and rice procured by the Food Corporation of India (FCI) from Tamil Nadu during the last one year, product-wise;

(b) whether the agricultural products from Tamil Nadu are being exported to foreign countries; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) The Food Corporation of India (FCI) have not procured rice, wheat or coarsegrains from Tamil Nadu during the last one year.

(b) and (c) This information is not maintained in this Department.

Rivers Linking Scheme

31. SHRIMATI RUPATAI D. PATIL :
SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of progress made with regard to rivers-linking project, till date, State-wise;

(b) the amount spent on the project, till-date; and

(c) by when the entire work on linking of rivers is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) Based on various studies of National Perspective Plan for Water Resources Development, National Water Development Agency (NWDA) has identified 30 links for preparing Feasibility Reports (FRs). NWDA has so far completed feasibility reports for 14 links under Peninsular Rivers Development Component and two links under Himalayan Rivers Development Component. A

statement giving details of such links whose FRs are completed and States involved is enclosed.

(b) Total amount spent on the studies and survey and investigations of various links till 2004-05 is Rs. 165.08 crore.

(c) The completion of the inter linking schemes depend upon the early consensus between the concerned States.

Statement

S.No. A.	PENINSULAR COMPONENT	States Benefited
1.	Ken-Betwa Link	Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh
2.	Par-Tapi-Narmada Link	Gujarat and Maharashtra
3.	Pamba-Achankovil-Vaippar Link	Tamil Nadu and Kerala
4.	Godavari (Polavaram)-Krishna (Vijayawada) Link	Andhra Pradesh
5.	Krishna (Srisailem)-Pennar Link.	Feeder link for links at Sl. No. 14 and 10
6.	Krishna (Nagarjunsagar)-Pennar (Somsila) Link.	Andhra Pradesh
7.	Daman ganga-Pinjal Link	Maharashtra
8.	Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal Link	Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan
9.	Krishna (Almatti)-Pennar Link	Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka
10.	Cauvery (Kattalai)-Vaigai-Gundar Link.	Tamil Nadu
11.	Mahanadi (Manibhadra)-Godavari (Dowlaiswaram) Link	Andhra Pradesh and Orissa
12.	Godavari (Inchampalli)-Krishna (Nagarjunsagar) Link	Andhra Pradesh
13.	Godavari (Inchampalli Low Dam)-Krishna (Nagarjunsagar Tail Pond) Link	Andhra Pradesh
14.	Pennar (Somasila)-Cauvery (Grand Anicut) Link	Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry
B.	HIMALAYAN COMPONENT	
1.	Sarda-Yamuna link	Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal and NCT of Delhi
2.	Ghaghra-Yamuna link	Uttar Pradesh

[English]

New Steel Policy

32. SHRI BHUVANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA :
SHRI UDAY SINGH :

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a new Steel Policy has been formulated and waiting for the Government's approval; and

(b) if so, the salient features of the proposed new Steel Policy?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following are some of the salient features of the draft National Steel Policy (NSP) :

- The NSP sets out a broad roadmap for the Indian Steel Industry in its journey towards reform, restructuring and globalisation.
- The long-term goal of the NSP is that India should have a modern and efficient steel industry of world standards, catering to diversified steel demand. The focus of the policy is to achieve global competitiveness not only in terms of cost, quality and product-mix but also in terms of global benchmarks of efficiency and productivity.
- In order to achieve the goal of 110 million tonnes of steel production by 2019-20, the NSP seeks to remove the supply-side constraints to the growth of this industry in an open, globally integrated and competitive environment.
- The NSP seeks to adopt a multi-pronged strategy to move towards the long-term policy goal. On the demand side, the strategy would

be to create incremental demand through promotional efforts, creation of awareness and strengthening the delivery chain, particularly in rural areas. On the supply side, the strategy would be to facilitate creation of additional capacity, remove procedural and policy bottlenecks in the availability of inputs such as iron ore and coal, make higher investments in R and D and encourage the creation of infrastructure such as roads, railways, and ports.

- The NSP acknowledges the low per capita consumption of steel in the country, especially in the rural areas and the need to boost steel consumption to improve quality of life and help in meeting the growing aspirations of masses.
- In order to achieve the strategic goal of 110 mT of steel production by 2019-20, the industry would need additional capital. In addition, funds would be required for technological upgrade of existing facilities. In order to mobilize such vast resources NSP seeks to encourage foreign direct investment. In addition the policy also seeks to make the fiscal incentives, available to infrastructure projects, accessible to the steel industry.
- The NSP seeks to support developing of risk-hedging instruments like futures and derivatives to contain price volatility in the steel market.
- The NSP seeks to strengthen the existing training and research facilities available to the domestic steel industry so as to provide suitable training programmes especially for the secondary small-scale units and also to collect and analyze data on important parameters of the industry.
- The NSP seeks to mount aggressive R and D efforts to create manufacturing capability for

special types of steel, substitute coking coal, use iron ore fines, develop new products suited to rural needs, enhance material and energy efficiency, utilize waste, and arrest environmental degradation.

- The NSP acknowledges the important role played by the secondary steel sector in providing employment, meeting local demand of steel in rural and semi-urban areas, and meeting the country's demand of some special products and seeks to endeavour to provide the necessary feedstock to these units at reasonable prices from major plants through the existing mechanism of State Small Industries Corporations.
- The NSP recognizes the fact that integration of the Indian steel industry with the global economy requires that the industry should be protected from unfair trade practices, which become common especially during periods of downturn. The NSP therefore, envisages institution of mechanisms for import surveillance, and monitoring export subsidies in other countries.

Integrated Food Law

33. SHRI SITA RAM YADAV : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Group of Ministers has approved the draft Integrated Food Law;
- (b) if so, the salient features thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) by when the same is likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY) : (a) to (d) The Group of Ministers has approved the draft Integrated Food Law. The salient features of the

draft IFL are: (i) movement from multi-level and multi-departmental control to integrated line of command, (ii) a single reference point for all matters relating to Food Safety and Standards, regulations and enforcement by establishing a Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, (iii) shift from mere regulatory regime to self-compliance through Food Safety Management Systems, (iv) decentralizing the licensing/registration for manufacture, sale etc. of food products, presently granted by the Central agencies under various Acts and Orders, (v) graded penalties depending on the gravity of offence.

Verification of Company Products

34. SHRI K.C. SINGH "BABA" : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government has decided to establish any Authority for scrutinizing and verifying the claims made by the companies in regard to their products before their launch in the market;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which the Authority is likely to be established?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

- (b) and (d) Does Not arise.

Environmental Clearance to Airport in Lakshadweep

35. DR. P.P. KOYA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether environmental clearance has since been given to Airport existing at Agatti Island of Lakshadweep;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of other pending proposals in the Ministry of Environment and Forests sent for clearance by the Lakshadweep Administration; and

(d) the reasons for delay in clearing them alongwith the steps taken/proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIAN MEENA): (a) and (b) Environmental clearance has been granted to construction of new terminal building and related facilities at Agatti Aerodrome Lakshadweep on 16.2.2005 subject to environmental conditions and safeguards.

(c) No other proposals from Lakshadweep Administration are pending with the Ministry of Environment and Forests for environmental clearance.

(d) Does not arise.

Death of lions in Gujarat

36. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI :
SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE :
SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA :
SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI :

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

(a) whether the Gir lions are reported to be worst affected in the recent floods in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the number of lions found dead there so far;

(c) whether the Government plans to create a second home to protect the Asiatic Lions;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the other measures being taken to protect Gir lions from the natural calamities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIAN MEENA): (a) and (b) The state has reported death of only two lions outside the Gir Protected Area due to drowning in flood water.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. The Kuno-Palpur Sanctuary in Madhya Pradesh has been identified as an alternative home for the Asiatic lions, and a project has been undertaken for lion introduction in the said area. Further, funding support under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries is provided to Gujarat, which has the only population of lions in the country.

[Translation]

Assistance for Drought Affected States

37. SHRI GIRIDHARI YADAV :
SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA :
SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA :
SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO :
SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of loss suffered on account of damage to crops and livestock due to drought separately during the last three years; and

(b) the assistance sought and actual amount released by the Union Government to each State for the purpose during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) The requirement of assistance projected by the States for crop/livestock sectors which reflect the extent of loss in such sectors is enclosed as statement-I

(b) Assistance from National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) is sanctioned as lumpsum encompassing requirements of all sectors. The details of assistance extended during the period are enclosed as statement-II.

Statement-I

State-wise details of Requirement for Crop Loss and Animal Husbandry Sector for Droughts of 2003-04 and 2004-05

(Rs. in crores)

Sl.No.	State	Crops	Livestock
1	2	3	4
Year—2003-04			
1.	Andhra Pradesh	146.14	105.84
2.	Karnataska	278.44	126.62
3.	Kerala	1982.46	—
4.	Maharashtra	744.63	357.95
5.	Tamil Nadu	299.96	13.34

Year—2004-05

1.	Andhra Pradesh	149.48	20.20
2.	Bihar	111.10	182.00
3.	Chhattisgarh	90.00	1.98
4.	Jharkhand	110.00	1.86
5.	Karnataka	112.93	9.62
6.	Madhya Pradesh	126.44	2.58
7.	Maharashtra	300.46	201.00
8.	Rajasthan	91.49	488.90
9.	Tamil Nadu	272.82	—
10.	Uttar Pradesh	1605.20	51.21

Source: Memoranda submitted by the State Governments for assistance from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF).

Statement-II

State-wise details of Central assistance provided for Droughts of 2003-04 and 2004-05

(NCCF—Rs. in crores)

(Foodgrains—in Lakh MTs)

Sl. No.	State	Drought of 2003-04				Drought of 2004-05 (July 2004 to March 2005)				Continuing Drought of 2004-05 (April 2005 to July 2005)			
		NCCF		Foodgrains		NCCF		Foodgrains		NCCF		Foodgrains	
		De-mand	Re-lease	De-mand	Re-lease	De-mand	Re-lease	De-mand	Re-lease	De-mand	Re-lease	De-mand	Re-lease
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	859.88	50.58	15.00	7.82	1199.68	40.01	22.50	2.20	—	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
2. Bihar	—	—	—	—	2312.48	162.15	12.93	2.00	—	—	—	—	—
3. Chhattisgarh	—	—	—	—	604.96	52.74	7.20	0.90	—	—	—	—	—
4. Jharkhand	—	—	—	—	928.12	—	—	0.67	—	—	—	—	—
5. Karnataka	1881.55	298.16	15.61	7.29	1147.72	49.14	4.53	1.14	—	—	—	—	—
6. Kerala	3847.00\$	106.00	2.00	1.03	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Madhya Pradesh	—	—	—	—	724.28	1.70	7.64	1.00	—	—	—	—	—
8. Maharashtra	1715.00	250.69	6.00	7.00	—	—	—	—	1117.99	174.66	2.00	—	—
9. Rajasthan	—	—	0.22	0.19	2378.64	216.79	28.80	6.99	939.37	156.71	19.23	5.00	—
10. Tamil Nadu	2283.73	173.35	10.80	3.04	1910.58	117.27	5.40	1.50	—	—	—	—	—
11. Uttaranchal	411.87	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
12. Uttar Pradesh	—	—	—	—	2726.10	192.10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

\$for revival of agriculture sector in the State.

@subject to adjustment of available balances in CRF of respective States.

CRF : Calamity Relief Fund

NCF : National Calamity Contingency Fund

[English]

Allocation of Foodgrains for AAY

38. SHRI SUBRATA BOSE : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has received any complaints regarding quality of foodgrains being distributed under the Antyodaya Anna Yojana;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure

that only good quality foodgrains are supplied to poor people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b) The Targetted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State Governments wherein the Central Government is responsible for procurement of foodgrains, storage and their transportation upto the Principal Distribution Centres of FCI. The responsibility of distribution of foodgrains

through the Fair Price Shops (FPS) rests with the State Governments. No specific complaint on quality of foodgrains distributed under the AAY has been received from any of the State Governments/UT Administrations. However, whenever a complaint is received by the Central Government it is forwarded to the concerned State Government for investigations and necessary remedial action.

(c) The following steps have been taken by the Government to ensure that only good quality foodgrains are supplied to the poor people:

- (i) Ample opportunities are provided to the officials of the State Governments/UTs to inspect the stocks prior to lifting from the Food Corporation of India (FCI) godowns.
- (ii) Instructions have been issued to all the State Governments/UTs that an officer not below the rank of Inspector should be deputed to check the quality of foodgrains before lifting from the FCI godowns.
- (iii) The samples of foodgrains are jointly drawn and sealed by the officers of the State Governments/UTs and the FCI during the issue of stocks from FCI godowns for display at the counters of Fair Price Shops (FPSs).
- (iv) The officers of the State Government's and the Ministry pay surprise checks of the FPSs, to over see the quality of foodgrains being distributed through TPDS.
- (v) The officers of the Department designated as "Area Officers" for monitoring the TPDS work in the respective States also undertake visits to the storage depots and the FPSs, during their visit to the States to check the quality of foodgrains being issued.

[Translation]

Promotion of Tourism

39. SHRI MOHD. TAHIR :

SHRI MUNSHI RAM :

SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHAWAHA :

PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether new initiatives and marketing strategies have been formulated by the Government for promotion of tourism during 2005-06;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for increasing number of tourists and ensuring their safety in States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The new domestic and global campaigns for the current year focus on India as a destination for niche segments like Medical Tourism, Cruise Tourism, Spiritual Tourism etc. The aim is to expand the range of the tourism products in India both for the domestic and international consumers. Atithi Devo Bhavah campaign launched last year by the Ministry emphasises treating the guest as God, and one of its components is training of the stakeholders and service providers, to make them aware of the benefits of tourism and the need to treat the tourist with care and courtesy.

[English]

Revamping of public Distribution System

40. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of families identified as living below poverty line in the country for providing foodgrains under Public Distribution System;

(b) whether a large number of people living below poverty line do not have access to Public Distribution System;

(c) if so, whether there is any proposal to revamp the Public Distribution System in order to cover all the poor families to ensure a hunger-free life to all the citizens; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and by when it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b) Under the Targetted Public Distribution System (TPDS), foodgrains are allocated to the State Governments/UTs for an estimated number of 6.52 crore BPL families (including 2.5 crore AAY families) which is based on the poverty ratio of the Planning Commission for 1993-94 and projected population of the Registrar General of India as on 1.3.2000. Against the estimated number of 6.5 crore the States/UTs have identified more than 8 crore BPL families and issued them Ration Cards. All the Ration Card holders have access to the Public Distribution System.

(c) and (d) Streamlining of Public Distribution System (PDS) with a view to make it more effective and accountable is an ongoing process. Government reviews functioning of the PDS to make it more responsive. To ensure food security for all and to improve the Public Distribution System (PDS) for the benefit of the poorest of the poor from amongst the BPL families, the Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) was commenced in December, 2000 to provide foodgrains at highly subsidized rates of Rs. 2/- per kg. for wheat and Rs. 3/- per kg. for rice. The AAY has been expanded to cover 2.5 crore families. Instructions have been issued to include the deserving persons left out of AAY, and for inclusion of migrant labour and urban destitutes to ensure hunger free life to all citizens.

Discontinuation of FCI Godowns

41. SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN : Will the Minister of

CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is considering any proposal to discontinue the functioning of Food Corporation of India godowns in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government has finalised the alternative arrangement for storage of foodgrains for distribution under Public Distribution System; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Pollution Created by Grinding Stones

42. SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite directions from the Supreme Court for keeping the environment clean, about 160 crushers grinding stones in Faridabad are reported to have crossed all limits in creating pollution in Faridabad and adjoining localities of Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action proposed/taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The Haryana State Pollution Control Board (HSPCB) has reported that 163 Stone crushing units are operating in Pali/Mohabatabad crushing zone in Distt. Faridabad. Out of these, 128 stone crushing units have installed adequate Air Pollution Control Measures.

(c) The HSPCB is taking necessary legal action, such as, issuance of Show Cause Notices, Closure Notices against the defaulting units. The Board has directed these units to install Pollution Control Devices such as dust containment cum suppression system, wind breaking wall, metalled roads within the premises, regular clean and wetting of ground, creating of green belt alongwith periphery, so as to ensure compliance of standards.

[Translation]

Development of Sitamarhi in Bihar

43. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from the Government of Bihar for the development of Sitamarhi district as National/International spot; and

(b) if so, the response of the Union Government thereto alongwith assistance proposed to be provided to the State Government during the current year for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Availability of Fertilizers and Chemicals to Farmers

44. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has taken any step to provide fertilizers and chemicals to poor farmers at reasonable rates;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) :

(a) to (c) With the objective of making available fertilizers at affordable prices to all farmers including poor farmers, urea, being the only controlled fertilizer, is sold at statutorily notified maximum retail price (MRP), and the decontrolled phosphatic and potassic fertilizers, such as DAP, MOP and NPK complexes are sold at indicative MRPs. MRP of single super phosphate is indicated by the respective State Government.

As regards chemicals, it is stated that as the chemical industry has been de-regulated, there is no Government control on production, distribution and pricing of chemicals.

[Translation]

Supply of Foodgrains for all Categories

45. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether some base depots of Food Corporation of India (FCI) do not supply foodgrains simultaneously for both Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Above Poverty Line (APL) categories;

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

(c) by when these depots are likely to start simultaneous supply of foodgrains to both the categories?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

**Handing Over of Sanctuary Land to
Forest Dwellers**

46. SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO :
SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA :

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to hand over
vast tracts of sanctuary land to residents of the forest;

(b) if so, the criteria and methodology adopted
therefor; and

(c) the time schedule to implement this new policy
alongwith the steps taken in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN
MEENA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Shortage of Fertilizers

47. SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN :
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :
SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN :
SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN :
SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
be pleased to state :

(a) the capacity of fertilizer plants in the country at
present;

(b) whether there was shortage of fertilizers in the
country;

(c) if so, the details of the fertilizers in short supply;

(d) the demand and indigenous production of these
fertilizers;

(e) the reasons of the shortfall; and

(f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to improve
the situation?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) :

(a) Product-wise production capacity of fertilizers plants in
the country at present is as below:-

(lakh MT)

Name of the product	Installed capacity
Urea	205.12 (194.60 operational capacity)
DAP	72.99
Complexes	50.98
SSP	58.99
Others	17.43

(b) There has been no shortage in the recent
past.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Demand and indigenous production of fertilizers
during 2004-05 is given below:-

(lakh MT)

Name of fertilizers	Demand	Actual Production
Urea	214.08	202.63
DAP	70.60	51.84
Complexes	63.42	53.61
SSP	33.86	23.87
Others	12.23	8.76

(e) Production of all fertilizers was highest so far during the year 2004-05.

(f) The Department has asked the Urea manufacturing units to produce beyond their installed capacities by increasing their stream days, postponing turn around etc. About 3.5 lakh MT of additional Urea is estimated to be produced in the season. In addition imports from OMIFCO, a joint venture company set up in Sur, Oman, by Oman Oil Company and IFFCO/KRIBHCO with an annual capacity of 16.52 lakh MT/per annum have also commenced, thereby augmenting availability. Further, the Department has also tied up with canalizing agents i.e. IPL and MMTC to import adequate quantity of DAP to augment supplies. It is expected that these measures would be sufficient to meet the requirement of fertilizers for the current Kharif season.

Smuggling of Animals Skin

48. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that tiger and leopard skins and body-parts are being smuggled domestically and outside the frontiers;

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

(c) the number of tiger and leopard skins and body-parts seized between 2001 and 2005 and till date;

(d) the major routes adopted for smuggling out body parts; and

(e) the steps taken to block such routes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) Reports of tiger/leopard skins and body parts being smuggled across the borders have come to light at times.

(b) India has the following bilateral agreements with neighboring tiger countries :

- (i) A memorandum of understanding with Nepal has been signed to establish a joint Task Force to check the trafficking across the borders.'
- (ii) Indo-Chinese Protocol on tiger conservation is in existence which inter alia, stipulates joint measures to crackdown illegal activities of poaching of tigers, smuggling and selling tiger bones and other parts of tiger as well as its derivatives.

(c) The skins/body parts of tiger/leopard seized between 2001 to 2005 as reported by States so far are detailed in the statement-I enclosed.

(d) and (e) While no fixed route can be attributed for transit of illegal items, the borders between India-Nepal and India-Bangladesh are porous and sensitive. The steps taken by the Govt. of India for protecting wildlife are stated in the statement-II enclosed.

Statement-I

Seizure Data for the years 2001-2005 (Tiger/leopard and its body Parts)

State	Year	Tiger body parts seized	Leopard body parts seized
1	2	3	4
Uttar Pradesh	2001	10 skins, 10 skulls, 20 Kg. Bones	42 skins

1	2	3	4
	2002	2 skins	8 skins
	2003	—	12 skins
	2004	—	—
	2005	—	3 skins
Punjab	2001	1 skin	1 skin
Maharashtra	2001	5 skins 5 skull 5 skelton 10 claws 3 cacines 1 carcass	14 skins
	2002		3 skins 3 claws
	2003	7 Kg. Bones	7skins 2 skulls, 5 Kg bones and teeth
West Bengal	2001	2 skins	3 skins
	2002	4 skins	1 live leopard, 500 Gms of meat
	2003	7 skins	30 skins, 1 skull, 1 mount
Tamil Nadu	2001	2 skins	30 skins
	2003	20 nails	
Karnataka	2001	2 skins	—
	2002	—	1 skin
Uttaranchal	2001	1 skin 8.5 Kg bones and skull	11 skins
	2002	5 skins 23 Kg. bone 36 claws	10 skins
	2003	1 skin	29 skins
Delhi	2001	1 skin	9 skins
	2002	—	11 skins
	2003	1 skin 1 head	5 skins
	2004	—	6 skins

1	2	3	4
	2005	2 tiger skins	39 skins, 14 teeth of leopard and tiger, 60 kg. Paws of tiger/leopard, 3 kg. Claws of tiger/Leopard 10 pairs jaw of tiger/leopard, 40 small bones of tiger/leopard, 45 skins
Madhya Pradesh	2001	3 skins + tiger bones and claws	12 skins + bones
	2002	4 skin, 12 canines, 9 claws and whiskers	2 skins
	2003	5 skins, 1 skeleton	1 skin
Mizoram	2001	6.28 Kg. Bones	—
Andhra Pradesh	2001	1 skins	4 skins
	2003	3 skins	
Rajasthan	2001	—	7 skin
	2002	—	1 skin
Himachal Pradesh	2001	—	5 skins
	2002	—	7 skins
Chhattisgrah	2001	—	2 skins
	2002	3 skins	1 skin
Haryana	2001	—	6 skins
	2002	—	1 skin
	2003	—	—
	2004	—	15 skins
Assam	2001	—	1.7 Kg bones
Gujarat	2001	—	1 skin
	2002	—	4 skins
Orissa	2002	1 skin	—

1	2	3	4
	2003	3 nails	—
Kerala	2002	—	4 skins 1 carcass
Jharkhand	2002	—	1 skin
Chandigarh	2002	—	1 skin

Statement-II

- (i) Legal protection has been provided to wild animals including tigers against hunting and commercial exploitation under the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- (ii) Financial and technical help is being extended to States under Centrally Sponsored Schemes for enhancing the capacity and infrastructure to provide effective protection to wild animals.
- (iii) The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has been empowered under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to apprehend and prosecute wildlife offenders.
- (iv) The Ministry of Home Affairs has addressed all State Governments to lend a helping hand to the field formations to curb poaching and illegal trade in wildlife.
- (v) A National Wildlife Action Plan (2002-2016) has been launched with several action points and priority projects for conservation and protection of wildlife in the country.

Comprehensive Social Security Legislation

49. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether unorganised sector workers who made

up 92 per cent of the work force in India have demanded a more comprehensive social security legislation; and

- (b) if so, the main demand made by them and the action taken or proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO) : (a) and (b) The demand for a comprehensive legislation for the workers in the unorganised sector has been received from various quarters i.e. central trade unions, Parliamentary Committee attached to the Ministry of Labour, etc. The Second National Commission for Labour also recommended a comprehensive central legislation for these workers. The Government has drafted the 'Unorganised Sector Workers Bill, 2004' which is at the stage of consideration in consultation with the stakeholders i.e. State Governments, Central Trade Unions, Employers' Organisations, NGOs, etc. The National Commission for Enterprises in the Unorganised Sector is also looking into the matter.

Visit of Tourists to Kashmir

50. SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP :
SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Kashmir is witnessing an unprecedented inflow of domestic and foreign tourists this year;

- (b) if so, the number of domestic and foreign tourists visited Kashmir during the last three years and expected this year;

(c) whether the State Government has sought any assistance from the Union Government to improve the tourism in the Valley; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per the information received from the State of Jammu and Kashmir, the number of domestic and foreign tourists visits to Kashmir Valley during the last three years is as follows :-

(Figures in lakhs)

Year	Domestic	Foreign	Total
2002	0.25	0.03	0.28
2003	1.82	0.09	1.91
2004	3.58	0.19	3.77

During the first six months of year 2005 i.e; Jan-June 2005, 2.80 lakh domestic tourist visits and 0.08 lakh foreign tourist visits to the Kashmir Valley have been reported by the State Government, showing a growth of about 83% in domestic tourist visits and 2% in foreign tourist visits over the same period of 2004.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) It has been the endeavour of the Government to revive tourism in the State and all possible assistance is being provided for the purpose. Five projects were sanctioned for the State Government during 2004-05 and an amount of Rs. 865.000 lakhs was sanctioned. During the current year 2005-06 also, 6 projects have been sanctioned for the State and an amount of Rs. 798.00 lakhs has been sanctioned. Besides, a number of projects are being taken up during 2005-06 under the "Jammu and Kashmir Reconstruction Plan".

[Translation]

Prices of Agro-Products

51. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of agro products are falling whereas production cost is increasing day-by-day.

(b) whether cheap agro-products are being imported after removal of quantitative restrictions on import by the Government;

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government for improving condition of farmers;

(d) where there is any proposal to enhance plan outlay for agriculture to complete pending agriculture projects in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) Prices of major agricultural commodities and cost of production are given in the statement enclosed.

(b) to (e) There has been no import of foodgrains for Central Pool Stock for the last five years. In the on-going negotiations on Agreement on Agriculture of WTO, the Government is making all out efforts to maintain necessary protection to domestic producers from subsidised imports. The Government has increased import duties on a number of agricultural products after removal of quantitative restrictions in 2001 to provide adequate protection to domestic farmers. Recently, the import duty on refined palm oil has been increased to 90 per cent and that of crude palm oil to 80 per cent. The import of sensitive agricultural commodities is monitored by a Committee chaired by the Secretary to Government of India in the Ministry of

Commerce on regular basis. Efforts are also being made to secure more markets for export of Indian agricultural

commodities. The budgetary outlay for agriculture has also been enhanced in 2005.

Statement

(Rs./Quintal)

Commodity	2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04		2004-05	
	Costs	Prices#	Costs	Prices#	Costs	Prices#	Costs	Prices#	Costs	Prices#
Paddy/Rice*	429.32	941.00	471.71	928.00	505.16	940.00	525.24	1075.00	530.94	1090.00
Wheat	448.74	614.00	478.92	650.00	483.27	708.00	496.82	736.00	515.56	752.00
Arhar/Arhar Dal®	1110.57	2065.00	1154.79	2278.00	1146.62	2441.00	1260.65	2733.00	1262.34	2694.00
Gram/Gram Dal®	932.93	2193.00	1058.79	2061.00	1101.44	1837.00	1141.59	1753.00	1221.46	1869.00
Groundnut	1245.73	1737.00	1255.35	1729.00	1386.43	1757.00	1391.16	1725.00	1507.43	1659.00
Soyabean	865.29	998.00	864.74	1275.00	827.97	1377.00	860.90	1536.00	881.86	1334.00

*Costs are in respect of paddy whereas prices are in respect of rice.

®Costs are in respect of arhar/gram whereas prices are in respect of corresponding pulses (dal).

#Yearly wholesale prices as prevailed in Delhi in all commodities except in case of Groundnut/Soyabeans.

In case of Groundnut, prices as prevailed in Hathras. In case of soyabeans, as prevailed at Dewas.

Note: Costs represent all-India projected costs as worked out by CACP.

[English]

Promotion of Neem Coated Urea

52. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA :
SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA :
DR. RATTAN SINGH AJNALA :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether National Fertilizer Limited (NFL) and Fertilizer Association of India (FAI) have urged the Union Government to promote neem coated urea in a big way that can substantially raise farm income through increase

in crop yield and reduction in pesticides as reported in the Tribune of May 30, 2005; and

(b) If so, the action taken, if any, by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) :
(a) and (b) Neem Coated Urea is not yet included in Schedule I Part A of Fertilizer Control Order (FCO), 1985 as a regular fertilizer. The Ministry of Agriculture in July, 2004 have notified Neem Coated Urea under clause 20 A of FCO, 1985 as provisional fertilizer for its commercial trials for a period of two years for manufacturing

by M/s. NFL, M/s. Sri Ran Fertiliser and M/s. Indo Gulf Fertilisers.

These companies have been producing Neem Coated Urea at their respective manufacturing units and marketing product in the States of Punjab, Haryana, UP, Uttaranchal, Rajasthan, J and K, M.P., Chhattisgarh and Maharashtra. M/s. NFL and M/s. Indo Gulf have reported that the results of the commercial trials of the season (Rabi and Kharif 2004) indicate encouraging results. However, the efficacy of Neem Coated Urea is yet to be established. For this purpose Indian Council of Agriculture Research has sanctioned an adhoc project titled as "Standardization of Nitrification inhibitory principles in Neem and Neem Coated Urea" to IARI. The outcome of the project is expected by 2006. The expansion programme for production and marketing of Neem Coated Urea will depend upon the outcome of this ICAR project and subject to its inclusion as regular fertilizer in Schedule I Part A of FCO, 1985.

Assistance for Tiger Reserves

53. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL :
SHRI SUGRIB SINGH :
SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS

be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has released the first lot of monsoon patrolling assistance for various tiger reserves in the country;

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

(c) whether there is any proposal to relocate the village, regulate traffic and divert the highways located in these tiger reserves; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the government for relocation of villages, regulate traffic, divert the highways etc. from tiger reserves so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of Central Assistance is States based on the proposals received are enclosed as statement.

(c) and (d) Central Assistance is provided to States for village relocation, traffic regulation, diversion of highways located within the reserves and related works, based on proposals received from States within the ambit of Project Tiger Guidelines.

Statement

List of Tiger Reserves where Funds Released for Monsoon Patrolling

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	State	Tiger Reserve	Amount Sanctioned	Total C.A.	Amount Released
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1. Nagarjunsagar	6.45	3.45	3.45
2.	Bihar	2. Valmiki	5.35	3.475	3.475
3.	Jharkhand	3. Palamau	3.50	2.00	2.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
4.	Maharashtra	4. Tadoba-Andhari	4.32	4.32	4.32
5.	Uttaranchal	5. Corbett	9.50	4.75	4.75
			4.865	2.432	2.432
6.	Rajasthan	6. Ranthambhore	20.00	17.50	17.50
		7. Sariska	14.00	12.00	12.00
7.	Chhattisgarh	8. Indravati	1.735	1.2175	1.2175
8.	Uttar Pradesh	9. Dudhwa	18.00	11.00	11.00
9.	West Bengal	10. Buxa	15.00	7.50	7.50
10.	Arunachal Pradesh	11. Pakke	8.25	6.10	6.10
Total			110.97	75.7445	75.7445

*[Translation]***Drought Affected States**

54. SHRI HEMMAL MURMU : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware that several districts of Rajasthan and Orissa have been hit by severe drought during the current year particularly after May, 2005;

(b) if so, the names of the districts and the losses incurred as a result thereof; and

(c) the assistance provided to the State to tackle the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) to (c) No fresh drought has been reported from Rajasthan and

Orissa since May 2005. Rajasthan, however, continued to suffer drought in the wake of deficient rains during South West Monsoon 2004. The following assistance was extended to Rajasthan after July, 2004.

Assistance from National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF)	Rs. 216.79 crores (July, 2004 to March, 2005)	Rs. 156.71 crores* (April, 2005 to July, 2005)
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Foodgrains for relief employment	6.99 lakh MTs (July, 2004 to March, 2005)	5.00 lakh MTs (April, 2005 to July, 2005)
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*Subject to adjustment of available balances in Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) of the States.

*[English]***Argo Parks**

55. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware that 35-40 per cent of agro-produce is wasted every year due to non-availability of proper infrastructure in the country;

(b) if so, the details of agro-parks available presently in the country, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government have approved 45 agro-parks so far out of which only 9 agro-parks are functioning;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of financial assistance provided by the Government to each agro-parks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) No survey has been conducted by the Government to assess the wastage of agro-produce in the country. However, a Committee chaired by Dr. M.S. Swaminathan has reported loss of 25 to 30% of perishables items.

(b) to (d) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MFP and I) is implementing a scheme for setting up food parks for promoting processing of agricultural and horticultural produce. So far 50 food parks have been approved by the MFPI which have attained different levels of progress.

(e) The state-wise details of assistance provided for the food parks are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Details of Food Parks approved by MFPI

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No	State	Location of Food Park	Grant Approved
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Kuppam, Dist. Chittoor	400.00
2.	Assam	Chaygaon, Distt. Kamrup	350.00
3.	Bihar	Hajipur, District Vaishali	400.00
4.	Chhattisgarh	Vill: Teadesara, Dist Rajnandgaon	400.00
5.	Haryana	Saha, Distt. Ambala	293.00
6.	Haryana	Rai, Dist. Sonipat	400.00
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	Khunmoh, Distt. Srinagar	400.00
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	Sopore, Baramulla	400.00
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	Jammu	346.00
10.	Karnataka	Malur, Distt, Kolar	400.00
11.	Karnataka	Bagalkot	400.00

1	2	3	4
12.	Karnataka	Jevargi	400.00
13.	Kerala	Distt. Mallapuram	400.00
14.	Kerala	Aroor, Distt. Alappuzha	299.00
15.	Kerala	Mazhuvannur, Ernakulam	200.00
16.	Kerala	Adoor	388.00
17.	Madhya Pradesh	Jaggakhedi, Distt. Mandsaur	381.83
18.	Madhya Pradesh	Nimrani, Dist. Khargone	400.00
19.	Madhya Pradesh	Piparia, Babai, Distt. Hoshangabad	400.00
20.	Madhya Pradesh	Borgaon, Distt. Chhindwara	400.00
21.	Madhya Pradesh	Malanpur, Ghirongi, District Bhind (M.P.)	400.00
22.	Madhya Pradesh	Maneri, Distt. Mandla	400.00
23.	Maharashtra	Butibori, Distt. Nagpur	400.00
24.	Maharashtra	Vinchur, Distt. Nashik	400.00
25.	Maharashtra	Mouza Gumthala Bhandara Road, Dist. Nagpur	400.00
26.	Maharashtra	Village Sangvi, Distt. Satara	400.00
27.	Maharashtra	Palus, Distt. Sangli	400.00
28.	Manipur	Lamphelpat, Imphal	400.00
29.	Manipur	Distt. Ukhrul	400.00
30.	Mizoram	Chhingchip	382.00
31.	Orissa	Khurda	400.00
32.	Punjab	Sirhind, Distt. Fatehgarh Sahib	400.00
33.	Rajasthan	Ranpur, Distt. Kota	283.70
34.	Rajasthan	Boranada, District Jodhpur	387.77
35.	Rajasthan	Sri Ganganagar	227.89

1	2	3	4
36.	Tamil Nadu	Virudhunagar, Distt. Madurai	400.00
37.	Tamil Nadu	Dindigul District	325.00
38.	Tripura	Bodhjungnagar, West Tripura	400.00
39.	Uttar Pradesh	Ghaziabad	395.00
40.	Uttar Pradesh	Kharkion, Distt. Varanasi	400.00
41.	Uttar Pradesh	Shahajanwa, Gorakhpur	323.11
42.	Uttar Pradesh	Village Kushalipur, District Saharanpur	400.00
43.	Uttar Pradesh	Kursi Road, Distt. Barabanki	400.00
44.	West Bengal	Chakgaria, 24 Parganas (South)	400.00
45.	West Bengal	Dankuni Distt. Hooghly	400.00
46.	West Bengal	Haldia, District Midnapore	400.00
47.	West Bengal	Sultanpur, South 24 Parganas	200.28
48.	West Bengal	Malda	387.00
49.	West Bengal	Shankarapur, Dist. Purba Medinipur	178.92
50.	West Bengal	Sankhrail, Howrah	400.00

[Translation]

**Protection to Animals in
Circus Shows**

56. SHRI RAJENDER KUMAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware that proper protection is not being provided to Lions, Tigers and other animals in circus shows; and

(b) if so, the remedial action being taken to provide proper protection to these animals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Following remedial actions for proper protection of animals in Circuses are taken:

- (i) In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 22 of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960, the Central Government has banned five species of animals viz. Lions, Tigers, Panthers, Monkeys, Bears for exhibition and training as a performing animal vide Notification No.9-9/1997-AW dated 14th October, 1998. In pursuance to

the notification, the Circus companies who are in possession of the banned species of animals have been directed to hand over the animals to the Central Zoo Authority for rehabilitating the animals through rescue centers/zones.

- (ii) In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) and (2) of section 38 of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960, the Central Government has notified Performing Animals (Registration) Rules, 2001 under which it is incumbent upon any person desirous of training or exhibiting a performing animal to register itself with the Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI), an autonomous body under the aegis of Ministry of Environment and Forests.
- (iii) The circus companies are required to intimate their movement and send the monthly report on the health of animals certified by the Veterinary Doctors to Animal Welfare Board of India.
- (iv) As and when a complaint is received, the concerned circus company is inspected by the Wildlife Experts and Veterinarians nominated by the Ministry of Environment and Forests and follow up action taken based on the inspection report.

[English]

Supply of Rice to Arunachal Pradesh

57. SHRI SWADESH CHAKRABORTTY :
SHRIMATI P. SATHEEDEV :
SHRI SAMIK LAHIRI :

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

- (a) whether thousands of people in East Kameng district in Arunachal Pradesh face starvation threat due to failure of Food Corporation of India (FCI) to supply rice there;

- (b) if so, the reasons for the failure of FCI to supply rice in time; and

- (c) the steps being taken by the Government to ensure prompt supply of rice to this district?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise.

- (c) Food Corporation of India ensures adequate supply of foodgrains to East Kameng District of Arunachal Pradesh from its Bhalukpong Depot, and at times from its Bindukuri Depot.

Construction of Aquariums

58. DR. M. JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the vast potential of our fish industry is still untapped;

- (b) whether the Union Government has received a number of proposals from the State Governments particularly from Andhra Pradesh for construction of aquariums;

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

- (d) the action taken by the Government on these proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) No, Sir.

- (c) and (d) Do not arise.

Spurious Bt. Cotton

59. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item appearing in "Business Standard" on July 2, 2005 regarding illegal sale of spurious Bt. Cotton seeds being sold in the country;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether the attention of the Government has also been drawn towards the suffering caused to the farmers due to poor production of cotton from such spurious Bt. Cotton seeds; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) to (d) There have been certain reports of production and supply of spurious Bt. Cotton seeds in some states particularly, in Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat and Tamil Nadu. The Government of India has advised in 2004 to all the Bt. Cotton growing States to take necessary punitive action against the producers and venders of illegal Bt. Cotton seeds under the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and Seed (Control) Order, 1983. Department has again instructed Bt. Cotton growing States in 2005 reiterating its earlier stand and requested to create awareness amongst the farmers through awareness campaign regarding the potential risks associated with illegal Bt. Cotton seeds.

The Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) have also advised all the Bt. Cotton growing States from time to time to take punitive action against producers, suppliers and venders of spurious Bt. Cotton seeds under the provision of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and

Seed Legislation. Besides, the Central Institute for Cotton Research, Nagpur has been notified as referral lab for detecting the presence/absence of Bt. Gene. As per information made available by the Department of Seed Certification, Tamil Nadu, a laboratory has been established in the Directorate of Seed Certification, Coimbatore to test Cotton seed to analyze whether it contains illegal Bt. Gene. It has been intimated by the Government of Punjab, where Bt. Cotton varieties have been approved for cultivation during Kharif-2005, that they have issued strict instructions to all field functionaries to check and stop sale of any spurious seeds. They have also undertaken massive campaigns for educating farmers on the issue. The Government of Gujarat has intimated that they are taking all precautionary steps through its quality control mechanism to check the sale of spurious Bt. Cotton seeds which includes directives to all District Collectors and a massive awareness programme for the farming community. As on date 22 Bt. Cotton hybrids of four Seeds Companies are commercially released by the GEAC and are available to the farmers in the country.

Shortage of Urea and DAP Fertilizers in W.B.

60. SHRI RUPCHAND MURMU : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware that there is a big demand of Urea and Di-Ammonium Phosphate (DAP) fertilizers in West Bengal; and

(b) if so, the quantum of fertilizers demanded and supplied to the State during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Demand and availability of urea and DAP during the last two years in West Bengal has been as under :-

(Qty. in 000' MTs)

Season	Demand	Availability	Sales	Closing Stock
UREA				
Kharif 2003	470.00	436.48	386.77	47.70
Rabi 2003-04	630.00	656.69	603.62	53.80
Kharif 2004	470.00	438.03	417.11	20.92
Rabi 2004-05	680.00	696.19	665.70	30.49
DAP				
Kharif 2003	150.00	141.68	88.99	52.69
Rabi 2003-04	300.00	285.22	228.45	56.77
Kharif 2004	141.00	137.92	102.81	35.11
Rabi 2004-05	320.00	254.78	230.36	24.42

Improvement of Oil Palm Cultivation

61. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh propose to initiate talks with the Malaysian Government for exchange of germplasm of high yielding dwarf varieties of Oil Palm;

(b) if so, whether any agreement with Malaysian Government has been signed in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof and by when action in this regard is likely to be taken; and

(d) the manner in which the agreement will help in improving oil palm cultivation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Fixation of Minimum Support Price of Cotton

62. SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA :
SHRI V.K. THUMMAR :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government fixes the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of cotton in such a manner that the farmers are unable to get back even the production cost of their crops and are compelled to commit suicide due to debt;

(b) if so, the justification thereof;

(c) the number of farmer representatives and their percentage against the total number of members in the Committee which fix MSP;

(d) the steps taken by the Government for taking farmers into confidence while fixing MSP; and

(e) the achievement made by the Government therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) and (b) The Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), while recommending the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of cotton, gives due regard to, apart from comprehensive view of the entire structure of the cotton economy, the factors such as cost of production, changes in market prices, input output parity, demand and supply, international price behaviour, import and export etc.

(c) The Commission's in-position composition at present is Chairman, Member (Official), Member (Non Official) and Member Secretary. The Non-Official member is the representative of the farming community.

(d) and (e) The Commission consults the concerned stakeholders including farmers while formulating ideas regarding MSP. In order to avoid distress sale by the farmers, the Government undertakes Price support Operations of cotton through Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) and National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED), if prices of cotton fall below the MSP level. During 2004-05 season, CCI has purchased a quantity of 27.52 lakh bales (170 kgs each) under MSP till 30.06.2005 and NAFED has purchased 0.39 lakh bales under Price Support Scheme (PSS) as on 1.07.2005.

[English]

Review of Forest Laws

63. SHRI GANESH SINGH :
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :
SHRI M. SHIVANNA :

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

(a) whether the Government has received requests from some States to review the forests laws on the ground that they are coming in the way of addressing the problem of naxalism; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) Some states have requested for relaxation in the guidelines issued under the Forest Conservation Act, 1980 for addressing problem of naxalism. The Government of India has granted general

approval under Forest Conservation Act, 1980 for execution of developmental and security related activities like schools, drinking water, electric and telecommunication, power substation, communication post, minor irrigation hospitals, vocational training center, non-conventional source of energy, police establishment and up gradation of roads in rural areas vide order dated 3.01.05 and guideline issued dated 30.04.05.

Review of Famine Code

64. SHRI LONAPPAN NAMBADAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Famine code is outdated and inadequate for extending relief and rehabilitate farmers;

(b) if so, the details of the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to protect the farmers from such situations:

(c) whether the Government is considering to review the Famine Code in accordance with the changing situations;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) to (e) Famine Codes are drawn up and implemented by the various State Governments. With famines (serious shortages of food) ceasing to occur, there are Scarcity or Relief Manuals which the State Governments update from time to time. On its part, Central Government, from time to time, revises items and norms of expenditure for assistance from the Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) and the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF), to provide relief to victims of natural calamities including drought.

Availability of Water

65. SHRI D. VITTAL RAO : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the per capita water availability is dwindling in the country;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has surveyed each district of the country in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir. The per capita water availability of the country is reducing year after year.

- (b) The main reason of reducing per capita water availability is the population growth.
- (c) The availability of water has been assessed river basin-wise and not district-wise.
- (d) Does not arise.
- (e) The per capita availability of water depends on population growth. However, with a view to optimally utilize the available resources, several measures for development and management of water resources are undertaken by the respective State Governments which include creation of storages, restoration of water bodies, rain water harvesting, artificial recharge to ground water and better management practices etc.

Promotion of Inland Fisheries in Orissa

66. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a vast scope to promote Inland Fisheries in Orissa;

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard during the last three years; and

(c) the central assistance sanctioned to the State for the purpose during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of India is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Development of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture. The scheme is having six components, namely, development of freshwater aquaculture, development of brackishwater aquaculture, development of coldwater fisheries, development of waterlogged areas, productive utilization of saline/alkaline soils for aquaculture and inland capture fisheries (reservoirs/ rivers etc.) The above scheme is being implemented by the State/UT Governments. Under the scheme, expenditure on developmental activities is shared on 75:25 basis between the Government of India and the State/UT Governments.

(c) During the last three years, the State Government of Orissa was provided Rs. 435.21 lakh as central share for development of inland fisheries under the above scheme.

CBI Report on Sariska

67. KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the concrete measures taken so far by the Union Government on the recommendations made by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) in the report submitted by it in March 2005 on Sariska;

(b) whether the pace at which the action is being taken on the recommendations of the CBI is very slow; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken or proposed to be taken for expediting action in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN

MEENA) : (a) The action taken by the Union Government on the short and long-term measures recommended by the Central Bureau of Investigation in its report relating to Sariska is enclosed as statement.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise.

Statement

Short-Term

Recommendations	Action Taken
1	2
* Taking over investigations of crimes relating to Sariska by the CBI	* On the request of MoEF, permission accorded by NCT of Delhi and Rajasthan
* Extensive search for traps	* Red alert issued
* Issuing alert	* Directives issued on monsoon protection
* Sensitizing local police	* Directives issued on staff profile, registration of fire arms, sensitizing local police, search for traps
* Registration of fire arms	
* Incumbency profile of staff	* Follow up directives issued on Steering Committee recommendations—
* Anti poaching measures	— Anti Poaching Initiatives
	— Buffer Zone creation
	— Constituting Coordination Committees in states
* Supplying equipments, uniforms to staff	* Central assistance given to ten reserves for anti-poaching operation during monsoon
* Constituting anti-poaching squads	* Proposals for supplying equipments, uniforms as received from states under process

Long-Term

* Administrative overhaul	* The State has been requested for follow up action
---------------------------	---

1

2

-
- * Increasing regular employees
 - * Regulating tourist influx, traffic as per Project Tiger directives
 - * Use of by-pass road
 - * Relocation of villages
 - * Implementing a scientific monitoring protocol and assessment of date
-
- * Wildlife Institute of India undertook an ecological study on tiger status and has recommended:
 - species recovery plan
 - village relocation
 - * Monthly tiger evidence monitoring format prescribed by Project Tiger Directorate
 - * All India tiger/habitat monitoring and estimation protocol mainstreamed by Project Tiger Directorate received from states under process
-

[Translation]

Waiving of Loans

68. SHRI SURENDRA PRAKASH GOYAL :
 SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA :
 SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has prepared any strategy for the drought affected States including Rajasthan in terms of waiving of the interest or loan taken by the farmers and also welfare scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Pursuant to the announcement made by the Government of India on 18th June, 2004 containing, inter-alia, measures for providing credit related relief to farmers in the natural calamities affected states including Rajasthan, the banks have been advised as under:

A. Debt restructuring under the following heads in accordance with the guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India (RBI)/National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD):

— Farmers in distress — Rescheduling/restructuring of the outstanding loan of the farmer as on 31st March, 2004 in the districts declared as calamity affected by the State Government. Rescheduled loan shall

be repayable over a period of five years, at current interest rates, including an initial moratorium of two years.

- Farmers in arrears — Loans in default of farmers who have become ineligible for fresh credit as their earlier debts have been categorized as sub-standard or doubtful shall be rescheduled as per the guidelines so that such farmers become eligible for fresh credit.

B. Banks have been advised to grant a one-time settlement (OTS) including partial waiver of interest or loan to the small and marginal farmers who have been declared as defaulters and have become ineligible for fresh credit. Banks have also been advised to review cases where credit has been denied on the sole ground that a loan account was settled through compromise or write offs.

C. In some parts of the country, farmers face acute distress because of the heavy burden of debt from non-institutional lenders (e.g. money lender). Banks have been permitted to advance loans to such farmers to provide them relief from indebtedness.

2. All the Public Sector banks have been advised to reduce their lending rate for agriculture to a single digit rate of not more than 9% per annum on crop loans upto a ceiling of Rs. 50,000/-. This rate will benefit most of the crop loan account holders and will cover almost all the small and marginal farmers.

3. The Reserve Bank of India in consultation with the Government has issued Standing Guidelines for providing relief to the farmers in areas affected by natural calamities. These guidelines include, inter alia, the following measures:

- (i) Conversion/rescheduling of loans in the event of natural calamity for periods ranging

from 3 to 9 years depending upon the successive crop failure/intensity of damage of crops.

- (ii) Grant of fresh crop loans to affected farmers.
- (iii) Conservation of principal as well as interest due on the existing loans.
- (iv) Grant of consumption loans.
- (v) Not to compound interest in respect of loans converted/rescheduled.
- (vi) Not to charge penal interest in respect of current dues in default.

(c) Does not arise.

Declining Number of Tigers and Deers due to Hunting

69. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of Tigers and Deers is declining due to hunting;

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

(c) the details of wildlife protected areas from where cases of hunting have been reported alongwith the number of wild animals killed in these areas against which FIR have been lodged during 2004-05 so far; and

(d) the number of persons arrested for killing wild animals and the action taken against them so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) Information regarding poaching of tigers, leopards and others wild animals as received from states is enclosed as statement.

(b) to (d) Case-wise details, causative factors leading to crime and action taken by the State, in each are not collated at the Government of India level.

Statement-I

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Year	Tiger	Lion	Elephant	Leopard	Rhino	Peafowl
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2001	1	—	—	—	—	—
		2002	—	—	—	1	—	—
		2003	—		—		—	
		2004	—		—			
		Total	1			1		
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2001	—	—	—	—	—	—
		2002	—	—	—	—	—	—
		2003	—		—			
		2004	—		—			
		Total			0			
3.	Assam	2001	—	—	—	—	10	—
		2002	—	—	—	—	5	—
		2003	—		1		6	
		2004	—		—		1	
		Total	0		1	0	22	
4.	Bihar	2001	—	—	—	—	—	—
		2002	—	—	—	—	—	—
		2003	—					
		2004	—					
		Total						

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
5.	Delhi	2001	—	—	—	6	—	—
		2002	—	—	—	—	—	—
		2003	—		—			
		2004	—		—			
		Total				6		
6.	Chhattisgarh	2001	—	—	—	—	—	1
		2002	—	—	—	—	—	—
		2003	—		—			
		2004	—		—			
		Total						1
7.	Goa	2001	—	—	—	—	—	—
		2002	—	—	—	—	—	—
		2003	—		—			
		2004	—		—			
		Total						
8.	Gujarat	2001	—	2	—	—	—	6
		2002	—	—	—	—	—	5
		2003	—	1	—			
		2004	—	—	—			
		Total		3		0		11
9.	Himachal Pradesh	2001	—	—	—	7	—	—
		2002	—	—	—	—	—	—
		2003	—		—			
		2004	—		—			
		Total				7		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10.	Jharkhand	2001	—	—	2	—	—	—
		2002	—	—	1	—	—	—
		2003	—					
		2004	—					
		Total			3			
11.	Karnataka	2001	—	—	12	—	—	—
		2002	—	—	3	—	—	—
		2003	—		5			
		2004	—		6			
		Total			26			
12.	Kerala	2001	3	—	5	—	—	—
		2002	—	—	5	—	—	—
		2003	—		2			
		2004	—		3			
		Total	3		15			
13.	Madhya Pradesh	2001	4	—	—	2	—	6
		2002	—	—	—	—	—	—
		2003	—		—			
		2004	1		—			
		Total	5			2		6
14.	Maharashtra	2001	17	—	—	6	—	3
		2002	3	—	—	1	—	—
		2003	—		—			

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		2004	—		—			
		Total	20			7		3
15.	Meghalaya	2001	—	—	2	—	—	—
		2002	—	—	—	—	—	—
		2003	—		—			
		2004	—		—			
		Total			2			
16.	Mizoram	2001	—	—	—	—	—	—
		2002	—	—	1	—	—	—
		2003	—		2			
		2004	—		—			
		Total			3			
17.	Orissa	2001	—	—	7	—	—	—
		2002	—	—	2	—	—	—
		2003	—		6			
		2004	—		7			
		Total	0		22			
18.	Punjab	2001	—	—	—	—	—	—
		2002	—	—	—	—	—	—
		2003	—		—			
		2004	—		—			
		Total				0		
19.	Rajasthan	2001	—	—	—	2	—	—
		2002	1	—	—	2	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		2003	—		—			
		2004	—		—			
		Total	1			4		
20.	Tamil Nadu	2001	—	—	5	26	—	3
		2002	—	—	3	1	—	—
		2003	—		5			
		2004	—		1			
		Total	0		14	27		3
21.	Uttar Pradesh	2001	20	—	1	28	—	2
		2002	1	—	—	—	—	1
		2003	—		1			
		2004	—		—			
		Total	21		2	28		3
22.	Uttaranchal	2001	—	—	2	6	—	—
		2002	—	—	—	4	—	—
		2003	—		—			
		2004	—		—			
		Total			2	10		
23.	West Bengal	2001	2	—	7	3	1	—
		2002	—	—	—	1	—	—
		2003	—		3			
		2004	—		2			
		Total	2		12	4	1	
Grand Total			53	3	102	96	23	27

[English]

Mangalore Fishing Harbour

70. SHRI D.V. SADANAND GOWDA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has approved the proposal of the Government of Karnataka for Mangalore Fishing Harbour II Stage;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the proposal of Rs. 144.67 lakhs is also pending with the Union Government; and

(d) if so, by when the amount is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Union Government in September 1997 had accorded approval to the proposal of the Government of Karnataka for Mangalore Fishing Harbour Stage-II at a cost of Rs. 75.00 lakhs under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS). The Central share to the tune of 50% of the project cost was released in two instalments to the State Government, the first instalments of Rs. 30.00 lakhs in July, 2000 and the second of Rs. 7.50 lakhs in June, 2003.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. On a proposal for Revised Cost Estimate of Rs. 144.67 lakhs submitted by the Government of Karnataka, the State Government has been requested in August, 2004 to furnish adequate justification for the deviation in the approved project and inclusion of additional items together with firm project completion period.

[Translation]

Mixing of Naphtha with Petrol

71. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA : Will the

Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware about mixing of Naphtha in Petrol;

(b) if so, the percentage thereof;

(c) whether smoke of Naphtha mixed petrol is dangerous for environment and health; and

(d) if so, the type of ill effects of Naphtha mixed smoke on health and the steps taken by the Government to stop this mixing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Few cases of adulteration of fuels with naphtha and other solvents have been reported.

(c) Fuel adulteration increases the emissions of harmful pollutants in vehicle exhaust including hydrocarbons (HC) like benzene and Polyaromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs) and particulate matter (PM), which are detrimental for human health and environment.

(d) To check the adulteration, the Government has initiated special vigilance drives alongwith regular as well as surprise inspection of retail outlets, joint inspection of retail outlets by the industry teams and surprise inspection by mobile laboratories. Introduction of filter paper test and density checks for fuel testing, Furfural doping of Kerosene for public depot supply and introduction of blue dyeing of kerosene have also been introduced.

Contemplation to Force out Tribals

72. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA :
SHRI BHUPENDRASINH SOLANKI :

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

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to force out tribals on the pretext of saving the tigers;

(b) if so, whether any tribal has ever been named in the case of tiger poaching; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Such information has not been collected at the Government of India level.

(c) Question does not arise.

[English]

Visit of Domestic Tourists Abroad

73. SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY :
SHRI A.K. MOORTHY :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the number of tourists went abroad during the last two years and thereafter with their break up during the previous corresponding periods;

(b) the total amount went out of the country during the period; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to encourage the tourists to visit Indian destinations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) As per the information received from Bureau of Immigration, about 62 lakh Indian tourists went abroad during the year 2004 compared to 53 lakhs during 2003.

(b) The data on India's Travel Payments is compiled by the Reserve Bank of India. According to the estimates prepared by them, India's Travel Payments during the years 2003-04 and 2004-05 were US\$ 3511 million and US\$ 5526 million respectively.

(c) A number of steps have been taken by the Government to encourage the tourists to visit Indian destinations like:

- Improving the tourist infrastructure at important destinations/circuits;
- Focusing on growth of hotel infrastructure particularly budget hotels;
- Enhancing connectivity through augmentation of air capacity and improving road infrastructure to major tourist attractions;
- Direct approach to the consumers through Electronic and print media through the "Incredible India" Campaign;
- Creation of World Class Collaterals;
- Centralized Electronic Media Campaign;
- Direct co-operative marketing with tour operators and wholesalers overseas;
- Participation in Trade Fairs and Exhibitions;
- Optimizing Editorial PR and Publicity;
- Use of Internet and web marketing;
- Generating Tourist Publications; and
- Re-inforcing hospitality programmes including grant of air passages to invite media personnel and tour operators on familiarization tours to India to get first hand knowledge on various tourism products.

Handing Over of Forest Land to Tribals

74. SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has, under any scheme,

allowed the construction activity in tribal areas and villages on the fringe of forests;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has cleared construction of school, hospital, rainwater harvesting structures, electric and communication lines, power sub-station etc.;

(d) the number of States covered under the said scheme, State-wise;

(e) whether the Government proposes to invite private agencies for the purpose; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (d) With a view to ensuring development of tribals and forest dwellers by providing basic and essential developmental facilities and sense of security without compromising on environmental considerations, the Central Government, on 03.01.2005, granted general approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 to all the State/Union Territory Governments for diversion of forest land to the Government Departments subject to certain conditions for schools, dispensary/hospitals, electric and telecommunication lines, drinking water, water/rain-water harvesting structures, minor irrigation canals, non-conventional sources of energy, skill up-gradation/vocational training centres, power sub-stations, communication posts, and police establishments like police stations/outposts/border outposts/watch towers.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Foodgrains for Poor Families

75. SHRI RANEN BARMAN :
SHRI JOACHIM BAXLA :

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has conducted any survey to assess the total number of Below Poverty Line (BPL) families in West Bengal, Delhi and North Eastern States;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the rate at which foodgrains are being provided to the said families;

(e) whether the Government has taken any effective steps to further reduce the prices of foodgrains being provided to these families; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) to (c) At the beginning of each Five Year Plan, the Ministry of Rural Development through State Governments conducts a Below Poverty Line (BPL) Census in all the States/UTs except Delhi and Chandigarh with a view to identify households living below the poverty line who could be assisted under various anti-poverty programmes implemented by the Ministry. For 10th Five Year Plan the Ministry has issued detailed guidelines to conduct the BPL Census 2002. However, in the meantime Peoples Union for Civil Liberties, New Delhi filed a civil writ petition No. 196/2001 in the Hon'ble Supreme Court. The Hon'ble Supreme Court in its order dated 5th May, 2003 directed the Union of India not to insist the State Governments to remove any person from the existing BPL list. Thus, the results of BPL Census, 2002 have not been finalized by any of the State Governments/UTs. Regarding Delhi, no such survey was conducted of BPL families. However the Food and Supply Department of the Government of NCT of Delhi had conducted a survey for AAY beneficiaries.

(d) The present Central Issue Price (CIP) of Rice and Wheat being allocated for BPL families under the Targetted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is Rs. 565/- per Quintal and Rs. 415/- per Quintal respectively since 1.7.2002. The Retail Issue Prices of the foodgrains for distribution through the Fair Price Shops, are fixed by respective State Governments, which vary from State to State.

(e) and (f) At present, no such proposal is under consideration of the Government.

[Translation]

Role of Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices

76. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD :
SHRI V.K. THUMMAR :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the role of Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices in fixing the process of foodgrains;

(b) whether the said commission is functioning properly;

(c) whether the Government is ignoring the recommendations of the said commission;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the steps taken by the Government to provide remunerative prices to the farmers; and

(f) the success achieved by the Government in the regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) and (b) The Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP),

an expert body entrusted with the task to advise on price policy, recommends Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of agricultural commodities, including foodgrains, keeping in view (i) the need to provide incentive to the producer for adopting improved technology and for developing a production pattern broadly in the light of national requirements; (ii) the need to ensure rational utilization of land, water and other production resources; and (iii) the likely effect of the price policy on the rest of the economy, particularly on the cost of living, level of wages, industrial cost structure, etc.

Apart from making a comprehensive overview of the entire structure of the economy of a particular commodity, the CACP considers the cost of production, changes in input prices, input/output price parity, trends in market prices, demand and supply situation, inter-crop price parity, effect on industrial cost structure, effect on general price level, effect on cost of living, international market price situation, parity between prices paid and prices received by farmers (Terms of Trade) while formulating its recommendations on price policy. Besides, the Commission undertakes field visits for close interaction with farmers in different parts of the country.

(c) and (d) By and large, with nominal small deviations the Government concurs with the recommendations. A statement-I indicating the MSPs of foodgrains recommended by CACP and fixed by Government since 2001-02 is enclosed.

(e) and (f) The Government announces each season Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for major agricultural commodities and organizes purchase operations through public and cooperatives agencies such as food Corporation of India (FCI), Jute Corporation of India (JCI), Cotton Corporation of India (CCI), National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation (NAFED) and Tobacco Board, besides other agencies designated by the State Governments. The designated Central nodal agencies are required to intervene in the market for undertaking purchase operations in case the prices fall below the MSPs fixed by the Government.

There has been massive procurement of agricultural commodities under price support scheme in recent years indicating the success of Government policy in this regard.

The details of purchases by the government agencies under the price support scheme since 2002-03 are enclosed as statement-II.

Statement-I

Minimum Support Prices recommended by CACP and announced by Government for Foodgrains (According to Crop Year)

(Rupees per quintal)

Commodity			2001-02	2002-03	Special Drought Relief Price	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
Paddy Common	R		520	530	20	550	560	560
	A		530	530	20	550	560	570
Grade A	R		550	560	20	580	590	600
	A		560	560	20	580	590	600
Jowar	R		485	485	5	505	515	525
	A		485	485	5	505	515	525
Bajra	R		485	485	10	505	515	525
	A		485	485	10	505	515	525
Maize	R		485	485	5	505	525	540
	A		485	485	5	505	525	540
Ragi	R		485	485	5	505	515	525
	A		485	485	5	505	515	525
Wheat	R		620	620	10	630	640	
	A		620	620	10	630	640	
Barley	R		500	500	5	525	540	
	A		500	500	5	525	540	

R—Recommended

A—Announced

Statement-II**Procurement of Foodgrains**

(in Lakh Tonnes)

Year	Rice (October- September)	Coarse Grains (October- September)	Wheat (April- March)
2002-03	164.11	0.60	190.25
2003-04	228.28	6.51	158.01
2004-05	232.48 (Upto 20.07.2005)	8.27 (Upto 20.07.2005)	167.96
2005-06			147.87 (Upto 20.07.2005)

*[English]***Storage Position of Rivers**

77. SHRI ADHALRO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO :
SHRI S.P.Y. REDDY :
SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the present storage position of rivers in the country for irrigation and power projects;

(b) whether the storage level is continuously declining;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the corrective steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN

YADAV): (a) Present storage capacity of reservoirs in the country is estimated as 213 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM) for diverse uses including for irrigation and power.

(b) to (d) Silting reservoir is a natural process and causes reduction in the gross capacity of the reservoir. However, provision is made at the planning stage itself for accumulation of sediment in reservoirs. The sediment flows accumulate in the dead storage provided for the purpose and thus the sediment deposition, in general, do not affect the efficacy of the project during planned life of the reservoir. The studies on Silting of Reservoirs in India have indicated that while in some cases, the rates of actual sedimentation are slightly less than that assumed at the time of planning, in other cases it is on higher side.

Children Employed in Brick Kiln

78. SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID :
SHRI RAVICHANDRAN SIPPAPARAI :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware that a large number of children are employed in brick kilns;

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

(c) whether employment in brick kilns poses any health hazards to the children;

(d) of so, whether such activity of engaging children is illegal in view of the Prevention of Child Labour Act;

(e) if so, the number of complaints received from Human Right Commission as well as Non-Governmental Organisations regarding child labour; State-wise; and

(f) the remedial steps taken by the Government to provide normal life to these children?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND, EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO) : (a) to (c) Child labour are found in various occupations in the country including brick kiln. However, occupation-wise data of child labour is not maintained. Working in brick kiln has been identified to be one to the hazardous occupations for the health of children.

(d) Employers found engaging children in identified hazardous occupations are liable to be prosecuted under the provisions of the Act. The Act provides for punishment with imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than three months but which may extend to one year or with fine which shall not be less than Rs. 10,000 but which may extend to Rs. 20,000 or with both.

(e) Government has not received any complaint from NHRC. Appropriate authority for implementing the Act is the State Government. Complaints from various sources including NGOs are processed whenever they are received by the State Govt.

(f) National Child Labour Project Scheme is the main scheme for the rehabilitation of child labour including child labour in brick kiln units. Under the scheme, funds are given to the Project Societies set up at the district level under the Chairmanship of District Magistrate. In the NCLP Scheme, special schools are run for the child workers to provide bridging education before they are mainstreamed into the regular school education system. The Special Schools/Rehabilitation Centres provide following facilities to the children withdrawn from employment:

- formal/non-formal education,
- vocational training,
- supplementary nutrition @ Rs.,5/- per child,
- stipend @ Rs 100/- per month to children withdrawn from employment, and

— Heath care facilities.

[Translation]

Production of Plastic

79. DR. RAJESH MISHRA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state : .

(a) whether the production and use of plastic is harmful to the environment and health;

(b) if so, whether plastic bags make fertile land infertile; and

(c) if so, the details of steps being taken by the Government to stop the production and use of plastic?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Plastic (Polymers) are petroleum-products having long-chain of hydrocarbon. They are chemically inert or neutral and used for the manufacture of a large number of consumer items and they can be recycled. Plastics by themselves are not harmful. Only, the indiscriminate, littering of plastics and environmentally unsound recycling practices has the potential to cause adverse impacts on environment and health.

(c) To prohibit the use of recycled plastic in packaging of foodstuffs and to encourage proper waste collection the Government has brought out the Recycled Plastics Manufacture and Usage Rules, 1999 amended 2003. As per these rules, the use of recycled plastic bags is prohibited for storing, carrying, dispensing, or packaging of foodstuffs. Also these rules prohibit the manufacture, stocking, distribution or selling of carry bags made of virgin/ recycled plastics, which are below 8 x 12 inches in size and 20 microns in thickness.

Production of Sugarcane

80. SHRI D.P. SAROJ :

SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total production of sugarcane recorded during the last three years and thereafter alongwith the area of land under cultivation thereof, State-wise;

(b) the average yield of sugarcane in the country as compared to the average yield globally;

(c) whether the Union Government proposes to implement any programme to improve the quality and production of sugarcane in the country;

(d) if so, whether any steps have been initiated to undertake research for development of improved varieties of sugarcane;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) by when the said programme is likely to be implemented in Uttar Pradesh alongwith the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) The total area and production of sugarcane alongwith State-wise breakup for the years 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04 are shown in the statement enclosed.

(b) As per the FAO production year book 2002, in the year 2002 the global average yield of Sugarcane was 65.8 tonnes per hectare which was slightly lower than the average all India yield of 68.0 tonnes per hectare.

(c) In order to improve the productivity and production of sugarcane, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Sustainable Development of Sugarcane Based Cropping System (SUBACS) Areas was launched by the Ministry of

Agriculture during 1995-96 in 21 states/union territories including Uttar Pradesh. The expenditure on the scheme is shared on 90:10 basis between the Government of India and State Governments.

The main thrust of the scheme is on the transfer of improved technology to the farmers through field demonstrations, training of farmers, supply of farm implements, enhancing seed production and pest control measures etc. Under the scheme, assistance is provided to the State Governments on (i) Field Demonstration (ii) Farmers Training (iii) State-Level Training (iv) Implements (a) Bullock Drawn (b) Tractor Drawn (v) Seed Multiplication (vi) Heat Treatment Plant (vii) Drip irrigation infrastructure and (viii) Contingency.

In addition, the Government of India provides 100% financial support for organization of Front Line Demonstration, National Level Training and Breeder Seed production. These components are executed by involvement of Agriculture Scientists.

(d) and (e) The development of improved varieties of sugarcane having good quality is the main aim of the Sugarcane Breeding Institute, Coimbatore, Indian Institute of Sugarcane Research, Lucknow and the All India Coordinated Research Project on Sugarcane having centers at different Agricultural Universities in the country.

During the last three years, six sugarcane varieties (Shyama, Rashmi, Jalpari, Rachna, CoPant 93227 and Sweta) have been developed for commercial cultivation in different parts of the country. Varieties such as Rashmi, Jalpari, Rachna and Sweta are recommended for cultivation in Uttar Pradesh.

(f) SUBACS scheme mentioned above is already being implemented in Uttar Pradesh funds are allocated and released to the States in lump sum for Macro Management Mode of Agriculture and not on the basis of individual crop by Government of India.

Statement*State-wise Area and Production of Sugarcane During 2001-02 to 2003-04*

State	Area ('000 Hectares)			Production ('000 Tonnes)		
	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	218.0	232.5	209.0	18082.0	15387.2	15070.0
Arunachal Pradesh	1.0	0.8	0.7	18.9	15.3	15.2
Assam	27.2	26.0	25.4	1011.4	916.0	981.4
Bihar	113.4	107.3	103.0	5211.1	4520.5	4222.0
Chhattisgarh	3.5	4.0	10.8	9.0	10.0	25.7
Gujarat	175.8	202.9	176.4	12464.6	14071.3	12669.1
Goa	1.2	1.2	1.2	70.6	65.5	57.6
Haryana	161.0	189.0	161.0	9270.0	10650.0	9340.0
Himachal Pradesh	3.0	2.9	3.0	82.7	49.1	50.0
Jammu and Kashmir	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.6	1.4
Jharkhand	3.8	4.1	4.0	144.9	140.6	136.0
Karnataka	407.0	382.7	237.0	33016.6	32485.3	15860.0
Kerala	3.3	3.8	3.4	269.8	312.8	286.5
Madhya Pradesh	41.6	39.2	51.7	1616.0	1563.0	2176.0
Maharashtra	578.0	573.0	526.0	45140.0	42617.0	26982.0
Manipur	0.7	0.7	0.3	21.2	20.6	22.0
Meghalaya	1.0	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2
Mizoram	1.4	1.4	1.4	9.4	7.4	3.6
Nagaland	1.0	2.0	1.1	50.0	80.0	52.6
Orissa	11.0	14.2	14.6	644.0	753.2	858.1

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Punjab	142.0	154.0	123.0	9250.0	9290.0	6620.0
Rajasthan	9.1	10.0	5.8	432.2	421.7	309.4
Tamil Nadu	321.0	261.4	185.3	32620.0	24165.4	19713.6
Tripura	1.0	1.2	1.1	52.7	56.2	47.5
Uttar Pradesh	2035.0	2149.0	2030.1	117982.0	120948.0	112754.0
Uttaranchal	125.9	134.4	128.0	7555.3	7331.7	7651.0
West Bengal	23.3	19.5	16.9	1983.4	1281.3	1252.6
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.1	0.5	0.3	2.4	13.8	2.9
Pondicherry	2.1	2.3	2.4	197.4	209.5	207.4
All India	4411.6	4520.3	4023.1	297207.8	287383.2	237307.8

Pollution Control in Maharashtra

81. SHRI DEVIDAS PINGLE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware of the fact that the Pollution Control Board has been unsuccessful in controlling the pollution in various States of the country particularly in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is aware of the fact that embezzlement of crores of rupees has been made in the name of issuing 'No Objection Certificate' by the Pollution Control Board in various States;

(d) if so, the concrete measures being taken by the Government in this regard; and

(e) whether the Government will take action against the erring officers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Due to various abatement measures taken by the Central and State Pollution Control Boards, the increasing trend in pollution in the country has been arrested with categorical improvement in environmental quality as determined by competent scientific institutions. The major initiatives taken by Maharashtra State Pollution Control Board in this regard inter-alia include the following:-

- (i) Persuading local bodies for proper management of municipal solid waste;
- (ii) Ensuring proper hazardous waste management in the state including setting up of common facilities for management of hazardous waste;
- (iii) Granting authorizations to 7000 health care establishments and facilitating development of

22 common facilities for bio-medical waste management;

- (iv) Establishment of 23 air quality monitoring stations in different cities; and
- (v) Expeditious action for consent management.
- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) and (e) Does not arise.

Mines Functioning in Forest Areas of Rajasthan

82. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI :
SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI :

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

- (a) the number of mines functioning in the forest area of Rajasthan and other States;
- (b) whether steps are being taken to stop the functioning of mines in the forest areas;
- (c) if so, by when; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Since 1980, 1194 mines have been granted forestry clearances for being operated on forest areas under the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 all over the country. Out of these, 218 mines belong to the State of Rajasthan.

(b) Mining is an economic activity and contributes to the GDP of the nation. It is also a fact that most of the mines are located in forest areas. Therefore, to maintain a rational balance between development and conservation, the mines having ores/minerals of national importance, are allowed on forest areas under strict conditions and with appropriate mitigatory measures like compensatory

afforestation, safety zone creation, overburden dump stabilization, reclamation of mined out areas etc. Compliance of these mitigatory measures by user agency, is ensured at the project cost. Thus, mining is allowed in forest areas after stringent examination and scrutiny and with adequate safeguards.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

[English]

Fish Farming

83. SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether an Indian Aquaculturist has been awarded the coveted World Food Prize for his work on expansion of aquaculture and fish farming;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to explore the possibilities of making the unique method of fish farming developed by the aquaculturist available to our aqua-farmers for their application and benefit; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Dr. Modadugu V. Gupta has been awarded 2005 World Food Prize for his work on expansion of aquaculture and fish farming. Dr. Gupta worked as the Assistant Director General at World Fish Center based at Penang, Malaysia until his retirement recently. It is reported that he has developed an economically viable low input aquaculture technology.

(c) and (d) The technology referred to had also been developed in India during the decade of 70s under the All India Coordinated Research Project on Composite Fish Culture by ICAR. The above research projects operated in

a number of States in the country in coordination with the State Governments. The above technology has been adopted in the country under ongoing programme of Development of Freshwater Aquaculture being implemented in the States through Fish Farmers Development Agencies (FFDAs). As a result the average pond productivity in fish farming has raised from 0.5 tonnes/ha in the early 1970s to 2.3 tonnes/ha/year at present. With the adoption of above technology, inland fish production in the country has climbed from 9.87 lakh tonnes in 1983-84 to 34-57 lakh tonnes in 2003-04.

Promotion of Export in Pharmaceutical Sector

84. SHRI SURESH KURUP : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has reportedly been a growth in the export from the pharmaceutical sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to promote such more exports?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Export of drugs, Pharmaceuticals and Fine Chemicals during the last three years is as under:-

2002-03	—	12837.89 Crores
2003-04	—	15213.24 Crores
2004-05	—	16681.14 Crores

(c) The Government of India takes a number of measures for export promotion under the Foreign Trade Policy, which Inter-alia include the following:-

(1) Assistance to States for developing Export Infrastructure and Allied Activities (ASIDE).

(2) Market Access Initiative (MAI).

(3) Market Development Assistance (MDA).

(4) Meeting Expenses for trade Related Matters.

(5) Reorganization of Towns of Export Excellence and assistance to exporters.

(6) Brand Promotion and Quality.

(7) Modernization and up gradation of Test Houses.

Facilitation of Indian exports is done through Export-Import Policies announced from time to time.

Government of India is extending financial assistance through Export Promotion Councils by way of Market Development Assistance Scheme (MDA) and Market Access Initiatives Scheme (MAIS) to all India Exporters (including exporters of drugs, pharmaceuticals and fine chemicals for increasing Indian Exports).

Under the Market Assess Initiative (MAI) programme the Government has given specific facility for refund of 50% of registration fees for 5(five) products in a year with a value of Rupees 5 lakhs (Rupees five lakhs only) per product.

Contract Farming System

85. SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY :
SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPA :
SHRI SUBRATA BOSE :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware of the contract farming system being practised in certain States;

(b) if so, the States which have adopted this system and nature of contract farming in these States;

(c) whether in many cases the contracts are tended to be biased in favour of the promoter companies and they

are reluctant to share with growers the risk of crop failure even if it is caused by faulty seeds or technology provided by them;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the Government's view on adoption of contract farming system; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to safeguard the interests of the farmers involved in the contract farming?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) Contract farming has been prevalent in various parts of the country for commercial crops like sugarcane, cotton, tea, coffee, etc. The concept has, however, gained importance in recent time in the wake of economic liberalization. The main feature of contract farming is that farmers grow selected crops under a buy back agreement with an agency engaged in trading or processing.

(b) The State Governments of Madhya Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Sikkim, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu and Nagaland have provided legal support to contract farming by making provision for it under the State Agricultural Produce Marketing Regulation Act (APMC Act). Nature of contract farming depends on the crops the objective and resources of the buying company and the experience of the farmers. These agreements can be in the nature of preharvest agreement that bind the firm and the grower for the sale of the crop on specified price. The agreement may also require the buyers to supply crop inputs, extension or credit in exchange for the marketing agreement.

(c) to (e) Small farmers in India are generally capital starved and cannot make major investment in land improvement and modern inputs. Contract farming can fill up this gap by providing the farmers with quality inputs, technical guidance and management skills and most importantly link them to assured and profitable markets. In

view of above, contract-farming arrangements are supported by the Government as a measure of reform in agricultural marketing sector. While doing so, Government has sought to protect the interest of both the farmers as well as the industry equitably, by suggesting arrangement for registration of sponsoring companies and recording of contract farming agreements, in order to check unreliable and spurious companies. A dispute resolution mechanism is also suggested to be set up near to farmers which can quickly settle issues, if any, arising between the farmers and the company under a quasi-judicial manner. The farmers while raising the contracted crops, run the risk of incurring debt and consequent displacement from land in the event of crop failure. Farmers have to be indemnified from such displacement by law. A model APMC Act inter-alia containing provisions to the said effect has been circulated to State Governments/Union Territories for adoption as the subject matter falls within their jurisdiction.

[Translation]

Network for Migration of Siberian Cranes

86. MOHD. MUKEEM : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a consensus has been reached on international level among certain countries including India for creating a network for easy migration of Siberian cranes and other migratory aquatic birds;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is aware that there is pond having an area on nine hundred eighty nine (989) bighas in gramsabha, Jamuawa., block Thekama, district Ajamgarh of Uttar Pradesh in which there is a roost of migratory birds and Siberian crane in winter season from November to March; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to develop the said pond as bird sanctuary and to stop the illegal poaching of migratory birds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A meeting to endorse the proposed Western/Central Asian Site Network for Siberian Cranes (and other waterbirds) was held on 13th June, 2005 at New Delhi.

The Western/Central Asian Site Network Committee would comprise of 9 countries including India. 21 sites have been identified for the network. A "Site Network Reviewing Working Group" comprising of some Range States including India has also been constituted.

(c) Yes, Sir. There is a Jamuawa Pond in Jamuawa Gram Sabha of Thekhama Block in Ajamgarh District, where a number of migratory birds visit during winter but no Siberian Cranes have been spotted in previous years.

(d) As reported by the State Government there is no proposal to make that pond as Wildlife Sanctuary (Bird Sanctuary). However regular patrolling is done by the field staff to check any incidence of poaching of these migratory birds.

[English]

Management of Water Resources

87. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Ground Water Board is providing assistance to the State Governments for exploration and management of ground water resources; and

(b) if so, the details of assistance provided to state Governments including Rajasthan for the purpose during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Central Ground Water Board (CCWB) provides technical assistance to the States by carrying out ground water exploration and surveys. The scientific data

collected during the course of exploration and other scientific studies conducted by the CGWB is provided to the State Governments, which helps them on planning development and management of ground water resources. During the last three years, a total of 2488 exploratory boreholes have been drilled in various States and Union Territories including 178 in Rajasthan. Further, in the drought prone States of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Jharkhand and Kerala, a total of 1134 wells including 135 in Rajasthan have been drilled through outsourcing. More than 6 lakh sq. km. area including of 50.540 sq. km. in Rajasthan has been covered under Reappraisal Hydrogeological Surveys.

Besides, under the Central Sector Scheme of 'Study of Recharge to Ground Water' during the IX Plan, which spilled over to X Plan, 165 rain water harvesting and artificial recharge projects were implemented in 27 States/ Union Territories. A total of Rs. 1023.32 lakhs including Rs. 30.52 lakhs to Rajasthan was released to the executing agencies in the States/Union Territories during the period 2002-2004.

[Translation]

Milk Production

88. SHRI SURAJ SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of milk production, consumption and demand in the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether milk production has declined;

(c) if so, the details thereof during the last two years; and

(d) the steps taken for increasing milk production during the said period alongwith the results achieved in the regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) The estimated milk production for the last available three years 2001-02 to 2003-04 is given in the enclosed as statement.

Data on consumption and demand are not collected.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) For improving the production of milk, the following Schemes are being implemented:

(i) National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding;

(ii) Intensive Dairy Development Project;

(iii) Assistance to States for Control of Animal Diseases;

(iv) Assistance to Co-operatives;

(v) Fodder Development Scheme; and

(vi) Strengthening Infrastructure for quality and clean Milk Production.

The production of milk continuously increased during last three years and estimated production during 2004-05 is 91 million tonnes.

Statement

Estimates of Milk Production—2001-02 to 2003-04

(000 tonnes)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5814	6584	6959

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	42	46	46
3.	Assam	682	705	727
4.	Bihar	2664	2869	3180
5.	Goa	45	46	48
6.	Gujarat	5862	6089	6421
7.	Haryana	4978	5124	5221
8.	Mimachal Pradesh	756	773	786
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	1360	1389	1414
10.	Karnataka	4797	4539	3857
11.	Kerala	2718	2419	2111
12.	Madhya Pradesh	5283	5343	5368
13.	Maharashtra	6094	6238	6379
14.	Manipur	68	69	71
15.	Meghalaya	66	68	69
16.	Mizoram	14	15	15
17.	Nagaland	57	58	63
18.	Orissa	929	941	997
19.	Punjab	7932	8173	8391
20.	Rajasthan	7758	7789	8054
21.	Sikkim	37	45	48
22.	Tamil Nadu	4988	4622	4752
23.	Tripura	90	79	84
24.	Uttar Pradesh	14648	15288	15943

1	2	3	4	5
25. West Bengal	3515	3600	3686	
26. Andaman and Nicobar Islands	23	26	25	
27. Chandigarh	43	43	44	
28. Dadra and Nagar Haveli	8	8	8	
29. Daman and Diu	1	1	1	
30. Delhi	294	296	299	
31. Lakshadweep	2	2	1	
32. Pondicherry	37	37	40	
33. Chhattisgarh	795	804	812	
34. Uttaranchal	1066	1079	1188	
35. Jharkhand	940	952	954	
All India	84406	86159	88082	

[English]

Release of Forest Land for Pilgrim Centres

89. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has decided to release forest land for the development of pilgrim centres which are located in forest areas in various States;

(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 NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) The Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, has diverted 124 hectares of forest land under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 during the last three years and the current year for development of pilgrim centres in various States.

(b) and (c) Information on the proposals received by the Ministry of Environment and Forests during the last three years and the current year for diversion of forest land under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for development of pilgrim centres is given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

Information on Forestry Clearance under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in respect of the proposals received during the last three years and current year regarding development of pilgrim centres (as on 25.04.2005)

Sl. No.	Name of the proposal	Area (ha.)	Remarks
1	2	3	4

1. Andhra Pradesh

- | | | | |
|----|---|------|-------------------------|
| 1. | Diversion of forest land for laying link road from Kona (Ramalingeshwaraswamy temple) in Ananthapur district to Guttappalli in Kumool district. | 1.92 | Approved on 14.06.2004. |
|----|---|------|-------------------------|

1	2	3	4
2.	Diversion of forest land for construction of passenger ropeway from Tirupathi to Tirumala hills (Lord Venkateshwara temple).	1.44	Approved on 18.10.2004.
3.	Diversion of forest land for construction of approach bridge from Nandyal-Giddalur road to Sarva Narasimha Swamy Temple.	0.05	Approved on 14.12.2004.
4.	Diversion of forest land for construction of road and erection of 11 KV transmission line from Kapileswaram to Sangameswaran temple.	3.30	The proposal has been closed on 30.12.2004 for want of details.

2. Himachal Pradesh

1.	Diversion of forest land in favour of Radha Swami Satsang, Beas Dera Jaimal Singh Society in Una district.	0.2959	Approved on 02.12.2003.
2.	Diversion of forest land in favour of Vaishno Mata Mandir Committee in Kullu district.	0.452	Wanting details sought on 17.06.2004 from the State Government.
3.	Diversion of forest land for construction of Shri Krishna Mandir Charitable Trust in Solan district.	0.12	Approved on 27.07.2004.

3. Karnataka

1.	Diversion of forest land for renewal of lease for construction of Idgah for use of Muslim Resident Madina Jamya Masjid	0.6	Wanting details sought on 02.04.2004 from the State Government.
2.	Diversion of forest land for construction of intake well, jack-well, intermediate pumping station and laying of pipeline for providing drinking water supply from Cauvery river to Sri Malai Mahadeshwara temple.	0.65	Rejected on 15.07.2004.
3.	Diversion of forest land for construction of Smaraka Mantapa in memory of Saint Sri Vadiraja Swamiji at Sode Thapovan in Uttara Kannada district in favour of Viswathma Theertha Swamiji of Sode Vadiraj Math.	0.02	The proposal has been closed on 08.07.2004 for want of details.

1	2	3	4
4. Kerala			
1.	Diversion of forest land for irrigation components in Pampa and Kakki rivers.	1.4425	Approval granted on 27.12.2004.
2.	Diversion of forest land at Nilackal for developing a Base Camp/Satellite township in favour of Travancore Devaswom Board.	20.00	Approval granted on 07.01.2005.
3.	Diversion of forest land for development of Nilackal Base Camp for Sabarimala pilgrims in favour of Travancore Devaswom Board in Pathanamthitta district of Kerala.	90.524	Approval granted on 05.05.2005.
4.	Diversion of forest land to Travancore Devaswom Board for providing facilities to Sabarimala pilgrims.	12.675	<p>– Since the area falls in the Periyar Tiger Reserve, prior permission of National Board of Wildlife (NBWL) and Hon'ble Supreme Court of India is required.</p> <p>– The proposal has been cleared by the Standing Committee of NBWL on 20.05.2005 and permission of the Apex Court is to be obtained by the User Agency (as on 21.07.2005)</p>
5. Punjab			
1.	Diversion of forest land for Radha Swami Stasang (Beas) in Ropar district.	1.092	Wanting details sought on 31.01.2005 from the State Government.
6. Sikkim			
1.	Diversion of forest land to Tendong Hill Pilgrimage Centre Development Committee.	0.4213	Since no clearing or breaking up of forest land and no permanent construction was involved, the proposal was returned to the State Government to regulate the same as per normal procedure under the State Forest Act.
7. Tamil Nadu			
1.	Diversion of forest land for electrification to the Palamalai Swamy temple.	0.1392	Approved on 30.10.2002.

1	2	3	4
8. Maharashtra			
1.	Diversion of forest land for Dharamshal Prasadalya Toilet Block for devotees in Nasik district.	1.2	Returned to the State Government on 28.07.2003 due to incomplete information/ procedure.
2.	Diversion of forest land for construction of Shri Balyogi Sadhanad Ashram in Thane district.	0.69	Returned to the State Government on 26.04.2004 due to incomplete information/ procedure.
3.	Diversion of forest land for development of Manudevi Temple Trust in Jalgaon district.	0.24	Approved on 02.11.2004.
9. Gujarat			
1.	Diversion of forest land for construction of Visama on Shetrunjay Hill in Bhavnagar district.	0.0042	Approved on 22.01.2003.
2.	Diversion of forest land for construction of Visama on Shetrunjay Hill in Bhavnagar district.	0.96	Approved on 08.07.2004.
10. Madhya Pradesh			
1.	Diversion of forest land for construction of Paramhansa Ashram in Satna district.	3.609	Approved on 07.03.2003.
11. Rajasthan			
1.	Diversion of forest land for installation of a passenger ropeway at Shri Shavitri Mata Mandir.	0.874	Approved.
2.	Diversion of forest land for installation of a ropeway to Sugandhmata Temple.	0.7652	Approved.
12. Uttaranchal			
1.	Diversion of forest land for Satimatha Mandir and Ashram construction.	0.1	Approved.
2.	Diversion of forest land for Baba Kali Kamli Wala.	0.392	Approved.

1	2	3	4
3.	Diversion of forest land for Hanuman Mandir and Ashram.	0.56	Approved.
4.	Diversion of forest land for Tosri Baba Hadakhan Mandir Trust, Chilianaula Charitable Research Hospital.	0.2	Approved.
5.	Diversion of forest land for Shri Shri Jagadguru Shankaracharya Sanskrit College and Hospital Trust.	0.10	Rejected on merit.
6.	Diversion of forest land for Neem Karoli Baba under Rishikesh Range.	0.4	Approved.

National Trade Certificate

90. SHRI P. MOHAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of Industrial Training Centres (ITC) under the Private Management through which Government of India's Trade tests are conducted;

(b) whether all the students of those ITCs are issued with National Trade Certificates (NTC) as soon as they pass their respective trade tests;

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

(d) whether any complaint was received from Tamil Nadu in respect of non-issuance of due certificate to the qualified students; and

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

affiliated trades/units of these institutes are subjected to above test for the award of National Trade Certificate.

(b) and (c) The successful trainees of only affiliated trades/units of Industrial Training Institutes/Centres are awarded National Trade Certificates by the respective State Government after declaration of the results. The details of issue of certificates as maintained by respective State Governments.

(d) and (e) No complaint has been received regarding non-issuance of National Trade Certificates to the trainees of affiliated trades/units of ITIs/ITCs of Tamil Nadu.

However, reference were received for non-issuance of National Trade Certificate to the trainees of unaffiliated trades/units of ITC of Tamil Nadu which were replied to.

Gas Based out Board Engine

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

(a) whether the Govt. has given clearance for commercial use of outboard gas based engines for small boats (VALLAMS);

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO) : (a) At present there are 3218 Industrial Training Centres spread all over the country run by Private Management. All India Trade Tests of Craftsmen are conducted under the aegis of National Council for Vocational Training. The eligible trainees of

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether cost of fuel for small fishing boats are expected to be minimized by such engine;

(d) if so, the present commercial status of such engines;

(e) whether the Government has provide any subsidy to encourage the fishermen; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Miners Suffering from Diseases

92. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : Will the

Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of miners suffering from notified diseases in mines Under Section 25 of the Mines Act, 1952;

(b) whether the Government has taken any measure to save the lives of such miners;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to check and control such diseases?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO) : (a) The details of cases of diseases notified under Section 25 of the Mines Act, 1952 reported to the Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS) during the last five years is given below:-

*Year	Coal Worker's Pneumoconiosis	Silicosis	Manganese Poisoning	Asbestosis	Lung Cancer
2000	9	3	—	—	—
2001	2	1	—	—	—
2002	1	79**	—	—	—
2003	3	14	—	—	—
2004	41	12	—	—	—

* Provisional

** Includes 66 cases of silicosis reported by Desert Medicine Research Institute, Jodhpur.

(b) and (c) The Mines Acts, 1952 and the Rules and Regulation framed there under provide the necessary measures for ensuring the safety of miners. The Officers of the DGMS ensure that the mine owners follow these provisions by making regular and periodic inspections of mines.

(d) The Government has taken comprehensive steps for prevention and control of notified diseases in mines. The measures undertaken by the government include:-

1. Formulation and regular updating of Mines Act and subordinate legislations.

2. Enforcement of legislative provision through regular inspection of mines by the officers of Directorate General of Mines Safety.
3. Legal action in the form of prohibitory orders and prosecution in case of repeated violations of legislative provisions.
4. Studies and surveys for detection of notified diseases.
5. Tripartite and bipartite conferences.
6. Awareness and training programmes for workers and employers.
7. Issue of DGMS Technical Circulars.

[Translation]

Separation of Bhilai Steel Plant from SAIL

93. SHRI AJIT JOGI : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from the Government of Chhattisgarh to separate the Bhilai Steel Plant from Steel Authority of India Limited;

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

(c) if not, the time by which it is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal was not found acceptable.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

[English]

Fixation of Price of Fertilizers

94. SHRI RAVICHANDRAN SIPPAPARAI : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the methodology to fix up the price of the fertilizers from time to time;

(b) whether the Government is planning to set up any mechanism to regulate the price fixing of the fertilizers; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) :

(a) to (c) All the major fertilizers were under statutory price control upto 25.8.1992 where after the phosphatic and potassic (P and K) fertilizers were decontrolled. At present, only urea is under statutory price control, whose maximum retail price (MRP) is fixed under Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985.

Immediately after decontrol of the P and K fertilizers, the Government introduced an ad hoc concession scheme for sale of the decontrolled P and K fertilizers, under which State Governments were announcing the price of decontrolled P&K fertilizers and Government of India was making payment of concession based on the sales certified by the various State Governments. Government of India started announcing the indicative MRPs of di-ammonium phosphate (DAP), Muriate of Potash (MoP) and complex fertilizers w.e.f 1.4.1997. The indicative MRP of Single Super Phosphate (SSP) is still announced by respective State Governments. The indicative MRPs announced by the Government w.e.f 1.4.1997 were based on the recommendations of the Empowered Committee constituted by the Government.

Revision in the MRP/indicative MRPs is done by the Government keeping in view the consideration of making available fertilizers to farmers at affordable prices.

Poaching/Electrocution of Elephants

95. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :
SHRI M. SHIVANNA :

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

(a) whether many elephant deaths reported in and around the forests of the Nagarhole National Park in Karnataka during the last ten years have been ascribed to unnatural reasons including poaching and electrocution;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some vested interests are behind the mysterious deaths of elephants in Nagarhole; and

(d) if so, the measures contemplated by the Union Government to check these elements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) As informed by the State Government, death of only 23 elephants has been reported in and around the Forests of Nagarhole National Park during the last ten years. Of the reported cases of death 18 were on account of poaching and five due to electrocution.

(c) Poaching of male elephants for tusks by organized gangs has been reported by the State Government.

(d) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme necessary technical and financial assistance is provided to the State Government that includes infrastructure development, improved communication, habitat improvement and wildlife protection. Karnataka Forest Department also has set up anti poaching camps in Nagarhole National Park and intensified patrolling by field staff. Immunization of cattle on the fringe areas is being carried out to prevent spread of diseases among wild elephants.

Appropriation of Surplus Water of Krishna River by Andhra Pradesh

96. SHRI M. SHIVANNA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has appropriated the surplus water of Krishna river for construction of various irrigation projects;

(b) if so, whether these constructions are contrary the decision of the earlier award of the Tribunal and also against the Supreme Court Judgement of 1997;

(c) if so, whether the Union Government proposes to intervene and resolve the matter; and

(d) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) The Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal (KWDT) has allocated the 75% dependable flow of the river Krishna at Vijayawada assessed as 2060 Thousand Million Cubic Feet (TMC) to the three basin States of Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh as 560 TMC, 700 TMC and 800 TMC respectively. The State of Andhra Pradesh has been permitted to use remaining water, over and above their share in 75% dependable yield, without acquiring any rights on such waters. The Supreme Court judgement dated 25.4.2000 on Original Suit-1 of 1997 filed by Karnataka has observed that the lower riparian State can certainly use any excess water flowing in the river basin, but such uses should not be by way of permanent construction of large scale projects and water reservoirs. The Central Government has not accorded clearance to such projects which commit utilisation of water over and above allocated share of the States by KWDT.

(c) and (d) The Central Government constituted the second Krishna Water Dispute Tribunals (KWDT) on April 2, 2004 and referred to it the letters of complaint of the State of Karnataka as well as those of the States of Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra to the Tribunal on the same date for adjudication of the disputes raised in the complaints.

[Translation]

ESI Hospitals

*97. SHRI SRICHAND KRIPLANI : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of E.S.I. hospitals constructed by the Union Government during the year 2004-05, State-wise;

(b) whether several States including Rajasthan have made requests in this regard;

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

(d) the amount allocated to the States for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO) : (a) (i) During the year 2004-05, the ESI Corporation sanctioned a 50 bedded hospital at Gurgaon, Haryana and a 50 beds block at ESI hospital Dandeli, Kamataka.

(ii) The work in the following new hospitals was in progress during 2004-05:—

(1) ESI Hospital, Jammu (J and K). Phase-I of this hospital was completed and taken over as Model Hospital in March 2005.

(2) ESI hospital Asramam, Kollam, Kerala.

(b) and (c) The following request from State Governments have been received for setting up ESI Hospital:—

(i) Government of Rajasthan has requested for construction of a 50 bedded hospital at Bhiwadi. The request of the State Government has been accepted. However, in view of poor occupancy of ESI hospitals in Rajasthan and inability of the State Government to provide doctors and other staff in existing hospitals/dispensaries in general and in the Diagnostic Center at Bhiwadi in particular, the State

Government has been requested to confirm that necessary number of doctors and other staff will be made available upon construction of hospital at Bhiwadi.

(ii) Government of Tamil Nadu has requested for construction of 50-bedded hospital at Tirunelveli and Ranipet. While the request for construction of the hospital at Tirunelveli has been accepted, setting up of an ESI hospitals at Ranipet could not be agreed to for want of adequate information/justification from the State Government.

(b) Funds are not allotted State-wise. Funds are made available as per requirement after sanction of the work.

New Varieties of Wheat, Paddy and Sugarcane

*98. SHRI PARAS NATH YADAV : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of new varieties of wheat, paddy and sugarcane developed during the last three years;

(b) the names of the States where these new varieties are being used by the farmers so far;

(c) the steps taken by the Government for supply of new varieties of seeds developed every year to all the farmers;

(d) whether most of the farmers use the old varieties of seeds in lack of awareness towards the newly developed varieties resulting in lower production of those crops; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) and (b)

Seventeen new varieties of wheat, eleven varieties of paddy and five varieties of sugarcane have been released by Central Sub-Committee on Crop Standard, Notification and release of varieties for Agricultural Crops during last three years. In addition to this, several varieties in these crops have also been released by the respective State Varietal Release Committees for adaptation. The states in which these varieties are used/released are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research is mandated to produce the breeder seed of high yielding varieties as per the indents received from the Department

of Agriculture and Cooperation which in turn gets indents from State Govts., National Seeds Corporation, State Seed Corporation and other agencies. These Seeds are further multiplied by the indenting agencies to produce the foundation and certified seeds. Thus the quality certified seeds are made available to the farmers for cultivation.

(d) and (e) No, Sir, farmers are using high yielding varieties that is why the production and productivity in almost all the crops have increased. Efforts have also been made to make awareness and popularization of high yielding varieties through Krishi Vigyan Kendras, Kisan Melas, Front Line Demonstrations, print and electronic media etc.

Statement

Varieties Recommended for Release/Notification (Central Release) During Last Three Years

Sl.No.	Name of Variety	Year of Releases	Recommended State
1	2	3	4
I. Wheat			
1.	Kaushambi	2002	Central and Eastern Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal and Part of Assam.
2.	Aditya	2002	Karnataka, Maharashtra, Part of Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Plains of Tamil Nadu.
3.	GW-322	2002	Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Southern and Western Rajasthan, Bundelkhand areas of Uttar Pradesh.
4.	VL-804	2002	Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttaranchal.
5.	Himgiri	2003	Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal and Jammu and Kashmir.
6.	Amrita	2003	Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.
7.	DWB-14	2003	Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal and Jharkhand.
8.	Narendra Wheat-2036	2003	Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal.

1	2	3	4
9.	MP-4010	2003	Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, South and Western parts of Rajasthan, Bundelkhand area of Uttar Pradesh.
10.	VL Gehun-829	2003	Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttaranchal.
11.	Shivalik	2003	Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Jammu and Kashmir.
12.	PBW 502	2004	Punjab, Haryana, Western Uttar Pradesh, Part of Rajasthan.
13.	Poorva	2004	Eastern Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, Jharkhand Orissa, Assam.
14.	Raj 4037	2004	Pennisular Zone, Karnataka, Maharashtra.
15.	VL Gehun 832	2004	Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Hill district of Uttaranchal.
16.	URJA	2004	Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh.
17.	MACS 6145	2004	Jharkhand, West Bengal, Bihar and Bundelkhand region of Uttar Pradesh.

II. Paddy

1.	Anjali	2002	Bihar, Jharkhand Orissa, Assam and Tripura.
2.	KRH-2	2002	Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry and Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, Tripura Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Goa.
3.	Dhanrasi	2003	Karnataka, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh.
4.	RH-204	2003	Andhra Pradesh, South Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Haryana, Rajasthan.
5.	CSRC(S)2-1-7	2004	West Bengal, Orissa, Kerala and Andhra Pradesh.
6.	CSR-23(CSR-891R-5)	2004	Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal.
7.	HPR-1156	2004	Hilly area of Meghalaya, Himachal Pradesh and Uttaranchal.
8.	JR-503 (Richa)	2004	Irrigated/rainfed area of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh.
9.	Pusa Sugandh-5	2004	Delhi, Haryana, Jammu and Kashmir.

1	2	3	4
10.	Suruchi 5401	2004	Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka.
11.	Sugandhamati	2004	Irrigated conditions of Punjab, Haryana, Delhi and Jammu and Kashmir.
III. Sugarcane			
1.	Shyama	2004	Maharashtra, Karnataka, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Kerala interior Andhra Pradesh and Plateau region of Tamil Nadu.
2.	Rashmi	2004	Easter Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal.
3.	Jalpari	2004	Easter Uttar Pradesh. Bihar and West Bengal.
4.	Rachna	2004	Central and Western Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan.
5.	Sweta	2004	Irrigated conditions of West Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan.

[English]

Pollution by Sponge Iron Plants in Keonjhar

*99. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has identified the sponge iron plants in Keonjhar district, Orissa which are causing air and water pollution;

(b) if so, the list of such sponge iron plants;

(c) the number of people and the villages affected by these sponge iron plants; and

(d) the steps taken to control air and water pollution caused by these sponge iron plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) The Orissa State Pollution Control Board has reported that during last one year, out of seventeen sponge iron plants in Keonjhar district, Orissa,

six units are observed to have not been complying with the environmental norms due to inadequate pollution control measures adopted. The list of such sponge iron plants is enclosed as statement.

(c) and (d) To control pollution from sponge iron plants and to reduce impact on the nearby villages, the State Pollution Control Board has directed sponge iron plants to adopt following pollution abatement measures:

- Installation of electrostatic Precipitator (ESP)/ Gas Cleaning Plant/Bag Filters for emission control;
- Provision of adequate water sprinkling facilities to control fugitive emissions;
- Management of solid waste; and
- Complete re-circulation of water.

The Orissa State Pollution Control Board is regularly monitoring the environmental compliance and taking necessary legal action, in case of any violation.

Statement**List of defaulting Sponge Iron Plants in
Keonjhar district**

Sl.No.	Name of the Unit
1.	Beekay Steels and Power Limited, Uliburu, Nalda;
2.	Grewal Associates Matkambada, Barbil;
3.	Orion Ispat Ltd., Ramchandrapur;
4.	Sree Metallks Ltd., Loidapada;
5.	Aditya Sponge and Power Ltd., Telkoi; and
6.	MSP Sponge Iron (P) Ltd., Haladiguna.

Production of Milk and Milk Products

100. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the demand and production of milk and milk products in the country at present;

(b) the estimated requirement of milk and milk products during the next two years;

(c) the quantity of milk products exported during the last three years alongwith the foreign exchange earned therefrom;

(d) whether the Government proposes to formulate my comprehensive plan to augment the production of milk product in the country and also its exports; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) and (b) The production of milk in the country during the years

2003-04 and 2004-05 has been estimated at 88.1 million tonnes and 91.0 million tonnes respectively. The estimated production of milk for 2005-06 and 2006-07 is 93.5 million tonnes and 96.0 million tonnes respectively. The milk production at national level is by and large sufficient to meet the domestic demand. There is no authentic data on production of milk products in the country.

(c) The quantity of milk products exported during last three years alongwith foreign exchange earned therefrom is given below:—

Year	Quantity in metric tonnes (MT)	Value (In Rs. crores)
2001-02	24774	182.45
2002-03	21439	153.59
2003-04	15883	155.19
2004-05	NA	413.55

(d) and (e) Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries in Government of India is implementing the following schemes to augment the production of milk in the country:-

1. National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding.
2. Livestock Health and Disease Control.
3. Fodder Development Scheme.
4. Intensive Dairy Development Programme.
5. Assistance to Cooperatives.
6. Strengthening Infrastructure for quality and Clean Milk Production.

To promote the exports of milk and milk products, following steps have been taken by Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) under Milk of Commerce and Industry:-

1. Standards have been laid down under Export (Quality Control and Inspection) Act, 1963 for export of milk products.
2. Financial assistance is provided by APEDA to the exporters for setting up of in-house quality control laboratories and implementation of international quality systems. APEDA also extends assistance to the registered exporters for packaging development, market development etc.
3. Participation in trade fairs to create awareness of Indian products including dairy products.
4. The Ministry of Commerce and Industry in the recently announced Foreign Trade Policy has extended the benefit of Vishesh Krishi Upaj Yojana to dairy sector also. Under the scheme, the exporters are entitled for duty credit scrip equivalent to 5% FOB value of exports for each licensing year. The scrip and the items imported against it would be freely transferable. The duty credit may be used for import of inputs or goods including capital goods provided the same is freely importable.

[Translation]

Setting up of Fertilizer Plants

101. SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN :
SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government proposes to set up fertilizer plants in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS

AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) :
(a) to (c) As per the industrial policy resolution dated 24th July, 1991, no license is normally required for setting up/ expansion of fertilizer plants. Entrepreneurs are free to set up fertilizer project anywhere in the country subject to environmental clearance. However, Public Sector Undertakings/Cooperatives Societies under the administrative control of the Department of Fertilizers have to obtain approval of the Government before undertaking such capital expenditure beyond their delegated powers. Further, setting up of new, expansion and de-bottlenecking projects of urea requires prior approval of the Department of Fertilizers which are to be based on Natural Gas (NG) and Liquefied nature Gas (LNG) as feedstock and fuel, as per the pricing policy for investment made in new, expansion and de-bottlenecking project of urea notified in January, 2004.

Development of Forests in Maharashtra and U.P.

102. SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL :
SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD :

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

- (a) whether the Governments of Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh have submitted any project proposals to the Union Government for the development of forest in the their States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to approve the said projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (c) Ministry of Environment and Forests is implementing the National Afforestation Programme (NAP) through decentralised mechanism of Forest Development Agency (FDA) and Joint Forest Management

Committees (JFMCs). Till date, Ministry has received 45 projects from Maharashtra and 65 projects from Uttar Pradesh under National Afforestation Programme Scheme. Out of 45 projects submitted by Government of Maharashtra, 42 projects have been approved so far to treat a total area of 63,413 ha. through 1398 JFMCs at a total cost of Rs. 94.54 crore. Out of the 65 projects submitted by Government of Uttar Pradesh, 56 projects have been approved so far to treat a total area of 61,987 ha. through 1892 JFMCs at a total cost of Rs.102.16 crore. Remaining projects will be approved subject to availability of funds.

[English]

Afforestation

103. SHRI NAVJOT SINGH SIDHU : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government is making some fresh efforts to regret India to check desertification;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to involve everyone in the plantation of trees; and
- (d) if so, the mechanism therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) to (d) The Ministry of Environment and Forests is implementing National Afforestation Programme (NAP) during the 10th Five Year Plan. NAP is being implemented through two-tier decentralized institutions. Forest Development Agency (FDA) at Forest Division level and Joint Forest Management Committee (JFMC) at the village level for regeneration of degraded forest and adjoining lands. This two-tier institution of FDAs and JFMCs. ensures participation of the villagers in NAP

[Translation]

Mismanagement in Procurement of Mustard

104. SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government has received any complaints regarding mismanagement in the procurement of mustard in Rajasthan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is considering any plan to avert mismanagement in the procurement process;
- (d) the effective steps taken in this direction;
- (e) whether the benefits of procurement at Minimum Support Price is being appropriated by a few States;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) the steps taken by the Government to ensure equitable distribution of the benefits to all the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) to (d) Due to bumper production of mustard seed during the Rabi Crop Season – 2005 and prices ruling below the Minimum Support Price, there has been record procurement of mustard seed in the country particularly in Rajasthan. Out of total procurement of 2093298 MT, 1403781 MT was procured in Rajasthan alone. Due to procurement of such a huge quantity, initially there were problems of storage space, working capital, packaging material etc. However, to overcome these problems, the Central government took steps through its central agency for booking the adequate storage capacity, arrangement of working capital and packaging material, etc.

(e) to (g) The Procurement of mustard seed during Rabi crop season 2005 at the Minimum Support Price was undertaken in all the major mustard seed producing States — Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Chhattisgarh and Punjab benefiting the mustard growing farmers of these States. The details of mustard seed procured in different States are as under:-

States	Qty. procured (in MT)
Rajasthan	1403781
Uttar Pradesh	39623
Gujarat	188255
Madhya Pradesh	137509
Chhattisgarh	2159
Haryana	306275
Punjab	6718
Delhi	8978
Total	2093298

[English]

Subsidy for Export of Drugs

105. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of drugs manufacturing licences issued in our country vis-a-vis China;

(b) whether a subsidy of about 13% is available for export of drug and drug Intermediates from China; and

(c) if not, the steps taken by the Government to provide level playing field for fermentation and basic chemicals in our country?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) :

(a) to (c) A large number of units manufacturing drugs and related items, both in the organized sector and in the small scale sector are operating in the country. Under the provisions of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Rules hereunder, the responsibility for regulating manufacture and sale of drugs including monitoring their quality is primarily vested with the State Governments.

The Directorate General of Health Services is issuing foreign manufacturing site registrations including Chinese manufacturers under the provisions of Drugs and Cosmetics Rules for the import of various drugs being manufactured by them. Details regarding Chinese manufacturers registered are available with department website www.cdsc.nic.in.

Further where any article is exported from any country to India at less than its normal value, then, for importing such article in India, the Central government may impose an anti-dumping duty not exceeding margin of dumping in relation to such article.

Government is providing various incentives under Foreign Trade Policy, amended from time to time, like advance licenses, DEPB etc. also under MAI/MDA schemes, govt. of India is providing incentives to the exporters, particularly for small and medium scale exporters for promotion of exports.

Improvement in Fishing Activities in Gujarat

106. SHRI SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to improve the fishing activities in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken in this regard during the last three years; and

(d) the progress achieved during the said period as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Union Government through Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Development of Marine Fisheries, Infrastructure and Post Harvest Operations" is assisting the State Governments including Gujarat.

(b) The components of the scheme are (i) subsidy for motorisation of traditional craft (ii) Fishermen Development Rebate on HSD oil (iii) assistance for construction of fish landing centres and fishing harbours.

(c) and (d) During the last three years an amount of Rs.1247.44 lakhs has been sanctioned under the scheme. This includes approval for construction of 2 minor fishing harbours at Dholai in Navasari district and Okha in Jamnagar district. The results of these efforts are expected to be reflected in the fish production of the state in coming years.

Research Projects in ICAR

107. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of research projects in agriculture funded by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) during 2004-05 in the country;

(b) the details of projects earmarked for Karnataka;

(c) the amount released to Karnataka during 2004-05 for these projects;

(d) the number of projects to be taken up by the ICAR in Karnataka during 2005-06; and

(e) the number of ad-hoc projects to be funded by the Government of Karnataka during the year 2005-06?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) The details are given in the enclosed statement-I.

(b) and (c) The ICAR does not taken projects, on state-wise basis. However, research institutions that have been set up in the State of Karnataka are given in statement-II enclosed.

(d) The institutions given in (b) and (c) will continue during 2005-06 also.

(e) There is no proposal with ICAR, for the Government of Karnataka to fund adhoc projects during 2005-2006.

Statement-I

Details of Research Projects in Agriculture Funded by ICAR in the Country

I. CROP SCIENCE

1. National Bureau of Plant Genetics Resources, New Delhi

National Bureau of Plant Genetics Resources, New Delhi

(i) AICRP on Under Utilised Crops

(ii) NRC-DNA Finger Printing, New Delhi

2. IARI, New Delhi

IARI, New Delhi (included Into Israel)

(i) AICRP on Pesticides Residues

(ii) AICRP on Nematodes

(iii) NRC Plant Biotechnology

(iv) Directorate of Maize Research, New Delhi

(v) AICRP on Maize

- (vi) National Centre for Integrated Pest Management
- (vii) AICRP Floriculture
- Network Programme on Insect Biosystematics (Part of IARI)
- Network Project on Transgenics (Part of NRC Plant Biotechnology)
- 3. Central Rice Research Institute, Cuttack**
- Central Rice Research Institute, Cuttack
- (i) Directorate of Rice Research, Hyderabad
- (ii) AICRP Rice, Hyderabad
- 4. Vivekananda Parvitya Krishi Anusandhan Sansthan, Almora**
- 5. Indian Institute of Pulses Research, Kanpur**
- Indian Institute of Pulses Research, Kanpur
- (i) AICRP on Chickpea
- (ii) AICRP on MULLARP
- (iii) AICRP on Pigeon Pea
- (iv) AICRP on Arid Legumes
- 6. Directorate of Wheat Research, Karnal**
- Directorate of Wheat Research, Karnal
- (i) AICRP on Wheat and Barley Improvement Project, Karnal
- 7. NRC Sorghum, Hyderabad**
- NRC Sorghum, Hyderabad
- (i) AICRP Sorghum, Hyderabad
- (ii) AICRP on Pearl Millets, Jodhpur
- (iii) AICRP on Small Millets, Bangalore
- 8. Indian Grassland and Fodder Research Institute, Jhansi**
- Indian Grassland and Fodder Research Institute, Jhansi
- (i) AICRP on Forage Crops
- (ii) AICRP on Agroforestry
- (iii) NRC Agroforestry
- 9. Central Tobacco Research Institute, Rajamundry**
- Central Tobacco Research Institute, Rajamundry
- (i) Network Project on Tobacco
- 10. Indian Institute of Sugarcane Research, Lucknow**
- Indian Institute of Sugarcane Research, Lucknow
- (i) Sugarcane Breeding Institute, Coimbatore
- (ii) AICRP on Sugarcane, Lucknow
- 11. Central Institute of Cotton Research, Nagpur**
- Central Institute of Cotton Research, Nagpur
- (i) AICRP on Cotton, Coimbatore
- (ii) Central Research Institute for Jute and Allied Fibres, Barrackpore
- (iii) AICRP on Jute and Allied Fibres
- (iv) Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC)
- Technology Mission on Jute (TMJ)
- 12. Directorate of Oilseed Research, Hyderabad**
- Directorate of Oilseed Research, Hyderabad
- (i) NRC Groundnut, Junagarh
- (ii) AICRP on Groundnut, Junagarh

- iii. NRC Soyabean, Indore
- iv. NRCP on Soyabean, Indore
- v. NRC - Rapeseed and Mustard, (NRCRM), Bharatpur
- vi. AICRP on Rapeseed and Mustard, Bharatpur
- vii. AICRP on Sunflower, Safflower, Castor, Hyderabad
- viii. AICRP on Linseed, Kanpur
- ix. AICRP on Sesame and Niger, Jabalpur

13. Project Directorate of Biological Control, Bangalore

Project Directorate of Biological Control, Bangalore

- i. AICRP on Biological Control, Bangalore
- ii. AICRP on Honey Bee Research and Training, Hisar
- iii. Network on White Grubs and Other Soil Arthropods, Jaipur
- iv. Network on Agricultural Acarology, Bangalore
- v. Network on Economic Ornithology, Hyderabad

14. Directorate of Seed Research, Mau

Directorate of Seed Research, Mau

- i. AICRP component of NSP-Crops

15. National Bureau of Agri. Important Micro-organisms (NBAM), New Delhi

II. HORTICULTURE

16. Indian Institute of Horticultural Research, Bangalore

Indian Institute of Horticultural Research, Bangalore

AICRP Tropical Fruits, Bangalore

- ii. Central Institute of Sub Tropical Horticulture, Lucknow
- iii. AICRP Sub Tropical Fruits, Lucknow
- iv. NRC Litchi, Muzaffarpur
- v. NRC Citrus, Nagpur
- vi. NRC Grapes, Pune
- vii. NRC Banana, Trichi

17. Central Institute of Temperate Horticulture, Srinagar

18. Central Institute of Arid Horticulture, Bikaner

Central Institute of Arid Horticulture, Bikaner

- i. AICRP Arid Fruits

19. Indian Institute of Vegetable Research, Varanasi

Indian Institute of Vegetable Research, Varanasi

- i. NRC for Mushroom, Solan
- ii. AICRP Mushroom, Solan
- iii. AICRP Vegetables, Varanasi
- iv. National Seed Project Vegetables, Varanasi
- v. NRC Onion and Garlic, Pune

20. Central Potato Research Institute, Shimla

Central Potato Research Institute, Shimla

- i. AICRP Potato
- ii. Central Tuber Crops Research Institute, Trivandrum
- iii. AICRP Tuber Crops

21. Central Plantation Crops Research Institute, Kasargod

Central Plantation Crops Research Institute, Kasargod

- i. AICRP Palms
 - ii. NRC Cashew, Puttur
 - iii. AICRP Cashew
 - iv. NRC Oil Palm, Pedavegi, A.P.
- 22. Central Agricultural Research Institute, Port Blair**
- Indian Institute of Spices Research, Calicut
- i. AICRP Spices, Calicut
 - ii. NRC Seed Spices, Ajmer
- 24. NRC Medicinal and Aromatic Plants, Anand**
- NRC Medicinal and Aromatic Plants, Anand
- i. Network on Medicinal and Aromatic Plants
 - ii. Network on Betelvine
- III. NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**
- 25. National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land Use Planning, Nagpur**
- 26. Central Soil and Water Conservation Research and Training Institute, Dehradun**
- 27. Indian Institute of Soil Sciences, Bhopal**
- Indian Institute of Soil Sciences, Bhopal
- i. AICRP in Micro Secondary and Pollutant Elements in Soils and Plants
 - ii. Network Bio-fertilizers
 - iii. AICRP on Soil Test with Crop Response
 - iv. AICRP on Long Term Fertilizer Experiments

- 28. Central Soil Salinity Research Institute, Karnal**
- Central Soil Salinity Research Institute, Karnal
- i. AICRP on Salt Affected Soils and use of Saline Water in Agriculture
- 29. ICAR Research Complex for Eastern Region, Patna**
- ICAR Research Complex for Eastern Region, Patna
- i. NRC for Makhana, Darbhanga
- 30. Water Technology Centre for Eastern Region, Bhubaneswar**
- Water Technology Centre for Eastern Region, Bhubaneswar
- i. AICRP on Water Management Research, Bhubaneswar
 - ii. AICRP on Ground Water Utilisation, Bhubaneswar
- 31. Central Research Institute of Dryland Agriculture, Hyderabad**
- Central Research Institute of Dryland Agriculture, Hyderabad
- i. AICRP Dryland Agriculture, Hyderabad
 - ii. AICRP on Agrometeorology, Hyderabad
 - iii. Network on Impact, Adaptation and Vulnerability of Indian Agrl. to Climate Change
- 32. Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur**
- Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur
- i. Network Project on Rodent Control
- 33. Project Dte. on Cropping System Research, Modipuram**
- Project . Dte. on Cropping System Research, Modipuram

i. AICRP Cropping System Research

Network on Organic Farming

34. NRC-Weed Science, Jabalpur

NRC-Weed Science, Jabalpur

i. AICRP Weed Control, Jabalpur

35. ICAR Research Complex, Goa

36. ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Barapani

ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Barapani

i. NRC on Yak

ii. NRC on Mithun Medziphema, Nagaland

iii. NRC on Orchids, Pakyong, Sikkim

IV. AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING

37. Central Institute of Agricultural Engineering, Bhopal

Central Institute of Agricultural Engineering, Bhopal

i. Network Project on RNAEM, Bhopal

ii. AICRP on FIM, Bhopal

iii. AICRP on Human engineering and Safety in Agriculture (HESA), Bhopal

iv. AICRP on Renewable Sources of Energy for Ag. And Agro Based Indus.

v. AICRP on Utilization of Animal Energy (UAE), Bhopal

38. Central Institute on Post harvest Engineering and Technology, Ludhiana

Central Institute on Post harvest Engineering and Technology, Ludhiana

i. AICRP on Application of Plastic in Agriculture

ii. AICRP on PHT

iii. AICRP on Processing handling and storage of Jaggery and Khandsari, Lucknow

39. Indian Lac Research Institute, Ranchi

40. Central Institute of Research on Cotton Technology, Mumbai

41. Central Institute of Research on Jute and Allied Fibre Technology, Calcutta

V. ANIMAL SCIENCE

42. National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources, Karnal

National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources, Karnal

i. Network project on Animal Genetic Resources

43. National Dairy Research Institute including NRC Animal Biotechnology, Karnal

National Dairy Research Institute including NRC Animal Biotechnology, Karnal

i. NP on R and D Support for Process Upgradation of Indigenous Milk Products for industrial application

ii. Pilot Project on Integrated Rural Development Focussed on Dairying

44. Central Sheep and Wool Research Institute, Avikanagar, Rajasthan

Central Sheep and Wool Research Institute, Avikanagar, Rajasthan

i. Network Programme on Sheep Improvement

45. Central Institute for Research on Goats, Makhdoom

Central Institute for Research on Goats, Makhdoom

- i. AICRP on Goat Improvement

High Security Animal Disease
46. Central Institute for Research on Buffaloes, Hissar

Central Institute for Research on Buffaloes, Hissar
- i. Network Project on Buffaloes Improvement
47. National Institute of Animal Nutrition and Physiology

National Institute of Animal Nutrition and Physiology
- i. AICRP-Improvement of Feed Sources and Nutrient Utilisation for raising Animal Production
48. NRC on Camel, Bikaner
49. NRC on Equines, Hissar (included Veterinary Type Culture)
50. Project Directorate – Cattle

Project Directorate – Cattle
- i. AICRP on Cattle Research
51. PD on Foot and Mouth Disease, Mukteshwar
52. Central Avian Research Institute, Izatnagar

Central Avian Research Institute, Izatnagar
- i. Project Directorate on Poultry, Hyderabad
- ii. AICRP on Poultry
53. Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar

Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar
- i. Network on Gastro Intestinal Parasitism (GIP)
- ii. Network on Haemorrhagic Septicemia
- iii. Network Programme Blue Tongue Disease
- iv. PD on Animal Disease Monitoring and Surveillance
54. NRC on Meat and Meat Products Technology, Hyderabad
55. NRC on Pig

NRC on Pig
- i. AICRP-Pig
- VI. FISHERIES
56. Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Cochin

Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Cochin
- i. Central Institute Brackishwater Aquaculture, Chennai
57. Central Inland Capture Fisheries Research Institute, Barrackpore

Central Inland Capture Fisheries Research Institute, Barrackpore
- i. National Research Centre on Cold Water Fisheries, Nainital
58. Central Institute of Fisheries Technology, Cochin
59. Central Institute on Fisheries Education, Mumbai
60. Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture, Bhubneshwar
61. National Bureau of Fish Genetic Resources, Lucknow
- VII. AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS AND ECONOMICS
62. Indian Agricultural Statistical Research Institute

Indian Agricultural Statistical Research Institute
- i. National Centre for Agril. Economics and Policy Research, New Delhi

VIII. AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION**63. Krishi Vigyan Kendras (New + Old)****64. NRC for Women In Agriculture, Bhubaneswar****65. Directorate of Information and Publication in Agriculture (DIPA)****IX. AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION****66. Strengthening of Agricultural Education**

Strengthening of Agricultural Education

AICRP on Home Science

Dev. and Strengthening of State Agricultural Universities

Dev. and Strengthening of PG Edn. In Deemed Universities

Dev. and Strengthening of Agri. Edn. In Central Universities

Rural Awareness Work Experience (RAWEX)

Best Teacher Award

Accreditation Board

Preparation of University Level Text Book

Emeritus Science Scheme

Centres of Advance Studies

Establishment of Jammu University

Centre of Excellence

67. National Academy of Agricultural Research and Management (NAARM), Hyderabad**68. Central Agricultural University, Imphal****X. ICAR HEADQUARTERS****69. Strengthening and Modernization of ICAR Headquarters**

Strengthening and Modernization of ICAR Headquarters

Modernization of Office Space and Facilities

ICAR Library

Publicity & Public Relations

Intellectual Property Right (IPR)

Support to Prof. Soc. including NAAS

Agriculture Scientist Recruitment Board

ICAR HQ including facilities at NASC

XI. EXTERNALLY AIDED PROJECTS**70. National Agricultural Technology Project (World Bank)****71. Indo-French proposal Seabass Breeding and Culture, Chennai****Statement***Details of Projects in Karnataka with their Allocation*

(Rs. in lakh)

	2004-05 RE	2005-06 BE
1	2	3
AICRP on Small Millet, Bangalore	243.00	193.75
Project Directorate of Biological Control, Bangalore	190.00	161.00
AICRP on Biological Control, Bangalore	144.00	156.63
Network on Agricultural Acarology, Bangalore	150.00	76.83

1	2	3
Indian Institute of Horticultural Research, Bangalore	450.00	500.00
AICRP Tropical Fruits, Bangalore	260.00	250.00
NRC Cashew, Puttur	100.00	140.00
AICRP Cashew, Puttur	90.00	90.00
National Institute of Animal Nutrition and Physiology, Bangalore	300.00	500.00
AICRP - Improvement of Feed Sources and Nutrient Utilisation for	255.00	335.00
PD on Animal Disease Monitoring and Surveillance, Bangalore	390.00	390.00
Total	2572.00	2793.21

[Translation]

Import of Processed Food Items

108. SHRI SITA RAM SINGH : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware that import of processed food items is adversely affecting the indigenous food processing industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of those Indian companies which are using brand name of foreign companies for their processed food items; and

(d) the action taken, if any, against such companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF

FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY) : (a) and (b) No specific instance of adverse effect on indigenous food processing industries due to import of processed food items has been brought to the notice of the Govt.

(c) and (d) Such information is not maintained.

[English]

Plan by Brahmaputra Board on Flood Control

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

(a) whether the Brahmaputra Board has prepared a Master Plan for control of floods in Brahmaputra and for development of the river front and areas on its banks;

(b) if so, the details indicating the estimated cost involved therein; and

(c) by when the plan is likely to be approved by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Brahmaputra Board prepared Master Plan Part-I for main stem of river Brahmaputra and Part-II for Barak river and its tributaries, which were approved by Government of India in 1997. Under Master Plan Part-III, out of the identified 49 sub-basin Master Plans, Government of India has so far approved 34 Nos. and the balance sub-basin Master Plans are under various stages of preparation. The Master Plan suggests various measures for flood management. Important measures suggested are as under:

Structural measures

1. Short-term measures

(i) Construction of marginal embankment to prevent spilling of river water to

countryside during flood, closing of gaps of embankments and anti-erosion works.

2. Medium-term measures

(i) Construction of drainage channel and drainage improvement.

(ii) River training works.

3. Long-term measures

(i) Construction of detention reservoirs/multipurpose dam projects in the upper reach of Brahmaputra and its important tributaries.

The outlays required for implementation of Master Plan Part-I is Rs.1,22,944 crore and for Master Plan Part-II is Rs. 6,322 crore at 2000 price level. The Master Plans prepared by Brahmaputra Board and after approved by Government of India are sent to the concerned State Governments for implementation.

[Translation]

Tulbul Navigation Project

110. SHRI JAI PRAKASH (MOHANLAL GANJ) : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the present status of Tulbul Navigation Project of Jammu and Kashmir lying stalled for two decades;

(b) whether any negotiation has taken place recently between the Governments under Indus Water Treaty 1960 to resolve this impasse; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV) (a) The work of the Wullar Barrage/Tulbul Navigation Project was suspended with effect from 2nd October, 1987 to fulfill a precondition to that effect put

by Pakistan and bilateral negotiations at Government Level.

(b) Secretary Level talks were held at New Delhi from 28th to 29th June, 2005 as part of the Composite Dialogue between India and Pakistan, during which both sides exchanged their views.

(c) In an endeavour to expedite the process of resolution, the technical experts from both the sides discussed the issues and the views of both the sides were recorded. A Joint Press Statement was also issued conveying that the two sides agreed to continue the discussion at the next round of the Dialogue Process with a view to resolving the issue in accordance with the provisions of the Treaty (Indus Waters Treaty 1960).

New Sugar Mills in Jharkhand

111. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO :

DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL :

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to set up new sugar mills in Jharkhand;

(b) if so, the number of proposed sugar mills to be set up in the State during the current financial year;

(c) whether some sugar mills set up earlier have become sick;

(d) if so, since when they are lying closed alongwith the reasons therefor;

(e) the steps taken to revive the said sugar mills; and

(f) the success achieved therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There are no sugar mills in the State of Jharkhand.

(d) to (f) Question does not arise.

[English]

Survey of Watrak Reservoir

112. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Hydrographic Survey of Watrak reservoir in Gujarat is undertaken by the Central Water Commission; and

(b) if so, the outcome of the survey?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) Yes, Madam. The Hydrographic survey of Watrak reservoir in Gujarat was undertaken by the Central Water Commission during the year 2003.

(b) The reservoir was first impounded in the year 1984. The hydrographic survey of the reservoir indicated that the rate of siltation observed after 19 years of impoundment is 0.728 thousand cubic metre/square kilometer/year.

Silt from Rivers of Nepal to Border Areas

113. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether huge quantity of silt with the water of rivers coming down from Nepal to border areas thereby causing heavy damage to Sharda barrage and Suhel barrage;

(b) if so, whether the Government have prepared any action plan to prevent silt; and

(c) if not, the other steps being considered by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (c) As per information furnished by Government of Uttar Pradesh, in monsoon season silt is carried by river Sarda at Sarda Barrage and by river Suheli at Suheli Barrage in large quantity. As regards to safety of Sarda Barrage and Suheli Barrage, this silt does not pose danger to safety but reduces the internal storage capacity and availability of water in canal system.

It is further informed by the Government of Uttar Pradesh that the provision to reduce the entry of the silt into canal has already been provided in the structure and that from time to time studies are conducted to find out the measures to reduce entry of silt into canals.

[Translation]

Scheme to Promote Tourism

114. SHRI RAJNARAYAN BUDHOLIA :
SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI :
MOHD. SHAHID :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has formulated schemes to promote tourism during the current year;

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

(c) the expenditure incurred by the Government for the development of tourism in the country during the last three years and thereafter; and

(d) the amount allocated/released by the Government to the State Governments for the implementation of the aforesaid schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has formulated several

schemes to promote tourism during the 10th five year plan and also during the current year which are as under:—

1. Product/Infrastructure Development for Destinations and Circuits.
2. Assistance to Large Revenue Generating Projects.
3. Oversease promotion and publicity including Market Development Scheme.

4. Domestic Promotion and Publicity including Hospitality.

5. Capacity Building for Service Providers.

(c) Statement-I on expenditure incurred on Central Sector Schemes during the last three years is enclosed.

(d) The amount allocated/released by the government to various State Governments for development of tourism in the country during the last three years is enclosed as statement-II.

Statement-I

Expenditure of Central Sector Schemes during first three years of Tenth Five Year Plan (from 2002-03 to 2004-05)

(Rs. in Crores)

S. No.	Schemes	Actuals 2002-03	Actuals 2003-04	Actuals 2004-05 (Provisional)
1.	Externally Aided Projects	7.50	5.00	11.87
2.	Integrated Dev. of Tourist Circuits	46.92	*	*
3.	Ongoing 9th plan schemes	33.79	0.00	0.00
4.	IHMs/FCIs/IITT/NIWS/NIAS/NCHMCT	5.50	25.50	25.00
5.	Capacity Building for Service providers	1.64	1.52	1.53
6.	Ongoing 9th Plan schemes	10.42	0.00	0.00
7.	Oversease Promotion and Publicity incl. MDA	36.36	55.89	77.81
8.	Domestic Promotion and Publicity Incl. Hospitality	8.29	22.77	26.20
9.	Ongoing 9th Plan schemes	25.69	0.00	0.00
10.	Incentives to Accommodation Infrastructure	2.00	10.00	10.00
11.	Subsidies and Incentives (Ongoing 9th Plan scheme)	9.00	0.00	0.00
12.	Construction of Building for IISM at Gulmarg (Jammu and Kashmir Package)	0.00	0.50	4.00
Total		187.09	121.15	156.41

* The scheme of Integrated Development of Tourist Circuits has been changed from Central Sector Scheme to Centrally Sponsored Scheme in the year 2003-04 and 2004-05.

Statement-II*State-wise Tourism Projects Sanctioned during the Tenth Five Year Plan (as on 31.3.2005)*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	State/UT	2002-03			2003-04			2004-05 (provisional)		
		No. of Project Sancd.	Amount Sancd.	Amount Released	No. of Project Sancd.	Amount Sancd.	Amount Released	No. of Project Sancd.	Amount Sancd.	Amount Released
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2	507.50	195.00	6	946.50	896.44	16	2827.19	2240.68
2.	Assam	9	768.13	618.85	3	313.46	313.06	8	986.03	766.22
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	5	41.30	32.50	6	1044.60	700.00	9	1325.50	927.96
4.	Bihar	8	505.00	505.00	6	1019.42	913.89	7	1901.43	1527.71
5.	Chhattisgarh	9	308.00	98.50	6	1005.00	364.00	6	1117.94	897.93
6.	Goa	1	0.50	0.50	2	36.76	34.76	3	110.00	38.00
7.	Gujarat	2	197.12	59.13	8	920.51	815.82	2	138.93	111.14
8.	Haryana	8	332.25	311.00	16	1215.38	879.23	6	693.55	513.64
9.	Himachal Pradesh	30	779.32	760.38	4	182.32	85.00	12	2680.00	2161.00
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	3	94.38	89.47	5	895.00	895.00	5	819.25	699.04
11.	Jharkand	0	0	0	2	1109.00	774.60	2	945.91	756.72
12.	Karnataka	6	902.49	625.49	14	932.66	792.51	12	2461.76	1937.37
13.	Kerala	11	861.36	829.86	6	608.50	564.15	10	2283.63	1820.33
14.	Madhya Pradesh	18	711.18	574.79	10	621.90	394.51	11	1595.19	942.21
15.	Maharashtra	8	623.46	546.25	10	931.83	914.58	10	1620.62	925.30
16.	Manipur	2	5.24	2.62	1	82.44	24.73	0	0.00	0.00
17.	Meghalaya	3	70.35	21.20	2	40.00	24.92	2	963.30	807.91

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
18. Mizoram		6	141.16	48.46	5	567.70	186.75	6	1086.35	382.38
19. Nagaland		5	360.50	323.43	4	711.00	220.80	7	2250.69	1413.40
20. Orissa		2	47.50	15.75	5	419.55	138.50	8	1320.74	1059.38
21. Punjab		3	23.00	14.60	2	96.00	12.30	7	724.68	581.47
22. Rajasthan		13	1098.70	1096.20	14	1644.81	1414.25	13	2516.61	1375.07
23. Sikkim		13	346.24	269.76	8	1151.09	681.49	8	660.81	531.33
24. Tamil Nadu		5	559.00	316.10	14	1339.82	850.53	7	1308.92	705.83
25. Tripura		5	216.13	67.78	6	450.17	135.16	1	20.00	16.00
26. Uttaranchal		3	548.00	418.00	4	230.44	203.94	7	2199.98	1750.73
27. Uttar Pradesh		3	295.00	295.00	7	1115.80	916.26	9	1044.93	831.19
28. West Bengal		5	201.10	60.00	10	717.44	384.34	10	513.04	407.43
29. Andaman and Nicobar Islands		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
30. Chandigarh		3	7.75	6.63	2	10.00	8.00	3	467.00	373.60
31. Dadra and Nagar Haveli		2	8.07	6.46	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
32. Delhi		14	504.00	449.02	17	3316.28	3222.13	8	628.85	511.00
33. Daman and Diu		3	49.50	16.90	1	265.07	238.56	0	0.00	0.00
34. Lakshadweep		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
35. Pondicherry		2	7.87	6.30	1	245.17	73.55	2	451.00	360.00
Total		212	11121.10	8680.93	207	24185.84	18073.76	217	37663.83	27371.97

Note—This includes the projects relating to Circuits, Destinations, LRG, UNDP Rural Tourism Software and Hardware, IT, Event and Fair and Festivals.

Export of Processed Food Products

115. SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV :
SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL :

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the processed food products exported during each of the last three years, State-wise; and

(b) the details of the measures proposed to be taken to boost the export of processed food products during the Tenth Five Year Plan alongwith the action taken to implement these measures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY) : (a) A statement showing year-wise information is enclosed. However, State-wise information in this regard is not centrally maintained.

(b) Financial assistance is provided to the registered exporters under schemes on market development, infrastructure development, Quality and Research Development and transport assistance. Assistance is also provided for participation in the international trade fairs to enable the exporters to showcase their products and also know about the requirement of importing countries for the export of their products. Agri Export Zones (AEZs) have been set up for promoting some potential food products.

Statement

(A) Details of processed food products exported during the last 3 years

(Qty. in '000 MT and Value in Cr. Rupees)

Items	2001-2002		2002-2003		2003-2004	
	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Dried and Preserved Veg.	209.1578	537.15	216.64016	561.03	211.16009	520.49
Mango Pulp	76.73518	241.34	96.10731	297.01	89.51484	241.99
Pickles and Chutneys	38.75897	120.34	56.38437	154.16	63.05273	119.75
Other Proc. Fruits and Vegetables	61.33236	201.74	54.79277	194.73	66.07026	243.58
Total of Processed Fruits and Vegetables	385.9843	1100.57	423.92461	1206.93	429.79792	1125.81
Other Processed Foods						
Groundnuts	112.8128	250.94	67.88975	178.3	176.10932	544.3
Guargum	117.883	403.09	111.94836	486.74	120.56127	507.9

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Jaggery and Confectionery	365.8934	436.49	191.52254	212.98	295.01325	331.48
Cocoa Products	1.29338	12.87	1.23521	11.94	1.68837	16.15
Cereal Preparations	38.08717	224.67	51.80974	268.83	46.27535	241.71
Alcoholic and Non Alc. Beverages	49.67186	118.29	26.16458	102.47	28.96409	108.62
Misc. Preparations	23.18916	137.33	38.68741	170.2	65.25202	210.33
Milled Products	322.3465	196.39	499.69278	288.65	545.75539	355.95
Total of other Processed Foods	1031.177	1780.07	988.95037	1720.11	1279.61906	2316.44

(B) Details of Marine products exported during the last 3 years i.e. from 2002-03 to 2004-05

(Qty. in '000 MT and Value in Cr. Rupees)

Items	2002-2003		2003-2004		2004-2005	
	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
Total Marine Products	467.2	6881.31	412	6092	461.3	6647

[English]

**Decline in Population of Tigers in
National Park**

116. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL :
SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA :
SHRI D.P. SAROJ :

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

(a) whether there has been a sharp decline in the
population of tigers in Sariska, Ranthambhore and Panna
National Parks;

(b) if so, whether the Government has conducted
any authentic survey to find out the truth; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps the

Government proposes to taken protect the tigers in Panna
National Park as well as other tiger reserves?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN
MEENA) : (a) Disappearance of tigers from the Sariska
Tiger Reserve of Rajasthan has been reported. The Task
Force constituted by the Rajasthan State Government has
currently estimated a population of 26 tigers in
Ranthambhore, as against its earlier estimation of 35 tigers
in the reserve during 2001-02. A population of 34 tigers
has been estimated in Panna by the State (Madhya
Pradesh). Its earlier estimation during 2001-02 in the
reserve was 31.

(b) The All India Estimation of tigers copredators
and prey animals to be conducted by the Government of

India involving the States is scheduled from November, 2005 to February, 2006.

(c) The steps taken by Government of India to conserve tigers are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

- (i) Legal protection has been provided to wild animals including tigers against hunting and commercial exploitation under the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- (ii) Financial and technical help is being extended to the States under Centrally Sponsored Schemes for enhancing the capacity and infrastructure to provide effective protection to wild animals.
- (iii) The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has been empowered under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to apprehend and prosecute wildlife offenders.
- (vi) The Ministry of Home Affairs has addressed all State Governments to lend a helping hand to the field formations to curb poaching and illegal trade in wildlife.
- (v) A National Wildlife Action Plan (2002-2016) has been launched with several action points and priority projects for conservation and protection of wildlife in the country.

[Translation]

Conversions of Forest Villages into Revenue Villages

117. SHRI KRISHNA MURARI MOGHE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of forest villages in Madhya Pradesh alongwith the action proposed to be taken to convert these forest villages into revenue villages; and

(b) the time by which these forest villages are likely to be notified as revenue villages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) As per information received from Government of Madhya Pradesh, there are 925 forest villages in the State of Madhya Pradesh. Proposals for conversion of all 925 forest villages have been received in the Ministry of Environment and Forests. Out of these, 315 forest villages located in 11 Districts viz. Khargone, Dewas, Rajgarh, Guna, Sidhi, Vidhisha, Badwani, Dindori, Chhindwada, Raisen and Obedullah Ganj and Sagar, have already been converted into revenue villages under the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The process of conversion of forest villages, is held up due to the Supreme Court's order dated: 13.11.2000 whereby the Apex Court has banned dereservation of forests/national parks/sanctuaries.

[English]

Advisory to Farmers

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

(a) whether the Government had issued an advisory to farmers to save available soil moisture and use cost effective farm practices for the Kharif sowing season;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the farmers have been advised to use rotavator and other equipments to reduce the cost of operation by 20-25 per cent; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are as under:-

1. Adopt ridge and furrow method of sowing for better moisture utilization and to avoid water logging;
 2. Adopt rain water harvesting through farm ponds and apply life saving irrigation in the event of long gap in rains;
 3. Use mulching to reduce soil moisture loss, and
 4. Adopt micro-irrigation system in dry land areas.
- (c) Yes, Sir.
- (d) The details are as under:-

1. Use of Rotavator

- Prepares seed bed in one operation provided there is adequate soil moisture (about 10%).
- Saves time in preparation of seed bed by 30-35% compared to the conventional method.
- Reduction in cost of operation by 20-25%.

2. Use Zero till seed-cum-fertilizer drill for:—

- Optimum utilization of the available soil moisture without disturbing soil texture.
- Saving in time thereby reduction in cost of cultivation by about Rs.1700.000 per ha.

3. use Raised bed planter for:—

- Saving in seeds and fertilizer by about 25%.
- Saving in irrigation water by 25-30%.
- Controls growing of weeds.

Merger of IISCO with SAIL

119. SHRI BHUVANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA :
 SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD :
 SHRI UDAY SINGH :
 SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :
 SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL :
 SHRI ANIRUDH PRASAD ALIAS SADHU YADAV :
 SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA :
 SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO :
 SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH :
 SHRI SUGRIB SINGH :
 SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA :
 SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN :
 SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE :
 SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI :
 SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY :

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the proposal for the merger of IISCO with the Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) has been cleared by his Ministry and waiting for the Cabinet's approval; and

(b) if so, the details of the proposal and the preset stage of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN):
 (a) and (b) Government has approved the proposal for merger of Indian Iron and Steel Company (IISCO) with Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) in June, 2005. SAIL has been permitted to initiate the process of merger after taking due approval of Board of Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) as IISCO is a company under BIFR. Accordingly, SAIL and IISCO have initiated the process of merger.

[Translation]

National Fertilizer Limited

120. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of units of National Fertilizer Limited (NFL) functioning in the country at present;

(b) whether the recruitment policy and service conditions for the employees of these units are uniform or these vary from unit to unit;

(c) the number of employees required in these units for providing medical and educational facilities;

(d) whether the Ministry has handed over the school being run under Nangal (Punjab) based NFL unit to the private hands;

(e) if so, whether the Government proposes to reconsider the said decision; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN):

(a) The units of National Fertilizer Limited (NFL) are functioning at Nangal and Bathinda (Punjab); Panipat (Haryana); and Vijaipur I and II (Madhya Pradesh).

(b) The recruitment policy and service conditions of the employees of all the units of the company are uniform.

(c) The company has a total number of 125 employees for providing medical facilities and 60 employees for educational facilities at its units.

(d) The management of NFL has handed over one of the Senior Secondary Schools, namely CAK Fertilizer Senior Secondary School at Nangal to an Educational Society to run the school on CBSE norms w.e.f. the academic session 2005-06.

(e) and (f) No such proposal has been received in the Department.

[English]

Livestock Insurance Scheme

121. SHRI SITA RAM YADAV : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Livestock Insurance Scheme for which an amount of Rs. 50 crore has been provided in the budget estimates for 2005-06 has been finalized;

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when it is likely to be implemented; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A draft of the Scheme has been prepared for formal approval of Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC). After approval of EFC, the Scheme has to be approved by Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) for its final implementation.

Killing of Marine Animals

122. SHRI M. RAMADASS : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a plan to set up mobile squads to protect coral reefs and coastal biodiversity from coral-mining mafia;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to take steps to stop the killing of marine animals in the Gulf of Manner; and

(d) if so, the details of such measures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) Measures to protect coral reefs and coastal biodiversity are taken up by the respective states. The Government of India has no plan to set up mobile squads to protect coral reefs and coastal biodiversity from coral-mining mafia.

(c) and (d) As reported by the State Government of Tamil Nadu 67 Eco-development Committees comprising of 67 villages have been formed in Gulf of Mannar to solicit public participation. Regular patrolling is being carried out in and around island groups to prevent coral mining and poaching.

Amendment in Wildlife Protection Act (1972)

123. SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY :
SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA :

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

(a) whether the Government plans to amend the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972;

(b) if so, the changes likely to be incorporated;

(c) the manner in which it is likely to help save extinguishing wildlife species; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be processed and implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (c) The amendment in Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 is resorted to whenever suitable proposals are received by the Ministry. The Act which was last amended during the year 2002 provides adequate and effective protection to the wildlife in the country.

(d) Does not arise.

Production of Foodgrains

124. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD :
SHRI UDAY SINGH :
SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE :
SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY :
SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATIL :
SHRI ANIRUDH PRASAD ALIAS SADHU YADAV :
SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO :

SHRI GANESH SINGH :
SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH :
SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR :
SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY :
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE :
SHRI SUGRIB SINGH :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the production of foodgrains, including wheat, in the country is expected to be less than the target during 2005-06;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for this shortfall;

(c) whether the Government proposes to import wheat to meet this shortfall; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) and (b) For the year 2005-06, the production target for foodgrains has been tentatively kept at 215.0 million tonnes which includes 109.92 million tonnes of Kharif production and 105.08 million tonnes of Rabi production including 75.53 million tonnes of wheat.

The behavior of monsoon was erratic in the month of June, 2005 and the cumulative rainfall at the All India level from 1st June to 29th June was 20% less than the normal. However, the monsoon revived subsequently and the cumulative rainfall from 1st June to 13th July, 2005 at the all India level was 1% more than the normal. Assuming no further aberration in the monsoon, both in terms of quantity, temporal and spatial distribution, adequate availability of inputs, the kharif foodgrains target of 109.92 million tonnes would be possible to achieve.

Wheat is totally rabi crop. At this juncture it is not possible to predict whether the target wheat production will be achieved during 2005-06.

(c) and (d) The buffer norms stipulate that the stock of rice and wheat during 2005-06 should be as follows:

(In lakh tonnes)

Date	Rice	Wheat	Total
1st April	122.00	40.00	162.00
1st July	98.00	171.00	269.00
1st Oct.	52.00	110.00	162.00
1st Jan.	118.00	82.00	200.00

Against these norms the total stocks of rice and wheat held by FCI and State agencies as on *30th June, 2005 was 245.25 lakh tonnes comprising 100.71 lakh tonnes rice and 144.54 lakh tonnes of wheat. Since stock position of wheat is only marginally lower than the stipulated buffer norm, there is no proposal of importing wheat as yet.

* Provisional.

[Translation]

Promotion of Cow Progeny

125. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA :
SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is endeavouring for the promotion of cow progeny and imposing ban in cow-slaughter;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the expenditure incurred for promotion of cow progeny during the last three years;

(e) whether beef is exported from the country; and

(f) if so, the quantum thereof alongwith the income earned therefrom annually?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) to (c) Government is implementing the National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding (NPCBB) for genetic-upgradation of cattle and buffalo population since October 2000. Central assistance to the tune of Rs. 202.52 crore has been released under the project upto 2004-05. The preservation of cattle is a matter on which State legislatures have exclusive powers to legislate, the relevant entry being - Entry 15 of the list-II of 7th Schedule of Constitution.

(d) A State-wise fund released under NPCBB during the last three years is enclosed as statement.

(e) Export of beef (cow meat and its progeny) is prohibited.

(f) Question does not arise.

Statement

State-wise Funds released under National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding during last three years.

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	State/UT	2002-2003	2003-04	2004-05	Total released
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	934.57	718.18	858.36	2511.1

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.	Arunachal Pradesh			151.30	151.3
3.	Assam			129.50	129.5
4.	Chhattisgarh		98.00	100.00	198
5.	Gujarat		40.00	279.70	319.7
6.	Goa		58.71	97.29	156
7.	Haryana			454.00	454
8.	Himachal Pradesh	220.00	100.00	270.20	590.2
9.	Jammu and Kashmir			135.91	135.91
10.	Karnataka		465.00	394.29	859.29
11.	Kerala	230.0	220.00	801.95	1252
12.	Madhya Pradesh	300.00	360.00	661.54	1321.5
13.	Maharashtra		860.00		860
14.	Manipur		17.36		17.36
15.	Meghalaya		65.64		65.64
16.	Mizoram	17.97	40.00	71.00	128.97
17.	Nagaland	96.00	182.00	159.67	437.67
18.	Orissa	551.60		485.00	1036.6
19.	Punjab	120.83		111.27	232.1
20.	Tamil Nadu	570.00		204.82	774.82
21.	Tripura		95.00	96.67	191.67
22.	Uttar Pradesh	1063.00		841.151	1904.2
23.	Uttaranchal		275.00	84.80	359.8
24.	West Bengal			353.10	353.1
25.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli			27.7600	27.760
26.	Pondicherry			18.15	18.15
Total		4103.97	3594.89	6787.431	14486.29

Exploitation of Ground Water

126. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether despite the imposition of ban, the exploitation of ground water in Gurgaon is continuing without the permission of Central Ground Water Board as appearing in Navbharat Times dated May 31, 2005; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith steps proposed to be taken by the Government to prevent the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) has notified Gurgaon town and adjoining Industrial area of Gurgaon district, Haryana for the purpose of regulation of ground water development and management. Deputy Commissioner, Gurgaon is taking necessary action for implementation of directives of CGWA. Instances of illegal extraction of ground water have to come to the notice of Deputy Commissioner, Gurgaon, who has sealed 21 Nos. and dismantled 40 Nos. of tubewells found working illegally and removed 3 boring machines.

[English]

Magic Liquid for Crops by Pepsi

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

(a) whether Pepsi Foods is introducing a health spray called "magic" liquid in India;

(b) if so, whether this health spray for plants is claimed by the company as cheaper in rate and would improve farmers' earning.

(c) whether the technology is patented by the Gujarat based Central Salt and Marine Chemicals Research Institute;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether ICAR and the Department of Biotechnology are pushing seaweed cultivation as a promising money-spinner for rural farmers; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(e) and (f) The Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Kochi is carrying out R and D activities on seaweed cultivation and has developed technology for culture of seaweed in open seas that holds promising potential for raising income of fishermen on account of its great demand as sea food as well as in pharmaceuticals and allied industries.

Committee for Farm Growth

128. SHRI UDAY SINGH :
SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has set up a Committee to examine the causes of persistent slowdown in the farm growth;

(b) if so, the composition of members of the Committee and the manner in which it will examine the causes of persistent slowdown in the farm growth;

(c) whether the Agricultural Universities' Research Centres in various States would be upgraded to boost the production of farm products; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC

DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) and (b)
The National Commission on Farmers reconstituted in November, 2004 has as its terms of reference issues relating to working out a comprehensive medium-term strategy for food and nutrition security, enhancing productivity based on an agro-ecological and agro-climatic approach, enhancing investment in agri-research etc. The reconstituted National Commission on Farmers is headed by Dr. M.S. Swaminathan with two full-time Members, four part-time Members and one Member Secretary. The Commission is expected to submit its final report within two years of its composition.

(c) At present, there is no proposal to upgrade Agricultural Universities' Research Centres in various states.

(d) Does not arise.

Incentive Scheme for Agricultural Research

129. SHRI MADAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is considering to launch any incentive scheme for bringing every agricultural research institution in the country on par with international institutions;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) and (b)
Several efforts have been initiated over the years to bring about an elevation of standards in the level of agricultural research, development of institutions at par with international standards, like perspective planning, all-round strengthening of research facilities for overall development, human resource development and training, awards for recognition of individual merit and modernization of systems and infrastructure. There is also a specific scheme for incentives to individual scientists and institutions. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has instituted 89 Awards including 40 annual and 49 biennial, to recognize and reward the performance of its institutions, scientists and even farmers and a journalist. The list of these awards is enclosed as statement. In addition, the deserving scientists are provided opportunities for training and/or collaborative research in frontier areas at select national and international institutions, and for participation in national and international conferences for their skill up-gradation and confidence enhancement through interaction. Short-term specific research and development schemes under the Agricultural Produce Cess Fund of ICAR and the world Bank funded National Agricultural Technology Project were also awarded/ approved to the deserving scientists which help them in their focussed activities and commensurate infrastructure and facilities have been provided to raise the level of research and institutions.

(c) Does not arise.

Statement

Details of ICAR Awards

Sl. No.	Name of Award	whether Annual or Biennial	No. of Awards	Amount of Award (Rs. in Lakhs)	Total Amount of Award (Rs. in Lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Sardar Patel Outstanding ICAR Institution Award	Annual	3	5.00	15.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.	Chaudhary Devi Lal Outstanding All-India Co-ordinated Research Project Award	Annual	1	1.00	1.00
3.	Jawaharlal Nehru Award for Outstanding Post-graduate Agricultural Research	Annual	18	0.20	3.60
4.	Panjabrao Deshmukh Women Agricultural Scientist Award	Annual	2	0.50	1.00
5.	Vasantarao Naik Award for Research Applications in Dryland Agriculture	Annual	1	1.00	1.00
6.	Jagjivan Ram Kisan Puruskar	Annual	2	1.00	2.00
7.	N.G. Ranga Farmer Award for Diversified Agriculture	Annual	1	1.00	1.00
8.	Choudhary Charan Singh Award for Excellence in Journalism in Agricultural Research and Development	Annual	1	1.00	1.00
9.	Dr. Rajendra Prasad Puruskar for Technical Books in Hindi in the field of Agriculture and Allied Sciences	Annual	9	0.50	4.50
10.	ICAR Best Annual Report Award	Annual	2	—	—
11.	Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed Award for Outstanding Agricultural Research in Tribal Areas	Biennail	2	0.50	1.00
12.	ICAR Awards for Outstanding Multi-disciplinary Team Research in Agriculture and Allied Sciences	Biennail	9	1.00	9.00
13.	Bharat Ratna Dr. C. Subramaniam Award for the Outstanding Teachers	Biennail	9	0.50	4.50
14.	Best Krishi Vigyan Kendra Awards	Biennail	2	0.50	1.00
15.	Lal Bahadur Shastri Young Scientist Award	Biennail	10	0.25	2.50
16.	Hari Om Ashram Trust Award	Biennail	4	0.40	1.60

1	2	3	4	5	6
17.	Swami Sahajanand Saraswati Extension Scientist/Worker Award	Biennail	4	0.25	1.00
18.	Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Award	Biennail	9	1.00	9.00
Total		—	89	—	59.70

Development of Tourism Industry

130. SHRI SURESH ANGADI : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has received proposals from the State Governments particularly from the Government of Kamataka requesting for financial assistance to augment the tourism industry;

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

(c) the present status of these proposals;

(d) the details of proposals which have been cleared;

(e) the details of proposals still pending; and

(f) by when these proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (f) The Ministry of Tourism during the Tenth Plan period has been assisting the State Governments including Kamataka for the development of infrastructure under its Scheme of Product/Infrastructure Development of Destinations and Circuits, based on the receipt of project proposals, merit of the project, inter-se-priority and availability of funds. The Ministry of Tourism has identified projects in consultation with State Governments/UT Administrations that will be taken up for financial assistance during the current financial year 2005-06.

Raising of Ground Water Level in Drought Prone Districts

131. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Ground Water Board in association with his Ministry has decided to implement various schemes to raise the ground water level in drought prone districts of States, including Gujarat;

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

(c) the manner in which the said schemes are likely to be implemented alongwith funds allocated/released by the Union Government to State Governments during the last three years for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (c) The Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) under the Ministry of Water Resources, has proposed a scheme for "Artificial Recharge of Ground Water and Rainwater Harvesting" under State Sector for implementation during the remaining two years of the X Five Year Plan at an estimated cost of Rs.175 crores. The proposed scheme will be implemented in identified areas of over-exploited and dark blocks, drought prone and water scarcity areas, coastal areas and islands affected by saline water ingress, area of inland salinity, urban areas showing steep decline in ground water level and sub-mountainous/hilly areas of various States. The scheme will be implemented through State Governments under the technical guidance of CGWB.

Sea Link between Mumbai and Main Land

132. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has proposed a Sea Link connecting Mumbai to the mainland with a view to reducing the congestion on the island city by providing impetus to development on mainland;

(b) if so, whether the above proposal is pending with the Ministry of Environment and Forests for clearance; and

(c) if so, by when the above proposal is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. The proposal have already been accorded environmental clearances.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Utilisation of Flood Water for Irrigation

133. DR. CHINTA MOHAN :
DR. K. DHANARAJU :
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether floods caused by monsoon rains from June to October in various parts of the country is almost an annual feature;

(b) if so, whether the Government has assessed the quantum of additional water as a result of floods;

(c) if so, the quantum thereof;

(d) whether any scheme has been drawn up by the Government to utilize this additional water for irrigation; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Central Water Commission operates 173 flood forecasting stations on all the major river basins of the country. Danger level for each of these stations has been fixed. When the flows in the river cross the danger level, it is likely to result in flooding in the area. Information on quantum of additional water from floods is not available.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Water Resources had prepared a National Perspective Plan for development of water resources in 1980 which has two component viz. Peninsular Rivers Development and Himalayan Rivers Development and envisages long distance transfer of water for utilizing available surplus water from one basin into the other water deficit basin. National Water Development Authority after various studies have identified thirty links for preparation of feasibility reports and has completed feasibility reports for 14 links under Peninsular Development Component and two links under Himalayan Rivers Development Component for utilizing surplus water of one basin into another water deficit basin.

[English]

Research Work by C.R.R.I. at Bidyadharpur

134. SHRI JUAL ORAM : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of various kinds of research work undertaken by the Central Rice Research Institute at Bidyadharpur, Cuttack in Orissa during last three years;

(b) whether the research activities of that Institute has in any way helped the farmers in Orissa during these years; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) Central Rice Research Institute, Cuttack is engaged with research work in the areas of rice crop improvement, development of production and protection technologies, farm implements, water management, farming system research, on farm trials and transfer of technology and other related areas. Rice varieties developed by the Institute along with the production technologies have been evaluated under farmers field conditions. Besides these the Institute also imparts training to the Subject Matter Specialists and other Agricultural Extension Workers in all aspects of rice production technologies.

(b) and (c) Yes Sir, the rice varieties, production and protection technologies, organization of training programme(s), on farm demonstrations, popularization of technology through Krishi Vigyan Kendras, production of quality seeds training of extension workers and farmers and other similar activities of CRRRI Cuttack have immensely helped the farmers to enhance their farm production and productivity, livelihood and income. During the last three years, the Institute has developed six high yielding rice varieties and two hybrids for different agro ecological conditions for cultivation in Orissa. The productivity of rice in Orissa has increased from 1041 kg/ha in 2000-2001 to 1511 kg/ha in 2003-2004.

Condition of Farmers

135. SHRI TUKARAM GANGADHAR GADAKH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the living condition of Indian Farmers is totally unsatisfactory in spite of India's emerging as an

agricultural power;

(b) if so, whether the Government has formulated/ will formulate any new policy for the welfare of farmers who are the backbone of our economy;

(c) if so, the salient features of this policy;

(d) whether some reforms in the farm sector are proposed to be introduced to improve farmers' social and financial condition; and

(e) if so, the suggestions received in this regard from various sectors, if any and the steps/action proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) to (e) It has been the constant endeavour of the Government to improve the living conditions of farmers in the country. The strategy formulated by the Government for making the agricultural sector more vibrant and dynamic so as to increase the income of the farmers include: (i) ensuring the timely availability of quality inputs; (ii) accelerating diversification to high value crops including horticulture activities; (iii) optimizing the efficient utilization of available water resources through micro-irrigation and enhancing the sustainability of dryland/rainfed farming system; (iv) promoting farmer-friendly, demand-driven agriculture extension system; (v) strengthening infrastructure and the supply chain; (vi) reforming agricultural markets, and widespread use of post-harvest technology; (vii) increasing of institutional credit flow and strengthening of cooperative credit structure; and (viii) putting in place a broader spectrum of risk management apparatus for farmers.

The suggestions for reforms as and when received are given due consideration by the Government while framing policy/programme for increasing agriculture production and productivity.

[Translation]

**Decline In Percentage of
Growth by FPI**

136. DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL :
SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA :

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of growth registered by Food Processing Industries (FPI) in the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) the percentage of growth recorded by it during the Tenth Five Year Plan so far;

(c) the reasons for the decline in percentage of growth by FPI; and

(d) the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY) : (a) to (d) According to an estimate, growth of Food Processing Industries was 7.1% in the last few years of 9th Plan. Growth rate during the 10th Plan is estimated to be 7.3% for a GDP growth of 6%. In order to promote Food Processing Industries, plan schemes have been implemented to provide financial assistance for establishment and modernization of food processing unit, creation of infrastructure, support for R and D, Human Resource Development besides other promotional measures to encourage development of food processing industries. For giving boost to growth of food processing industries, the Government has allowed under Income Tax Act, a deduction of 100% of profit for five years and 25% of profits for the next five years in case of new agro processing industries set up to process, preserve and package fruits and vegetables. Recently, on 28th February 2005, in Parliament, Government has announced launching of a National Horticulture Mission w.e.f. 1st April 2005 with

an objective to ensure an end-to-end approach for the horticulture sector.

Import of Edible Oil

137. SHRI MOHD. TAHIR :
SHRI MUNSHI RAM :
SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHAWAHA :
PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR :
SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY :
MOHD. SHAHID :
SHRI BHAL CHANDRA YADAV :

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of edible oil imported by the Government during the year 2004-05 indicating the total cost involved therein;

(b) the growth rate of production and import of edible oil during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether a decline in production of edible oils is expected in the country during 2005-06;

(d) if so, whether the Government proposes to increase the import of edible oil;

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the additional cost likely to be incurred; and

(f) the other steps taken to maintain the supply of edible oil in the country in order to control the rising prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) Edible oil has not been imported by the Government during the year 2004-2005.

(b) Production estimates and import of edible oil during the last three years have been as under:

(in lakh tonnes)

Year	Production (net availability from all domestic sources) of edible oils	Import of edible oil
2001-2002	61.46	43.22
2002-2003	46.64	43.65
2003-2004	71.64	52.90

(c) It is too early to assess the production of oilseeds and hence of edible oils during the year 2005-06 at this stage.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

(f) Some of the steps taken in this regard are:—

- (i) Import of edible oils (except coconut oil) has been allowed on Open General Licence (OGIL).
- (ii) The import duty structure of edible oils is reviewed from time to time.
- (iii) Government is keeping a watch on the prices and availability situation of edible oils in the country.

[English]

National Environment Policy

138. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has prepared a National Environment Policy;

(b) if so, the salient features and objectives thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to associate the Panchayati Raj institutions with environment protection; and

(d) if so, the details of the forms of such association?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Environment and Forests has prepared a draft National Environment Policy.

(b) The draft NEP is a response to our national commitment to a clean environment, mandated in the Constitution. It recognizes that maintaining a healthy environment is not the state's responsibility alone, but also that of every citizen. The NEP is also intended to help realize sustainable development by mainstreaming environmental concerns in all development activities. It briefly describes key environment challenges currently and prospectively facing the country, the objectives of environment policy, normative principles underlying policy action, strategic themes for intervention, broad indications of the legislative and institutional development needed to accomplish the strategic themes, and mechanisms for implementation and review.

The broad objectives of the policy are :— conservation of critical environmental resources, intra-generational equity, livelihood security for the poor, inter-generational equity, integration of environmental concerns in economic and social development, efficiency in environmental resource use, improved environmental governance and, enhancement of resources for environmental conservation.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) 'Decentralization and empowerment of institutions at state and local levels' is one of the thrust areas of the draft policy. The state and local governments would be particularly encouraged to formulate their own strategies and action plans consistent with the NEP. The draft policy specifically provides for associating the

Panchayati Raj Institutions with environmental protection by:-

- (i) giving greater legal standing to Panchayati Raj Institutions urban local bodies to undertake monitoring of environmental compliance, and report violations to the concerned enforcement authorities; and
- (ii) giving legal recognition to the traditional rights of forest dwelling tribes taking into consideration the provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 (PESA).

Decline in Population of Royal Bengal Tigers

139. SHRI NAVJOT SINGH SIDHU : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the number of Royal Bengal Tigers has come down to 319 from 632 as counted in 1996-97;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps being taken to protect these tigers and increase their numbers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) No, Sir. The Statewise All India tiger population figures since 1972 till the last such estimation done in 2001-02 are enclosed as statement-I.

- (b) Question does not arise.
- (c) The steps taken by Government of India to conserve tigers are enclosed as statement-II.

Statement-I

Population of Tigers in the Country as Reported by the States

Sl. No.	Name of the State	1972	1979	1984	1989	1993	1997	2001-02**
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Andhra Pradesh	35	148	164	235	197	171	192
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	69	139	219	135	180	•	61***
3.	Assam	147	300	376	376	325	458	354
4.	Bihar	85	110	138	157	137	103	76
5.	Chhattisgarh	—	—	—	—	****	****	227
6.	Delhi	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
7.	Goa	—	—	—	2	3	6	5
8.	Gujarat	8	7	9	9	5	1	Nil
9.	Haryana	—	—	1	—	Nil	Nil	Nil

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10. Himachal Pradesh						Nil	Nil	Nil
11. Jammu and Kashmir						Nil	Nil	Nil
12. Jharkhand	—	—	—	—	—	****	****	34
13. Karnataka	102	156	202	257	305	350	401	
14. Kerala	60	134	89	45	57	73	71	
15. Madhya Pradesh	457	529	786	985	912	927	710	
16. Maharashtra	160	174	301	417	276	257	238	
17. Manipur	1	10	6	31	*	*	Nil	
18. Meghalaya	32	35	125	34	53	*	47	
19. Mizoram	—	65	33	18	28	12	28	
20. Nagaland	80	102	104	104	83	*	23#	
21. Orissa	142	173	202	243	226	194	173	
22. Punjab	—	—	—	—	Nil	Nil	Nil	
23. Rajasthan	74	79	96	99	64	58	58	
24. Sikkim	—	—	2	4	2	*	NR	
25. Tamil Nadu	33	65	97	95	97	62	60	
26. Tripura	7	6	5	—	NR	*	NR	
27. Uttaranchal	—	—	—	—	****	****	251	
28. Uttar Pradesh	262	487	698	735	465	475	284	
29. West Bengal	73	296	352	353	335	361	2349	
Total	1827	3015	4005	4334	3750	3508	3642	

N.R. Not reported by State.

**** Figures included in undivided State.

* Tiger census was not carried out.

Entire state not covered.

** Under compilation/vetting.

*** Only for Namdapha Tiger Reserve.

Statement-II**Steps taken by Government of India
for tiger conservation**

- (i) Legal protection has been provided to wild animals including tiger against hunting and commercial exploitation under the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- (ii) Financial and technical help is being extended to the States under Centrally Sponsored Schemes for enhancing the capacity and infrastructure to provide effective protection to wild animals.
- (iii) The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has been empowered under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to apprehend and prosecute wildlife offenders.
- (iv) The Ministry of Home Affairs has addressed all State Governments to lend a helping hand to the field formations to curb poaching and illegal trade in wildlife.
- (v) A National Wildlife Action Plan (2002-2016) has been launched with several action points and priority projects for conservation and protection of wildlife in the country.

**Central Fisheries Research Institute
of Cochin**

140. SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has received any representation from the Central Fisheries Research Institute of Cochin in Kerala;

(b) if so, whether the Government has reviewed the functioning of this institute especially the results and have found any lapses or mistakes;

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

(d) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

However, regular periodic review by Quinquennial Review Team (QRT) of the Institute has been taking place as per practice.

[Translation]

Reopening of Sone Ganga Fertilizer Unit

141. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had closed Sona Ganga Fertilizer Unit of Pyrites Phosphate and Chemical Ltd. located at Amjhore in the Rohtas district of Bihar.

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

(c) whether the Government has recently announced to restart the said factory;

(d) if so, by when it is likely to be started; and

(e) the production capacity of the said factory at the time of closure and likely to remain in future?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) :

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government has decided to close down the entire Pyrites, Phosphate and Chemicals Ltd. (PPCL) including the Amjhore Unit on 5 June 2003 as its operations were not found techno-economically viable.

(c) No, Sir. However, the government has recently constituted a Committee to go into the Techno-economic feasibility of mining and marketing of agricultural grade pyrites directly as fertilizers.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The installed production capacity of the Amjhore unit at the time of closure was 2.64 LMT of Single Super Phosphate.

[English]

Pending Projects under NHM

142. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether several projects are pending before the National Horticulture Mission (NHM) for consideration and approval;

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

(c) the details of the proposals being considered by the Mission for the development of horticulture and introducing modern technology in the horticulture sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) and (b) Project proposals under National Horticulture Mission have been received from 12 States. The project proposal were appraised in the Ministry during June, 2005 and the concerned State Governments were requested to revise the projects in accordance with the Operational Guideline of the scheme.

(c) The Mission envisages area based cluster approach covering aspects related to production and productivity improvement, post-harvest management and marketing. Introduction of modern technologies like micro-propagation, protected cultivation, high density plantation

and integrated pest management are integral part of the Mission.

[Translation]

New Depots of FCI

143. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India (FCI) is considering any proposal to set up more base depots in the country;

(b) if so, by when these are likely to be set up; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The details of the proposals for construction of storage godowns by the FCI and their present status is given in the statement attached.

Statement

Name of the State	Details of the proposals and present status
1	2
Jammu and Kashmir	Godowns with a capacity of 2,500 and 5,000 MTs at Badgam and Kupwara respectively are under construction and are likely to be completed by the end of this year. 10,000 MT capacity godown is under construction at Leh and out of this 3,340 MTs capacity has been made storage worthy in June, 2005.

1	2
Assam	Storage Capacity is being increased at Chaulkhowa (4,170 MTs) Senchowa (1,670 MTs) and Badarpurghat (5,000 MTs).
Mizoram	2,920 MTs capacity godown is under construction at Luglei and 3,340 MTs capacity godown at Lawngtalei.
Tripura	5,000 MTs storage godown is planned at Chandrapur.
Himachal Pradesh	A storage godown with 2,500 MTs capacity is planed for construction.
Tamil Nadu	Out of 10,000 capacity godowns planned at Salem, two units of 3,340 MTs capacity each have been completed. The third unit is under construction.
Karnataka	Out of 15,000 MTs capacity godowns planned at Tumkur, 10,000 MTs capacity has been realized. Work on the balance is in progress.

[English]

**Setting up of Regional Office of
Environment and Forest Department
In Kerala**

144. SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Kerala Government has demanded

for setting up of regional office of the Union Environment and Forest Department in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

**Population/Protection of Endangered
Species**

145. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the name of endangered species in India;

(b) the number of leopard skins and body part seizures so far and the details of these seizures in Delhi and other States during the current year; and

(c) the population of leopards in different National Parks, Reserves and sanctuaries as per latest census and the steps taken and being taken to promote and preserve this species of big cats?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) The endangered species of our wildlife categorized in Schedule-I and parts I and II of Schedule-II of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 are enclosed as statement-I.

(b) Details of leopard skins/body parts seized during the years 2001 to 2005 as received from States so far in the Ministry as well as details of such seizures made in Delhi and other States during the current year are enclosed as statement-II.

(c) Only State-wise population figures are collated at the Government of India level. The details as per last estimation done in 2001-02 are enclosed as statement-III.

Statement-I**Name of Endangered Species****Schedule-I****PART-I****Mammals**

1. Andaman Wild Pig.

1-A Bharal

1-B Binturong

2. Baluch Buck

3. Brown-antlered Deer or Thamin

3-A Himalayan Brown bear

3-B Capped Langur

4. Caracal

4-A Catapagan

5. Cheetah

5-A Chinese Pangolin

5-B Chinkara or Indian Gazelle

6. Clouded Leopard

6-A Crab-eating Macaque

6-B Desert Cat

6-C Desert fox

7. Dugong

7-A Ermine

8. Fishing Cat

8-A Four-horned antelope

8-D Gangetic dolphin

8-E Gaur or Indian bison

9. Golden Cat

10. Golden Langur

10-A Giant Squirrel

10-B Himalayan Ibex

10-C Himalayan Tahr

11. Hispid Hare

11-A Hog badger

12. Hoolock

12-B Indian Elephant

13. Indian Lion

14. Indian Wild Ass

15. Indian Wolf

16. Kashmir Stag

16-A Leaf Monkey

16-B Leopard or Panther

17. Leopard Cat

18. Urial or Shapu

19. Wild Buffalo

20. Lesser or Red Panda

21. Lion-tail Macaque

22. Loris

20-A Little Indian Porpoise

23. Lynx

24. Malabar Civet

22-A Malay or Sun Bear

- 25. Marbled Cat
- 26. Markhor
- 24-A Mouse Deer
- 27. Musk Deer
- 25-A Nilgri Langur
- 25-B Nilgiri Tahr
- 28. Nyan or Great Tibetan Sheep
- 29. Pallas's Cat
- 30. Pangolin
- 31. Pygmy Hog
- 29-A Ratel
- 32. Indian One-horned Rhinoceros
- 33. Rusty spotted Cat
- 31-A Serow
- 31-B Clawless Otter
- 31-C Sloth Bear
- 34. slow Loris
- 35. Snow Leopard
- 33-A Snubfin Dolphin
- 36. Spotted Linsang
- 37. Swamp Deer
- 38. Takin or Mishmi Takin
- 36-A Tibetan Antelope or Chiru
- 36-B Tibetan Fox
- 37. Tibetan Gazelle
- 38. Tibetan Wild Ass

- 39. Tiger
- 40. Urial or Shapu
- 41. Wild Buffalo
- 41-A Wild Yak
- 41-B Tibetan Wolf
- 42. Wroughton's free tailed bat
- 43. Salim Ali's fruit bat

PART-II*Ambhians and Reptiles*

- 1. Agra Monitor Lizard
- 1-B Audithia Turtle
- 1-C Bared, Oval, or Yellow Monitor Lizard
- 1-D Crocodiles
- 1-E Batagur Terrapin
- 1-F Eastern Hill Terrapin
- 2. Gharial
- 3. Ganges Soft-shelled Turtle
- 3-A Golden Gecko
- 4. Green Sea Turtle
- 5. Hawksbill Turtle
- 7. Indian Egg-eating Snake
- 8. Indian Soft-shelled Turtle
- 9. Indian Tent Turtle
- 9-A Kerala Forest Terrapin
- 10. Large Bengal Monitor Lizard
- 11. Leathery Turtle

- 12. Logger Head Turtle
- 13. Olive Ridley Turtle
- 14. Peacock-marked Soft-shelled Turtle
- 14-A Pythons
- 14-B Sail Terrapin
- 14-C Spotted Black Terrapin
- 17-A Water Lizard

PART-II-A*Fishes*

- 1. Whale Shark
- 2. Shark and Ray
- 3. Sea Horse
- 4. Giant Grouper

PART-III*Birds*

- 1. Andaman Teal
- 1-A Assam Bamboo Partridge
- 1-B Baza
- 1-C Bengal Florican
- 1-D Black-necked Crane
- 1-E Blood Pheasants
- 2. Cheer Pheasant
- 2-A Eastern White Stork
- 2-B Forest-spotted Owlet
- 2-C Frogmouths
- 3. Great Indian Bustard

- 4. Great Indian Hornbill
- 4-A Hawks
- 4-B Hooded Crane
- 4-C Hornbills
- 4-D Houbara Bustard
- 4-E Humes Bar-backed Pheasant
- 4-F Indian Pied Hornbill
- 5. Jerdon's Courser
- 6. Lammergeier
- 7. Large Falcons
- 7-A Large Whistling Teal
- 7-B Lesser Florican
- 7-C Monal Pheasants
- 8. Mountain Quail
- 9. Narcondam Hornbill
- 10. Nicobar Megapode
- 10-A Nicobar Pigeon
- 10-B Osprey or Fish-eating Eagle
- 10-C Peacock Pheasants
- 11. Peafowl
- 12. Pink-headed Duck
- 13. Scaly-breasted Monal
- 14. Siberian White Crane
- 14-B Tibetan Snow-Cock
- 15. Tragopan Pheasants
- 16. White-bellied Sea Eagle

17. White-eared Pheasant
- 17-A White Spoonbill
18. White-winged Wood Duck
19. Swiftlets
20. Hill myna
21. Tibetan Car pheasant
22. Kalij pheasant
23. Lord Derby's parakeet
24. Vultures
25. White bellied heron

PART-IV*Crustacea and Insects*

1. Butterflies and Moths
Family Amathusildae
Family Danaidae
Family Lycaenidae
Biduanda Melisa Cyana
Family Nymphalidae
Family Papilionidae
Family Peridae
Family Satyriidae

- 1-A Coconut or Robber Crab
2. Dragon Fly

PART-VI-A*Coelenterates*

1. Reef Building Coral

2. Black Coral
3. Organ Pipe Coral
4. Fire Coral
5. Sea Fan

PART-VI-B*Mollusca*

1. Cassis cornuta
2. Charonia tritonis
3. Conus milneedwardsi
4. Cypræacassis rufa
5. Hippopus hippopus
6. Nautilus pompilius
7. Tridacna maxima
8. Tridacna squamosa
9. Tudicla spirillus

PART-VI-C*Echinodermata**Sea Cucumber**Schedule-II***PART-I**

- 1-A Assamese Macaque
2. bengal Porcupine
- 3-A Bonnet Macaque
- 3-C Cetacean species other than those listed in Schedule I and Schedule KK, part-II
- 4-A Common Langur
7. Ferret Badgere

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 11. Himalayan Crestless Porcupine | Nisotra cardoni |
| 11-A Himalayan Newt or Salamander | Nisotra madurensis |
| 16. Pig-tailed Macaque | Nisotra nigripennis |
| 17-A Rhensus Macaque | Nisotra semicoerulea |
| 19. Stump-tailed Macaque | Sticopthalam noumahal |
| 22. Wild dog or Dhole | Thauria aliris amplifascia |
| 24. Chameleon | Family Carabidae |
| 25. Spiny-tailed Lizard or Sanda | Agonotrechus andrewesi |

PART II**21. Beetles,****Family Amathusidae**

Aemona amathusia amathusia

Amathusia philippus andamanicus

Amathusia amythaonam

Discophora dec, deodoides

Discophora lepida lepida

Discophora timora andamanensis

Enispe cycnus

Faunis sumeius assama

Family Chrysomelidae

Acrocrypta rotundata

Bimala indica

Clitea indica

Gopala pita

Griva cyanipennis

Amara brucei

Amara elegantula

Brachinus at Tipennis

Brososoma gracile

Brosopus bipillifer

Broter ovicollis

Calathus amaroides

Callistominus belli

Chalenius championi

Chlaenius kanarea

Chalenius masoni

Family Danalidae

Euploea melanoleuca

Euploea midamus rogenhoferi

Nisotra striatipennis

Nonarthra patkaia

Psylliodes plana

Psylliodes shira

Sebaethe cervina

Sebaethe patkaia

Sphaeroderma brevicorne

Family Cucujidae

Carinophloeus raffrayi

Cucujus bicolor

Cucujus grouvelle

Cucujus imperialis

Heterojinus semilactaneus

Laemophloeus belli

Laemophloeus incertus

Pediacus rufipes

Family Erycinidae

Abisara kausambi

Dodona adonira

Doclona dipoea

Dodona egeon

Libythea lepita

Family Hesperidae

Baoris philippina

Bebasa sena

Halpe homolea

Family Inopeplidae

Inopeplus albonotalus

Amblypodia ellisi

Amblypodia fulla ignara

Amblypodia ganesa watsoni

Amblypodia paragariesa zephpreeta

Amblypodia paralea

Amblypodia silhetensis

Family Lysaeidae

Allotinus subviolaceous manychus

Amblypodia aberans

Amblypodia aenea

Amblypodia agaba aurelia

Amblypodia agrata

Amblypodia alesia

Amblypodia apicianus ahamus

Amblypodia areste areste

Amblypodia bazaloides

Amblypodia camdec,

Amblypodia suffusa suffusa

Amblypodia yendava

Apharitis tilacinus

Araotes lapithis

Artipe eryx

Binclahara phocides

Bothrinia chennellii

Castalius roxus manluena

Catapocilma delicatum	Mahathala ameria
Catapocilma elegans myositina	Mahathala atkinsoni
Charana jalindra	Magisba malaya presbyter
Cheriteria truncipennis	Nacaduba aluta coelestis
Chliaria kina	Nacaduba ancyra aberrans
Deudu. yx hypargyria gaetu lia	Nacaduba clubiosa fulva
Enchrysops onelus	Nacaduba helicon
Everes kalaroi	Suasa lisides
Heliphorus and rocles moorei	Nacaduba hermus major
Horaga onyx	Nacaduba pactolus
Horaga viola	Neucheritra febronia,
Hypolycaena nilgirica	Niphanda cymbia
Hypolycaena theclodes nicobaTiCa	Orthomiella pontis
Iraota rochana boswelliana	Pithecopus fulgens
Jamides alectokanduiana	Polymmatas devanica devanica
Jamides celeodus pura	Polymmatas metallica metallica
Jamides kankena	Polymmatas orbitulus jaloka
Lampides boeticus	Polymmatas yeonghusbandi
Lilacea albocaerulea	Portia erycinoides elisei
Lilacea atroguttata	Portia hewitsoni
Lilacea lilacea	Portia plusrata geta
Lilacea melaena	Pratapa bhotes,
Lilacea minims	Pratapa blanka
Logania massalia	Pratapa deva
Lycaenesthes lycaenina	Pratapa icetas

Rapala buxaria

Rapala chandrana chandranz

Rapala nasala

Rapala refulgens

Rapala rubida

Rapala scintilla

Rapala ophinx ophinx

Rapala varuna

Spindasis elima elima

Spinclasis lohita

Spinclasis nipalicus

Thecla zoa

Surendra todara

Tajuria albiplaga

Tajuria cippus cippus

Tajuria culta

Tajuria diaeus

Tajuria illurgoodes

Tajuria illurgis

Tajuria jangala andamanica

Tajuria melastigma

Tajuria sebonga

Tajuria thydia

Tajuria yajna istroides

Tarucus callinara

Tarucus dharta

Thaduka multicaudata kanara

Thecla ataxux ataxux

Thecla bitei

Thecla icanz

Thecla jakamensis

Thecla kabrea

Thecla khasia

Thecla kirbariensis

Thecla suroia

Thecla syla assmica

Thecla vittata

Thecla ziba

Melitaea robertsi lutko

Neptis ananta

Una usta

Yasocia tripunctata

Family Nymphalidae

Adolias cyaniparclus

Adolias dirtea

Adolias khasiana

Apatura chevana

Apatura parvata

Apatura sordida

Apatura ulupi florenciae

Argynnis adippe pallicia

Argynnis altissima

Argynnis clata clara

Argynnis pales horia

Atella iscipee

Calinaga buddha brahman

Charaxes aristogiton

Charaxes fabius sulphureus

Charaxes nabruba

Charaxes marmax

Charaxes polyxena heman

Chersonesia rahia arahnioides

Cyrestis cocles

Diagora persimilis

Doleschallia bisaltica malabarica

Eriboea athamas andamanicus

Chilasa slateri slateri

Graphium aristeus anticrates

Neptis anjana nashona

Neptis aurelia

Neptis magadha khasiana

Neptis nandina hamsoni

Neptis narayana

Neptis radha radha

Neptis soma

Neptis zaida

Neurosigma doubledayi doubledayi

Pantoporia asura asura

Pantoporia kanwa phorkys

Pantoporia larymna siamensis

Pantoporia pravara acutipennis

Pantoporia ranga

Parthenos sylvia

Penthema lisarda

Symbrenthia niphanda

Vanessa egea agnicula

Vanessa lalium

Vanessa polychloros fervida

Vanessa praxsoides dohertyi

Vanessa urticae rizama

Family Papilionidae

Bhutanitis fiderdahi

Chilasa epycides epycides

Chilasa paradoxa telearchus

Graphium arycles arycles

Graphium eurypylus macronius

Graphium evemon albociliates

Graphium gyas gyas

Graphium megarus megarus

Papilio bootus

Papilio buddha	Lethe moelleri moelleri
Papilio fuscus andamanicus	Lethe naga naga
Papilio machaon verityi	Lethe nicetella
Papilio mayo	Lethe pulaha
Parnassius charitonius charitonius	Lethe scanda
Parnassius epaphus hillensis	Lethe serbonis
Parnassius jacquemonti jacquemonti	Lethe siderea
Polydorus latreillei kabrua	Lethe sinorix
Polyclorus plutonius tyleri	Lethe tristigmata
Teinopatus imperialis imperialis	Lethe violaceodicta kanjupkula
Family Pieridae	Lethe visrava
Aporia nabeflica	Lethe yama
Appias albina darada	Maniola davendra davendra
Appias indra shiva	Melanitis zitanius
Appias lyncida latifasciata	Mycalesis adamsoni
Appias wardica	Mycalesis anaxias
Baltia butleri butleri	Mycalesis botama chamba
Cepora nadian remba	Mycalesis heri
Ceora nerissa dapha	Mycalesis lepcha bethami
Lethe brisanda	Mycalesis malsarida
Lethe goalpara goalpara	Mycalesis misenus
Lethe insana insana	Mycalesis mestra
Lethe jalaurida	Mycalesis mystes
Lethe kabrua	Neorina hilda
Lethe latiaris latiaris	Neorina patria westwoodii

Oeneis buddha gurhwalica

Parantirhoea marshali

Parage maerula maefula

Ragadia crisilda crito

Rhapticera sttricus kabrua

Ypthima bolancia

Ypthima lycus lycus

Ypthima mathora mathora

Ypthima similis affectata

Zipotis saitis

¶1-A. Civets (all species of Viverridae except Malabar civet)]

¶1-B. Common fox (Vulpes bengalensis)]

¶1-C. Flying squirrels (all species of the genera Bulopetes, Petaurista, Pelomys, and Eupetaurus)]

¶1-D. Giant Squirrels (Ratufa indica, and R.Bicolor)]

¶2. *****]

2[2-A. Himalayan black bear (Selenarctos thibetanus)]

¶2-B. Jackal (Canis aureus)]

¶2-C. Jungle cat (Felis chaus)]

¶2-D. Marmots (Marmota bobak himalayan, M. caudata)]

¶2-E. Martens (Martes foina intermedia, M.Flavigula, M. watkinsii)]

¶3. *****]

¶4. ***]

4. Otters (Luthra, L. perspicillata)

Mycalesis suavis

[4-A. Pole cats (Vermela peregusna, M.putorius)]

4-B. Red fox (Vulpes vulpes, V.montana, V.griffithi)

[5. Sloth bear (Melursus ursinus)]

[5-A. Sperm whale (Physter macrocephalus)]

[6. ****)]

[7. Weasels (Mustela sibirica, M.kathian, M.altaica)]

[8. Checkered keelback snake (Xeno chrophis piscator)]

9. Dhaman or rat snake (Ptyas mucosus)

10. Dog-faced water snake (Cerberus rhynochopi)

11. Indian cobras (all sub-species of the genus Naja)

12. King cobra (Ophiophagus hannah)

13. Oliveaceous keelback snake (Artretium schistosum)

14. Russell's viper (Vipera russelli)

15. Varanus species (excluding yellow monitor lizard)

Statement-II

Seizure Data for the years 2001-2005

(leopard and its body Parts)

State	Year	Leopard body parts seized
1	2	3
Uttar Pradesh	2001	42 skins
	2002	8 skins
	2003	12 skins

1	2	3	1	2	3
	2004	—	Madhya Pradesh	2001	12 skins + bones
	2005	3 skins		2002	2 skins
Punjab	2001	1 skin		2003	1 skin
Maharashtra	2001	14 skins	Mizoram	2001	—
	2002	3 skins 3 claws	Andhra Pradesh	2001	4 skins
	2003	7 skins, 2 skulls, 5 kg bones and teeth		2003	—
West Bengal	2001	3 skins	Rajasthan	2001	7 skin
	2002	1 live leopard, 500 Gms of meat		2002	1 skin
	2003	30 skins, 1 skull, 1 mount	Himachal Pradesh	2001	5 skins
Tamil Nadu	2001	30 skins		2002	7 skins
	2003	—	Chhatisgarh	2001	2 skins
Karnataka	2001	—		2002	1 skin
	2002	1 skin	Haryana	2001	6 skins
Uttaranchal	2001	11 skins		2002	1 skin
	2002	10 skins		2003	—
	2003	29 skins		2004	15 skins
Delhi	2001	9 skins	Assam	2001	1.7 Kg. bones
	2002	11 skins	Gujrat	2001	1 skin
	2003	5 skins		2002	4 skins
	2004	6 skins	Kerala	2002	4 skins 1 carcass
	2005	84 leopard skins, 14 teeth of leopard and tiger, 60 kg. paws of tiger/leopard, 3 kg. Claws of tiger/leopard, 10 pairs jws of tiger/leopard, 40 small bones of tiger/leopard.	Jharkhand	2002	1 skin
			Chandigarh	2002	1 skin

Statement-III**Population Estimation of Leopards State-wise Details
(2001-02)**

S.No.	Name of State	Number
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	505
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	NR
3.	Assam	248
4.	Bihar/Jharkhand	164
5.	Goa/Daman and Diu	41
6.	Gujarat	999
7.	Haryana	NR
8.	Himachal Pradesh	NR
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	7
10.	Karnataka	NR
11.	Kerala	NR
12.	Madhya Pradesh/Chhattisgarh	2206
13.	Maharashtra	513
14.	Manipur	NR
15.	Meghalaya	NR
16.	Mizoram	NR
17.	Nagaland	42
18.	Orissa	457
19.	Rajasthan	481
20.	Sikkim	NR

1	2	3
21.	Tamil Nadu	41
22.	Tripura	NR
23.	Uttar Pradesh/Uttaranchal	2168
24.	West Bengal	331
25.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	NR
26.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	NR
Total		8203

NR : Not Reported

Delhi Milk Scheme

146. DR. K. DHANARAJU :

SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware that some dealers of Delhi Milk Scheme (DMS), instead of selling milk of DMS sell and promote the sale of private companies as they are getting more commission from them.

(b) if so, the number of complaints received so far during the current year in this regard;

(c) the reasons for which DMS is continuing with such dealers; and

(d) the steps the Government propose to take to cancel the dealership of such dealer in view of their unlawful activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) to (d) Two complaints have been received recently about Delhi Milk

Scheme depot holder selling other brands of milk in addition to DMS milk. One of them was not found to be correct. In case of other complaint, stern warning has been issued to the concerned depot holder not to repeat such irregularity in future.

Arrival of Tourists from West Asia

147. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether India plan to have its biggest ever presence at the Arabian Travel market to be held in Dubai in May and launching new products at the region's premier travel and tourism exhibition;

(b) if so, whether the middle east is of strategic importance for the growth of India's tourism which currently accounts for 2 per cent of the country's gross domestic product; and

(c) if so, the steps, taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to improve the tourist flow from West Asia?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) The Ministry of Tourism participates in the Arabian Travel market in Dubai to project India as a preferred tourist destination. An India Pavilion is set up with state governments/private sector as co-exhibitors to showcase the varied tourism products of the country in the important tourist generating markets in the Middle East.

(c) The Ministry of Tourism through its office in Dubai carries out a range of promotional activities including advertising, participation in Travel Fairs and Exhibitions, organising India Seminars and Workshops etc. with the objective of increasing the tourist flow from West Asia.

[Translation]

Reforms in P.F. Sector

148. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Board of Trustees of the Employee's Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) have decided to keep the rate of interest at 9.5 per cent for the year 2004-05;

(b) if so, whether the Government is contemplating to bring major reforms in the provident fund Sector;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO) : (a) The Central Board of Trustees, Employees' Provident Fund in its special meeting held on 28.05.2005 recommended the rate of interest @ 9.5% for the year 2004-05. The Government is yet to ratify the rate of interest as recommended by the Central Board of Trustees, Employees' Provident Fund.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Setting up of National Wildlife Crime Control Bureau

149. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up a National Wildlife Crime Control Bureau to take on organized gangs of poachers;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith its main functions;

(c) whether any deadline has been fixed to set up this bureau;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which this bureau is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main functions of the Bureau are as follows :-

1. To gather and analyze intelligence related to organized wildlife crime activities and to disseminate the same to State and Regional Enforcement Agencies for swift action to apprehend the criminals.
2. To develop infrastructure and capacity for scientific and professional investigation into wildlife crimes and assist State Governments to ensure better success of cases related to wildlife crimes.
3. To act as a multi agency unit with full time officers from various organizations like Police, DRI, CBI, IB, ITBP, BSF, Customs and the Forest and Wildlife Departments.
4. To implement the resolutions and decisions taken under various International Conventions such as Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Flora and Fauna (CITES), International Whaling Commission (IWC), etc., to which India is a Party.
5. To co-operate with the Interpol Wildlife Crime Working Group, the World Customs Organization, the CITES Tiger Enforcement Task Force and various other Law Enforcement Agencies inside the country.
6. To develop a National level Policy for containing the trade, enforcement and capacity building of the State Forest Departments to carry out enforcement and investigation in a professional manner.
7. To establish an intelligence network all over the country for advance information and action by closely working with State Forest Departments, NGOs, etc.
8. To monitor the trade and advise the Government

of India on changes required in policy and legislation from time to time.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

[English]

Dairy Development In Uttaranchal

150. SHRI RAJENDER KUMAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount provided by the Union Government for dairy development in Uttaranchal during the last three years scheme-wise;

(b) whether the Union Government monitors the utilisation of this amount; and

(c) if so, the achievements made in dairy development in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) This Ministry has sanctioned two projects under 'Intensive Dairy Development Programme (IDDP)', one each during 2002-03 and 2004-05 with a combined outlay of Rs. 2443.93 lakh. The first project covers the districts of Dehradun, Haridwar, Nainital and Udham Singh Nagar while the second covers Almora, Bageswar and Pithoragarh. During last three years, an amount of Rs. 1545.61 lakh has been released to the State Government under the Scheme.

Department of Women and Child Development (DWCD) under Ministry of Human Resource Development has released Rs. 81.02 lakh during last three years under Support to Training and Employment Programme (STEP) Scheme.

(b) The progress of the projects approved under IDDP is monitored by a Technical Management Committee

(TMC) chaired by the concerned Secretary of the State Government with representatives of this Ministry and Planning Commission as members besides others. The field visits are also conducted from time to time to assess the progress of the projects. Besides, the State Government sends the Quarterly Progress Report indicating the physical and financial achievements. The review meetings and Video Conferences are also held on regular basis to monitor the implementation of projects.

A State level Committee monitors the implementation of STEP projects with the representative of DWCD as a member.

(c) Under IDDP, 1115 Dairy Cooperative Societies have been formed with 59,210 farmer members and provide about 99,370 litres of milk per day as on 31.3.2005.

Under the STEP Scheme, about 40 Women Cooperative Societies have been established benefiting 4450 women members.

Genetically Modified Food Products

151. DR. M. JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the study report carried out by the American multi-national food giant, Monsanto pointing out serious ill effects of genetically modified food products on health as reported in the *Hindu*, June 04, 2005 under the caption "Imported soy, corn products may be harmful";

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to put a ban on the release of GM food in the Indian markets as requested by various civil society groups and Non-Government Organisations (NGOs); and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC

DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Government is aware of the report which appeared in the *'Hindu'* on June 04, 2005, however the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India which is the nodal Ministry for regulation of Genetically Modified Organisms has not received any adverse report regarding harmful impact of genetically modified food on human health.

(b) and (c) All genetically modified organisms and products thereof are regulated in India under the Rules for the Manufacture, Use, Import, And Export And Storage Of Hazardous Micro Organisms Genetically Engineered Organisms Or Cells, 1989, framed under the provisions of The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. These rules provide that all food stuffs, ingredients in food stuffs and additives including processing aids containing or consisting of genetically engineered organisms or cells, shall not be produced, sold, imported or used except with the approval of the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC). Introduction of any new technology requires a careful evaluation of the long-term sustainable benefits/impacts. Therefore the Government is following a policy of case-by-case approval of GM products. As per the prescribed biosafety guidelines all genetically modified food are required to be tested for toxicity and allergenicity prior to its approval for human consumption. As of date the GEAC has not approved the import or production of GM food for consumption in the Country. The guidelines for testing of the food products at the point of entry are notified under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954.

Revival of MAPL

152. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to revive Maharashtra Antibiotics and Pharmaceutical Limited (MAPL);

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when this proposal is likely to be implemented; and

(c) if not, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to rehabilitate the workers of the MAPL?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Government of India has implemented a Voluntary Separation Scheme (VSS) in MAPL and has released an amount of Rs. 6.94 crores as Non-Plan Loan to Hindustan Antibiotics Limited (HAL) on 03.10.2003 to implement this Scheme in MAPL. Consequently, all the employees of MAPL have been released under the VSS.

Support Price for Agricultural Products

153. SHRI RUPCHAND MURMU : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken a decision to authorize the State Government to fix the support price of Agricultural products which do not get the expected price and the loss suffered would be shared by the State Government and the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have allotted any amount to any State to sustain the loss;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government propose to allot any fund to States Particularly West Bengal for compensating the loss of Support price; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) and (b) There is no proposal before the Union Government to

authorize the State Governments to fix the support price of Agricultural products. The Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) are fixed by Government of India for different crops and are uniform throughout the country.

(c) to (f) Does not arise.

Improvement in FP Sector

154. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Food processing sector is expected to grow at 10 per cent per year by 2010;

(b) if so, whether this will attract a minimum investment of Rs. 2000 crores;

(c) whether according to the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry (ASSOCHAM) the study found that market in developed countries will provide additional export opportunities for agricultural and agro based processed products for countries such as India due to reduction in import duties, removal of non-tariff barriers and reduction in subsidies to domestic agriculture; and

(d) if so, the steps the Government proposes to take to improve food processing industry in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b) As per the report of M/s. Rabo India Finance Pvt. Ltd. processed food Industry in India should aim to grow at about 10% per annum between 2005 and 2015. The investment required in building the processing capacity, infrastructure and market development is estimated to be Rs. 99,700 crore for this period.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Government has formulated and implemented several Plan Schemes to provide financial assistance for establishment and modernization of food processing units,

creation of infrastructure, support for R and D, human resource development besides other promotional measures to encourage development of food processing industries. Recently, in order to give boost to growth of FPI sector the Government has allowed under Income Tax Act, a deduction of 100% of profit for five years and 25% of profits for the next five years in case of new agro processing industries set up to process, preserve and package fruits and vegetables. Excise duty of 16% on dairy machinery has been fully waived for promotion of dairy processing industries. Excise duty on meat, poultry and fish has been reduced from 16% to 8%. Excise duty on food grade hexane used in edible oil industry has been reduced from 32% to 16%. A National Horticulture Mission has been launched w.e.f. 1st April 2005 with an objective to boost the horticulture sector. In the Budget of 2005-06 excise duty of Rs. 1.00 per kg. on refined edible oil and Rs. 1.25 per kg. on vanaspati was abolished. Customs duty on refrigerated vans was reduced from 20% to 10%.

Connectivity to Tourist Centres

155. SHRI D. VITTAL RAO : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is emphasizing on improved connectivity to major tourist centres in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government has prepared any action plan for the purpose;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Planning Commission is supporting this plan; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (c) The Ministry of Tourism has taken up the matter with the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways for improving connectivity to major tourist centres in the country.

(d) and (e) The Planning Commission in their Budget 2005-06 of the Ministry of Tourism has allocated Rs. 25 crores each for Agra and Varanasi to improve Road connectivity from National Highways and Airports to the World Heritage Sites and for improving the infrastructure at these sites.

Disposal of Immunization Waste by Hospitals

156. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware that immunization wastes are not properly disposed of and they are reported to be recycled and reused in various hospitals in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether burning of immunization wastes results in emission of deadly gases which are harmful to human health and environment;

(d) if so, whether the Government has proposed any new technology for disposing of immunization wastes;

(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 NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) There are no reports of improper disposal of immunization wastes brought to the notice of the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and the Ministry of Environment and Forests. Immunization waste is also Bio-Medical Waste (BMW) which requires proper treatment and disposal as per the provisions of the Bio-Medical Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 1998.

(c) to (f) Burning of syringes generated during immunization is not permitted under the Bio-Medical Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 1998, as it may result in emission of harmful pollutants. The stipulated method

of disposal of these wastes is disinfection by chemical treatment/autoclaving/microwaving and mutilation/shredding as per Schedule-I of the MBW Rules. Standards for autoclaving and microwaving are stipulated in the Schedule-V of the MBW Rules.

**Review of Implementation of
Social Forestry Programme**

157. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has reviewed the implementation of Social Forestry Programme in various States;

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

(c) whether the above programme has failed to yield desired result in Orissa;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken to identify the bottleneck and to plug the loopholes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) Ministry of Environment and Forests is implementing National Afforestation Programme (NAP) during the Tenth Five Year Plan through a two-tier decentralized mechanism of Forest Development Agency (FDA) at Forest Division level and Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) at the village level. The progress of implementation of NAP projects is reviewed by National-Level Steering Committee at the Central Government level and by the State-Level Coordination Committee at the State level. In addition, concurrent evaluation of selected ongoing NAP Projects by independent evaluators is commissioned by the Ministry.

(c) to (e) As per information received from Government of Orissa, the progress of implementation of NAP projects is encouraging.

[Translation]

Rihand Dam

158. SHRI SURENDEA PRAKASH GOYAL : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether an alarming situation of pollution has arisen in the river due to regular discharge of chemicals by the companies into the Rihand Dam constructed in 1963 in Sonbhadra district of Uttar Pradesh thereby causing danger to the tunnel on the dam;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to prevent pollution and maintain the status-quo position of the dam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. There is no alarming situation in the river due to discharge of chemicals into reservoir of Rihand Dam, which may cause damage to dam and its constituents.

(c) A high level expert committee named as Rihand Dam Structural Behaviour Monitoring Committee (RDSBMC) under the Chairmanship of Engineer-in-Chief, Irrigation Department, U.P., Lucknow has been constituted by Government of U.P., which monitors safety of dam and other works related to the dam. Central Soil and Materials Research Station (CSMRS), New Delhi who is one of the Members of the Committee, is continuously collecting water samples and monitoring the pollution level of the reservoir water.

Constant Increase in Steel Stock

159. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE :
SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL :

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether despite the constant increase in the stock of steel an agreement has been made in the Memorandum of Understanding for 2005-06 signed with the different companies for 40% to 20% less release of steel;

(b) if so, whether the SAIL is benefiting private companies by just increasing the stock;

(c) whether at the time of MoU, SAIL invited applications from new traders but refused to sign MoU with any of the new traders; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) :

(a) Under the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) Scheme for 2005-06 an attempt was made to increase the customer base by inviting new consumers. In order to make supplies to them, quantitative restrictions were applied to supplies to traders under certain categories of products. Due to non-lifting of materials by direct consumers, the stocks have increased.

(b) On account of declining trend in prices of steel material in the international as well as the domestic market, there has been reduced lifting by consumers leading to increase in stocks in the past few months.

(c) and (d) As indicated above, applications were invited from direct consumers and quantitative restrictions were imposed on supplies to traders in certain categories of products.

[English]

Sand Mining in River Beds

160. SHRI D.V. SADANAND GOWDA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether large scale sand mining in river beds has resulted in sea water entering into the rivers

and has caused serious structural instability of several bridges;

(b) if so, whether this has resulted in the intrusion of the salinity into the ground water; and

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith affected areas identified, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) The Ministry of Shipping, Road-Transport and Highways is primarily responsible for the development and maintenance of National Highways. As regards National Highways, no structural instability in bridges caused due to large-scale sand mining in river beds and intrusion of sea water has been reported.

(b) and (c) No instances of salinity intrusion in ground water due to sand mining in river beds in coastal areas have been reported so far. Salinization of ground water along the major river courses in coastal areas is mainly due to sea water ingress during high tides.

Government of Andhra Pradesh has made a provision in the Andhra Pradesh Water, Land and Trees Act, 2002 to ban land mining in areas where it is observed that mining is creating a deteriorating effect on ground water system.

[Translation]

Decline in Ground Water Level

161. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government is aware that water level has decreased in various States due to continuous famine and failure of rain resulting a crisis of potable water in those States;

(b) if so, whether the Government are contemplating to provide any special assistance to the States to deal with such situations; and

(c) if so, by when the assistance is likely to be provided to the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) A long-term analysis of ground water levels by the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), under the Ministry of Water Resources, indicated decline in ground water levels in some parts of 362 districts of 23 States/ Union Territories in the country. This decline has been due to various reasons including less rainfall.

(b) and (c) Ministry of Water Resources are not contemplating to provide any special assistance to check decline in ground water levels. 'Water' being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments to execute schemes to improve the ground water levels. However, the following steps have been taken by the Union Government in this regard:-

- (i) CGWB has proposed a scheme at an estimated cost of Rs. 175 crores for Artificial Recharge to Ground Water and Rain Water Harvesting during the remaining part of the X Five Year Plan.
- (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 of ground water levels.
- (iii) Central Ministries/Departments of Railways, Defence, Posts, Telecommunications, Central Public Works Department and National Highways Authority of India have been requested to provide roof top rain water harvesting structures in the buildings under their control.
- (iv) States/UTs have been requested to provide water harvesting structures in buildings under their administrative control.

- (v) All the States/Union Territories have been requested for advising the local bodies in their respective States/Union Territories to allow rebate in property tax to persons, who adopt roof top rainwater harvesting in their premises.
- (vi) CGWB has provided technical guidance on rain water harvesting to around 1800 agencies, including State Government agencies, educational institutions, private entrepreneurs and individuals.
- (vii) Launching of a website on Roof Top Rain Water Harvesting (www.cgwb.net) to make aware and educate the public about various techniques of harvesting rainwater and store it for future use.
- (viii) Organisation of mass awareness programmes and training courses on rainwater harvesting and artificial recharge of ground water.
- (ix) Rain Water Harvesting campaign has been launched keeping in view the various target groups like youth and children, women, farmers and villagers, policy and opinion makers. Publicity through print media, telecasting of spots on the television, broadcasting messages on radio, holding of seminars, workshops, conferences etc., have been undertaken for the purpose.
- (x) The Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation, Government of India have 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. Similarly, State Governments of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Rajasthan and Kerala have made roof top rain water harvesting mandatory in specified cases.

[English]

Environmental Projects

162. SHRI JOACHIM BAXLA :
SHRI RANEN BARMAN :

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

(a) the details of Centrally sponsored environmental projects launched in different States, particularly in West Bengal during the last three years;

(b) the total amount provided by the Government during this period;

(c) the details of achievements made in this regard; and

(d) the details of such projects proposed to be launched in various States during the next three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Transport and Storage Facility

163. SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a considerable percentage of total production fruits and vegetables in the country perish every year due to the non-availability of adequate transport and storage facilities;

(b) if so, whether the Government has conducted any survey in this regard; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to overcome the problems?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) and (b) No survey has been conducted by the Government to assess the loss of fruits and vegetables in the country. However, a Committee chaired by Dr. M.S. Swaminathan has reported a loss of 25 to 30% of perishable items.

(c) The National Horticulture Board, is implementing programmes aimed at reducing the wastage of horticultural produce through the following schemes:-

(i) "Capital investment subsidy scheme for construction/expansion/modernization of cold storage for horticulture produce", and

(ii) Development of commercial horticulture through production and post-harvest management.

Besides, the Government has launched a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on "National Horticulture Mission" during 2005-06 under which assistance for creating post-harvest management infrastructure has been envisaged.

[Translation]

Development of Improved Breed of Milching Animals

164. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD :
SHRI V.K. THUMMAR :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the institutes which developed improved breeds of milching animals;

(b) the names and the milching capacity of the said animals;

(c) whether the cost of production of the milk of these animals has been estimated;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the estimate of the annual availability of the animals to the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal, Project Directorate on Cattle, Meerut in collaboration with Military Farms and Kerala Livestock Development Board have developed improved crossbred strains of cattle.

(b) These have been named as Karan Swiss, Karan Fries and Frieswal. Their average total lactation yield is as follows:-

Breed	Milk yield capacity
Karan Swiss	
(i) Average milk production (kg./305 days)	3316 kg.
(ii) Maximum lactation milk yield recorded (kg./356 days)	8239 kg.
Karan Fries	
(i) Average milk production (kg./305 days)	3393 kg.
(ii) Maximum lactation milk yield recorded (kg./305 days)	8338 kg.
Frieswal	
(i) Average milk production (kg./300 days)	3072 kg.
(ii) Average milk production in entire lactation (315 days)	3398 kg.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Cost of milk production (Rs./Lit. of milk) as per the estimates—1999 are as follows:-

Karan swiss 8.42

Karan Fries 6.64

The cost of milk production of Frieswal animals is yet to be estimated.

(e) The elite cows are meant for the production of superior males. The semen of Karan swiss, Karan fries and frieswal are made available as per requirements of the farmers. Regarding Frieswal cows, the surplus animals (superior bulls, cows and heifers) are being supplied/sold to the farmers and Government agencies by the Military Farms on book value basis.

[English]

Foods for Welfare Programmes

165. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the production of wheat, rice, pulses and other crops has shown declining trend in the current year as compared to the previous year;

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

(c) whether this decline has affected Government's welfare schemes, food-for-work programme and Public Distribution System (PDS) also;

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to manage its welfare programme and PDS in the absence of sufficient foodgrain production; and

(e) the steps taken to remove the causes of less production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) and (b) The production of wheat, rice, pulses, total oilseeds, cotton, sugarcane and jute and mesta for the year 2004-05 and 2003-04 are shown below:-

(million tonnes)

Crop	2004-05*	2003-04
Wheat	72.00	72.11
Rice	85.31	88.28
Pulses	13.38	14.94
Oilseeds	26.10	25.29
Cotton #	17.00	13.87
Sugarcane	232.32	237.31
Jute and Mesta ##	10.49	11.23

*4th Advance estimates as on 06.07.05.

Million bales of 170 kgs. each.

Million bales of 180 kgs. each.

The low production level in 2004-05 was due to deficient rainfall received during the southwest monsoon. Compared to 2003, the southwest monsoon in 2004 was erratic with prolonged weak/break monsoon conditions prevailing during late June, most of July, late August and early September over different parts of the country. For the country as a whole, the seasonal rainfall from 1st June to 30th September was 87% of its long period average (LPA) in 2004.

(c) and (d) The Government has adequate stocks foodgrains to meet the requirements of various States/UTs under TPDS and Welfare Schemes.

(e) The programmes aimed at boosting production and productivity of foodgrains include the following:-

- (i) Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Rice Based Cropping Systems Areas (ICDP-Rice).
- (ii) Integrated Cereals Development Programme in

Wheat Based Cropping Systems Areas (ICDP-Wheat).

- (iii) Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Coarse Cereals Based Cropping Systems Areas (ICDP-Coarse Cereals).

From October 2000, these schemes have been subsumed under Macro Management Programme with a view to provide flexibility according to regionally differentiated needs of the States.

A new Centrally Sponsored Scheme on 'On Farm Water Management for increasing Crop Production in Eastern India' was launched from 2002-03. The objective of the scheme is to increase production and productivity of crops through exploiting abundant ground/surface water, in the Eastern India. Under the scheme, assistance is provided for (i) installation of shallow tube wells (STW) with pumping sets, (ii) electric/diesel water pumping sets, (iii) Low Lift Irrigation Points (LIP), and (iv) dug wells in hills and plateau regions. The scheme is being implemented in Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Manipur, Mizoram, Orissa, West Bengal and Eastern Uttar Pradesh. The scheme is a back-ended credit linked one and is being implemented through the National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development.

As regards pulses, assistance is provided for purchase of breeder seed, production of foundation seed, production and distribution of certified seed, distribution of seed minikits etc. under the centrally sponsored scheme of Integrated Scheme for Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) launched in April 2004.

[Translation]

Reduction in Prices of Life Saving Drugs

166. SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government has decided to reduce

the prices of life saving drugs including Cancer and AIDS; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when the decision is likely to be come in force?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) :

(a) and (b) The Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO, 95) does not make any distinction between Life Saving drugs and other drugs. There is no specific norms or guidelines to determine as to which drugs can be classified as life saving drugs. Every drug, in general, is considered useful in saving and prolonging of life.

DPCO, 1995 was promulgated by the Government vide S.O. 18(E) dated 6.1.1995. The 74 bulk drugs specified in its First Schedule and the formulations based thereon are under price control and their prices are fixed/revised by the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) in accordance with the provisions of the DPCO, 1995. These drugs have been identified for inclusion under price control in the DPCO, 95 on the basis of criteria mentioned in the 'Modifications in Drug Policy, 1986', announced in September, 1994. These criteria take into account the extent of usage and the market competition of various drugs. None of the 74 bulk drugs specified in the First Schedule of DPCO, 95 is an anti-cancer drug.

Prices of non-Scheduled formulations are fixed by the manufacturers themselves keeping in view the various factors like cost of production, marketing/selling expenses, R and D expenses, trade commission, market competition, product innovation, product quality etc. The Government takes corrective measures when the public interest is found to be adversely affected.

The fixation/revision of prices of bulk drugs/formulations is an ongoing process undertaken by the NPPA.

New Agriculture University

167. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of new agriculture universities established during the last three years in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the shortage of agricultural experts is the main hindrance in establishing new agriculture universities; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the remedial steps taken/to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) The details of new agricultural universities established during the last three years in the country, state-wise are as follows :-

Gujarat	1. Dantiwada Agricultural University, Dantiwada.
	2. Anand Agricultural University, Anand.
	3. Junagadh Agricultural University, Junagadh.
	4. Navsari Agricultural University, Navsari.
Karnataka	Karnataka Veterinary, Animal and Fisheries Sciences University, Bidar.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Protection of Wildlife and Environment

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

(a) whether the Government received any letter signed by 40 wildlife and environmental organizations regarding the Government policies in protection of wildlife and environment;

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The major issues highlighted in the letter dated 4.10.2004 are enclosed as statement.

(c) Forest land and wildlife habitat are protected by various laws including the Indian Forest Act, 1927, the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, and the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. All cases of diversion and use of forest as well as wildlife habitats for non-forestry purposes are examined by expert committees strictly under the provisions of these laws and the orders of Hon'ble Supreme Court issued from time to time. Rehabilitation measures including compensatory afforestation, restoration of habitats is a mandatory provision while granting clearances for developmental projects after due consideration of its necessity without compromising conservation concerns.

Statement

The major issues highlighted by the activists, NGO's and others in their letter dated 4th October, 2004 are as given below :-

1. Wildlife habitats and populations continue to be under serious threat from 'development' projects across India.
2. Several kinds of development projects have been granted clearance despite extremely poor environmental impact assessment, including blatantly plagiarized studies.
3. Several destructive development projects have been allowed inside or immediately bordering Protected areas.
4. Several clearances have been granted completely ignoring the citizens, inputs.

5. The National Board for Wildlife and Expert Committees for environmental clearance have been weakened.
6. Compensatory mechanism for clearance of projects cannot be substitute for sound decision making based on comprehensive environmental and social impact assessment.
7. Repeated dilutions of notifications under the Environmental Protection Act have made wildlife habitats and sensitive ecosystems more vulnerable to development pressures.

[Translation]

Farmers Benefited under NAIS in U.P.

169. MOHD. MUKEEM : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of farmers, crops and agricultural land covered under National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) in Uttar Pradesh, till date;
- (b) the criteria followed to decide the rate of premium under the scheme, crop-wise;
- (c) the details of financial liabilities shared by Union Government and the States/Union Territories;
- (d) the total amount of premium collected for the said scheme in the State during each of the last three years; and
- (e) the payment made against the insurance claims during the said period and till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) has been implemented in Uttar Pradesh from Kharif 2000 onward. The crops covered under the scheme are paddy, maize,

arhar, groundnut, soyabean, jowar, bajra, til, blackgram, sugarcane in Kharif and wheat, gram, rape and mustard, peas, lentil and potato in rabi season. About 54 lakh farmers over an area of 85.03 lakh hect. covered till rabi 2004-05 under the scheme in Uttar Pradesh.

(b) There are two categories of chargeable premium rates under NAIS. Flat rates of premium charged for insuring food and oilseeds crops. They are fixed keeping in view the risk involved and the paying capacity of farmers. Other category is the actuarial rates of premium charged for insuring annual commercial and horticultural crops. These rates are calculated on the basis of variability in the yield.

(c) The financial liabilities on account of claims, premium subsidy, bank service charges and administrative and operational expenses are shared between the Centre and State Governments in the ratio of 50 : 50.

(d) and (e) Year-wise claims paid and premium collected in Uttar Pradesh is given below:-

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Premium Collected	Claims Paid
2002-03	1762.82	2811.31
2003-04	1686.93	3695.92
2004-05*	3176.53	1528.85

*Claims in respect of 2004-05 are in the process of settlement.

[English]

Procurement of Oilseeds

170. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantum of mustard procured by the Government from Rajasthan during the current year;

(b) the price at which the mustard has been procured in State during the said period;

(c) whether the Government of Rajasthan has requested the Union Government to continue the procurement of mustard at the Minimum Support Price; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b) A quantity of 14,03,781 MT mustard at the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of Rs. 1700 per Qtl. has been procured in Rajasthan under Price Support Scheme during the Rabi crop season 2005.

(c) and (d) The Government of Rajasthan requested to continue the procurement of mustard at the Minimum Support Price (MSP). Due to fund constraints, the pace of procurement was slowed down for a brief period, however, the procurement under MSP was continued till the arrival of the crop at the procurement centres.

[Translation]

Demand and Supply of Milk in Delhi

171. SHRI SURAJ SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of complaints have been received regarding adulteration in the milk being supplied in the metropolitan cities;

(b) if so, the number of complaints received from said cities alongwith the outcome of the follow up action taken thereon;

(c) whether there is a huge gap between the demand and supply of milk in Delhi and this demand is met by supplying powdered milk;

(d) if so, whether the Government proposes to bring any improvement in the Milk Supply System;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the measures taken by the Government to ensure supply of pure milk?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) and (b) No complaint regarding adulteration in milk being supplied in the metropolitan cities has been received in the recent past.

(c) to (f) There is no huge gap between demand and supply in Delhi. During lean season i.e. May to August, the shortage, if any, is made up by reconstitution and recombination of fresh milk with skimmed milk powder and white butter drawn from fresh milk.

[English]

Ratification of ILO Conventions

172. SHRI P. MOHAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to ratify the International Labour Organisation (ILO) Convention Nos. 87, 98, 151 and 154 which provides right to strike to workers and employees of public services, since India is a founder member of the ILO; and

(b) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) ILO Conventions are ratified in India after the Conventions are fully in conformity with national laws and regulations. The ILO Convention 87, 98, 151 and 154 have not been ratified and are not proposed to be ratified as the conventions include Government servants with workers and employees under their definition. In India Government servants are treated as a separate category and have alternative grievance redressal mechanisms. They are also

afforded constitutional protection under Article 311 of our Constitution.

[Translation]

CIPET Centres

173. SHRIMATI KALPNA RAMESH NARHIRE :
SHRI SRICHAND KRIPLANI :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the States where the Central Institute of Plastic Engineering and Technology (CIPET) centres are functioning at present;

(b) the name of the agency that bears the revenue expenditure;

(c) whether the Government has received any proposal to open new CIPET Centres in the country particularly in Maharashtra and Rajasthan;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the present status of the proposals;

(e) by when it is likely to be set up; and

(f) the criteria adopted for opening of a CIPET Centre?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) :

(a) CIPET Centres are functioning in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Orissa, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

(b) The revenue expenditure incurred at all the Centres is borne by CIPET.

(c) and (d) Yes, the Government has received proposals to set up CIPET Centres in Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Haryana. The Standing Finance Committee

(SFC) of the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals is scheduled to meet in the last week of July 2005 for appraising and approving these proposals. The Planning Commission has approved in principle setting up of these Centres and has provided Rs. 5 crore each for setting up a Centre each in the States of Haryana, Rajasthan and Maharashtra in the Annual Plan 2005-06 of the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals. The expenditure on establishing a new CIPET Centre is borne by the respective State Governments and the Central Government on 50:50 cost sharing basis. The State Government's contribution is in the form of land, building and other infrastructure facilities whereas the Central Government provides plant and machinery and manpower requirement for the Centre.

(e) Normally, it takes three years for setting up a new Centre after the approval of the Govt. of India.

(f) The opening of a new CIPET Centre depends on various factors which include the number of plastic industries operating in the area, readiness of the State Governments to participate on cost sharing basis as per Government of India policy, employment potential in the State, institutional requirement for promotion of plastics, availability of core engineering sector, promoting uses of plastics on need basis and State-specific techno-economic considerations, etc.

[English]

Agricultural Labourers

174. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of agricultural labourers in the country, particularly in Orissa and their percentage to the total population in respective States, State-wise;

(b) the steps taken by the Government for the welfare at the State and the Central level separately; and

(c) the extent of work done in this regard during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO) : (a) A statement is enclosed.

(b) and (c) Presently, no scheme specifically meant for the welfare of the agricultural labourers is being implemented by the Central or State Government of Orissa. However, these workers are eligible for various poverty alleviation/employment generation schemes being implemented by various Ministries/Departments for the rural poor, which include agricultural labourers. Some of such schemes include Swarnajayanti Gram Swarajgar Yojana, Sampurna Gramin Rojgar Yojana, etc. Further, there are insurance schemes like Janshree Bima Yojana and Universal Health Insurance Scheme for persons below and marginally above the poverty line.

Statement

Statewise total Agricultural labourers, Total Population and their percentages as per Census 2001

India/States	Agricultural Labourers	Total Population	Percentage
1	2	3	4
India*	106,775,330	1,028,610,328	10.4
Andhra Pradesh	13,832,152	76,210,007	18.2
Arunachal Pradesh	18,840	1,097,968	1.7
Assam	1,263,532	26,655,528	4.7
Bihar	13,417,744	82,998,509	16.2
Chhattisgarh	3,091,358	20,833,803	14.8
Goa	35,806	1,347,668	2.7
Gujarat	5,161,658	50,671,017	10.2

1	2	3	4
Haryana	1,278,821	21,144,564	6.0
Himachal Pradesh	94,1,1	6,077,900	1.5
Jammu and Kashmir	246,421	10,143,700	2.4
Jharkhand	2,851,297	26,945,829	10.6
Karnataka	6,226,942	52,850,562	11.8
Kerala	1,620,851	31,841,374	5.1
Madhya Pradesh	7,400,670	60,348,023	12.3
Maharashtra	10,815,262	96,878,627	11.2
Manipur*	113,630	2,166,788	5.2
Meghalaya	171,694	2,318,822	7.4
Mizoram	26,783	888,573	3.0
Nagaland	30,907	1,990,036	1.6
Orissa	4,999,104	36,804,660	13.6
Punjab	1,489,861	24,358,999	6.1
Rajasthan	2,523,719	56,507,188	4.5
Sikkim	17,000	540,851	3.1
Tamil Nadu	8,637,630	62,405,679	13.8
Tripura	276,132	3,199,203	8.6
Uttar Pradesh	13,400,911	166,197,921	8.1
Uttaranchal	259,683	8,489,349	3.1
West Bengal	7,362,957	80,176,197	9.2
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	5,169	356,152	1.5
Chandigarh	563	900,635	0.1

1	2	3	4
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	14,715	220,490	6.7
Daman and Diu	1,323	158,204	0.8
Delhi	15,773	13,850,507	0.1
Lakshadweep	—	60,650	0.0
Pondicherry	72,251	974,345	7.4

* NOTE: India and Manipur figures exclude Mao Maram, Paomata and Purul sub-divs of Senapati District in Manipur state as census results were cancelled due to administrative and technical reasons.

[Translation]

Night Bazar Scheme

175. SHRI AJIT JOGI :

SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN :

SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had formulated "Night Bazar" scheme during recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of cities where this scheme was started and the amount spent by the Government thereon; and

(d) the present status of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (d) Ministry of Tourism has evolved a concept of Night Bazar as an attempt to provide a unique shopping experience as well as to preserve and nourish the traditional art and cultural forms of the country. As a Pilot Project the first Night

Bazar ran from 27.03.2005 to 29.05.2005 at Lily Pond Lawns of Hotel Ashok, New Delhi.

[English]

Destruction of Foodgrains

176. SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether huge quantity of foodgrains lying in FCI godowns meant for distribution among Below Poverty Line (BPL) families through the fair price shops is getting destroyed for non-lifting of such foodgrains by the concerned State Government;

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

(c) whether there is any proposal to make such States accountable for the loss;

(d) if so, the details thereof and by when it is likely to be implemented; and

(e) the steps being taken to prevent such wastages in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

(e) For preventing foodgrains from damage, the stocks are stored in godowns scientifically. Necessary curative, prophylactic and pest control measures are under-taken and inspection of stocks by trained and efficient quality control officers is carried out periodically.

Study on Random Human Blood Samples

177. KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware that according to a recent study based on random human blood samples from Malwa belt in Punjab, the pesticide residue in the blood of farmers in this area has been found to be 15 to 605 times higher than that is present in the blood of US farmers;

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

(c) whether the Government proposes to initiate measures for educating farmers in all States and Union Territories in the country on the judicious use of pesticides;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An Expert Committee has been constituted to analyse the findings of the study on "Analysis for Pesticides Residues in Blood Samples from Villages of Punjab" published by the Centre for Science and Environment in March, 2005 and recommend corrective policy measures as may be necessary.

(c) to (e) Government is already promoting the strategy of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) which envisages use of biological, mechanical, cultural and other methods of pest control and only need based judicious use of Pesticides. The ill effects of the indiscriminate use of pesticides is also emphasized during the training of farmers in the Farmers' Field Schools (FFSs) on IPM. A total of 9111 FFSs have been conducted by the Directorate of Plant Protection, Quarantine and Storage from 1994-95 to 2004-05 wherein 37,281 Agricultural Extension Officers and 2,75,056 farmers have been trained in IPM.

[Translation]

Criteria for Good Quality Fertilizers

178. SHRI RAMSEVAK SINGH : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Public and Private sector chemicals and fertilizers manufacturing companies functioning in the country at present;

(b) whether the Government is aware that farmers are not getting good fertilizers thereby yield of crops and fertility of land being affected;

(c) the criteria fixed by the government for fertilizer manufacturing companies to maintain quality; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to provide fertilizers to the farmers for coming kharif crop as per their requirements?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) :

(a) There are two Public Sector Undertakings in chemical sector excluding Pharmaceuticals and a large number of chemical units in the private sector. There are 45 major fertilizers plants in Public, Cooperative and Private Sector manufacturing fertilizers in the country.

(b) and (c) No such report has come to the notice of the government about non receipt of quality fertilizers to farmers. However, for ensuring the adequate availability of right quality of fertilizers to the farmers at reasonable prices throughout the country, the Government of India has declared fertilizer as an essential commodity and enacted the Fertilizer (Control) Order (FCO), 1957 under Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act (ECA). The Fertilizer (Control) Order (FCO) was subsequently revised in 1985. The FCO regulates the trade, price, quality and distribution of fertilizers in the country. The standards of various fertilizers have been laid down in Schedule-I Part

A of FCO and it is mandatory under Clause 19 to sell/manufacture only such fertilizers which conform to the standards laid down in the schedule of the FCO. No person is allowed to sell/manufacture fertilizers, which do not conform to the standards as laid down in the Schedule. Any such violation would lead to punitive and administrative action against the offenders. The State Governments are primarily responsible for implementing the FCO provisions and are adequately empowered under the Order/ECA to take action. There are 67 fertilizer quality control laboratories in the country including 4 of the Central Government at Faridabad, Chennai, Mumbai and Kalyani for testing the samples drawn by the Fertilizers' Inspectors from the fields/manufacturers. The analyzing capacity of these laboratories is about 1.25 lakh samples per annum and only about 5.5% samples have been found to be non-standard during 2003-04.

(d) The Department has asked the Urea manufacturing units to produce beyond their installed capacities by increasing their stream days, postponing turn around etc. About 3.5 lakh MT of additional Urea is estimated to be produced in the season. In addition as Government is also importing about 16.52 lakh MT every year from OMIFO, a joint company setup in Sur, Oman by Oman Oil Company and IFFCO and KRIBHCO. Further, the Government has also tied up with canalizing agents i.e. IPL and MMTC to import the required additional Diammonium Phosphate (DAP) to augment supplies. It is expected that these measures would be sufficient to meet the requirement of fertilizers for the current Kharif season.

Narmada Canal Project of Rajasthan

179. SHRI SRICHAND KRIPLANI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the target set for completion of Narmada Canal Project in Rajasthan;

(b) whether the Government has allocated any amount so as to complete the project within the time schedule;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the State Government has sought additional assistance for the project; and

(e) if so, the response of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The Government of Rajasthan has reported that the Narmada Canal project which has been receiving Central Loan Assistance (CLA) under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) is scheduled for completion by 2009-10.

(b) and (c) The year-wise budget allocation for the Narmada Canal Project in Rajasthan is as under:-

Year	Budget Allocation (Rs. Crore)
1998-99	36.00
1999-2000	25.00
2000-01	9.00
2001-02	15.64
2002-03	21.00
2003-04	375.00
2004-05	160.00
2005-06	200.00

(d) and (e) An amount of Rs. 476.293 crore has been released for this project from 1998-99 to 2004-05 as CLA/grant under AIBP. During the last two years, the State Government had requested for additional CLA/grant which has been released as detailed below:-

(Rs. Crore)

Year	Original CLA Sought	Revised CLA Sought	CLA/grant released
2003-04	40.00	291.13	291.125
2004-05	80.00	119.85	119.848

[English]

Assistance to Modernise Dairy System in Karnataka

180. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the financial assistance provided by the Union Government to the Government of Karnataka to increase the production of milk and milk products during the last three years and the current year;

(b) whether the Union Government has received request from the Government of Karnataka for providing more assistance to modernize dairy system in the State;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) Financial assistance provided by Government of India to Government of Karnataka to increase the production of milk from 2002-03 to 2004-05 and current year is given below:-

Year	Amount released (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2
2002-03	313.88

1	2
2003-04	589.00
2004-05	1592.56
2005-06	—

(b) to (d) The Government of Karnataka has executed a Memorandum of Understanding in November 2004 with the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) to get an assistance of Rs. 250 crores from NDDB for undertaking modernisation of dairy system in the State.

A request was received from Government of Karnataka during January, 2005 for release of 30% of Rs. 205 crores as grant or reimbursement of interest payable to NDDB on the loan portion of assistance of Rs. 250 crores. After seeking clarification from NDDB, the Government of Karnataka was informed that the extent of loan and grant portion of the assistance to the KMF/Milk unions would be determined by NDDB only after the specific proposal/techno economic studies of each milk union/Federation projects are carried out, which will naturally cover the interest costs.

Action Plan for Bamboo Tree

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

(a) whether the Government has approved an Action Plan of Rs. 105 crore to tackle the problem arising out of bamboo flowering in the North-Eastern Region;

(b) if so, the details of the plan as on date; and

(c) the steps taken and being taken to implement the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) The Planning Commission has given 'in-principle' approval to the scheme on management of

'Gregarious Flowering of Muli Bamboos' in the North-Eastern Region for an amount of Rs. 85 crores and Expenditure Finance Committee of the Ministry has also accorded its approval.

(b) and (c) The major components of the scheme, to be implemented by the state governments, include boosting efforts of the state governments in tackling this problem by providing assistance for infrastructure development, regeneration activities, fire control measures, rodent control and preventive health measures.

National Horticulture Mission

182. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved the launching of the National Horticulture Mission;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the funds earmarked for the purpose; and

(c) the manner in which the mission is likely to prove beneficial for the growth of horticulture in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The CCEA has approved the launching of National Horticulture Mission (NHM) with an outlay of Rs.2300 crore for the X Plan period. The Mission would address the development of horticulture duly ensuring end to end approach covering production, post harvest management and marketing.

(c) The Mission envisages assistance for promoting production through supply of good quality planting material, coverage of new areas with improved varieties, rejuvenation of senile orchids, integrated pest management, creation of infrastructure for disease

forecasting, post harvest management and marketing, which will ultimately help in overall development of horticulture in the country.

[Translation]

Settlement of Adivasis and Scheduled Tribes on Forest Land

183. SHRI KRISHNA MURARI MOGHE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the date on which the proposal to settle Adivasis and Scheduled Tribes on forest lands in Madhya Pradesh were submitted to the Union Government;

(b) the action taken thereon;

(c) the number of cases still pending and the time by which the said settlement work is likely to be completed; and

(d) the number of schemes of Madhya Pradesh pending with the Union Government under the Forest Conservation Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (c) No proposal has been submitted by Government of Madhya Pradesh to settle Adivasis and Scheduled Tribes on forest lands. Government of Madhya Pradesh has submitted proposals only for regularization of pre-1980 eligible encroachments on forest lands and conversion of 925 forest villages into revenue villages. Accordingly, Central Government has already regularized pre-1980 eligible encroachments over 2.25 lakh hectare of forest lands. In so far as conversion of 925 forest villages is concerned, 315 forest villages located in 11 Districts viz. Khargone, Dewas, Rajgarh, Guna, Sidhi, Vidisha, Badwani, Dindori, Chhindwada, Raisen and Obedullah Gunj and Sagar, have already been converted into revenue villages under the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. About 80% of the beneficiaries of regularized

encroachments and converted villages belong to Scheduled Tribes. The process of conversion of forest villages, is held up due to the Supreme Court's order dated: 13-11-2000 whereby the Apex Court has banned dereservation of forests/national parks/sanctuaries.

(d) As per available information, 12 proposals received from Madhya Pradesh for forestry clearance, are under various stages of examination in the Ministry. The project proposals involving non-forestry use of forest lands, are examined according to the procedure prescribed under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2003, and the guidelines issued from time to time thereunder. The whole examination and the decision on the proposal is a continuous process, for which Central Government has prescribed a time limit of 60 days for itself for processing and taking decision on the complete proposal, under the Rules.

[English]

Impact of Delayed Monsoon

184. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH :
SHRI G.V. HARSHA KUMAR :
SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY :
SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the delay in monsoon has adversely affected the sowing of Kharif crops in many parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the crops worst affected;

(c) whether the lack of moisture is likely to affect the ensuing Rabi crop also;

(d) if so, whether the Government is considering to work out any contingency plan to overcome these problems; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) and (b) The behaviour of monsoon was erratic in the month of June 2005 and at the All India level the cumulative rainfall from 1st June to 29th June was 20% less than the normal. However, the monsoon revived subsequently and the cumulative rainfall from 1st June to 13th July, 2005 at the All India level was 1% more than the normal. Cumulative rainfall was excess/normal in 28 Meteorological Sub-Divisions (MSD) out of the 36 MSDs in the country.

The delayed onset of south-west monsoon has affected sowing activities. As per the reports considered by the Crop Weather Watch Group of Ministry of Agriculture in its meeting held on 18.07.2005, the status of cultivation of crops in kharif 2005-06 as compared to the corresponding period of 2004-05 is as follows:-

Crop/Year	(lakh hectares)	
	2005-06	2004-05
Rice	90.64	122.32
Coarse Cereals	121.67	116.51
Pulses*	32.59	50.79
Oilseeds*	84.30	100.73
Cotton	51.58	59.81
Sugarcane	40.85	37.49
Jute	7.88	7.69

*As on 15.07.2005

However, the sowing operations have accelerated with steady arrival of monsoon and it is expected that the area under crops will improve in the coming weeks.

(c) to (e) The rabi crops are raised on receding moisture conservation. The soil moisture storage from September onwards will become critical for rabi crop survival. An evaluation will have to be undertaken at the end of the southwest monsoon season.

Indian Council of Agricultural Research, State Agricultural Universities and other organizations have brought out contingency plans for different regions of the Country. These plans will be put into action as and when the need arises.

Agricultural Land under Cultivation

185. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total area of agricultural land in hectares under cultivation in the country, especially in Gujarat;

(b) the details of persons employed in these agricultural lands; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Union Government to boost the agriculture in the country particularly in Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) As per the Land Use Statistics compiled by the Ministry of Agriculture, the total agricultural land under cultivation in Gujarat is about 10.4 million hectares as against 154.4 million hectares in the country.

(b) According to Census 2001, the total number of persons employed in agriculture in Gujarat was 109,64,339 persons out of which 58,02,681 were cultivators and 51,61,658 were agricultural labourers.

(c) Keeping in view the importance of Agriculture in the economy, the Union Budget 2005-06 has provided for substantial increase in the budgetary outlay for agriculture and allied sectors in 2005-06 compared to 2004-05. Since

the flow of credit is important in accelerating the pace of investment in agriculture, the disbursement of agricultural credit is proposed to be stepped up by 30% in 2005-06 over the disbursement of Rs. 1,15,243/- crores in 2004-05, which exceeded the disbursement of Rs. 86,981 crore made in 2003-04 by 32%. These measures aimed at boosting agricultural growth would also cover the State of Gujarat. Besides, in the State of Gujarat the scheme of Intensive Cotton Development Programme (Mini-Mission-II of Technology Mission on Cotton), and the programme of cereals and SUBACS (Sustainable Development of Sugarcane Based Cropping System) are being implemented.

[Translation]

**Amendment/Repeal of Forest
(Conservation) Act, 1980**

186. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO :
SHRI MOHD. TAHIR :
SHRI MUNSHI RAM :
SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHAWAHA :
SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA :

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

- (a) whether the Government is contemplating to amend/repeal the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) benefits being accrued to Adivasis from the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980;
- (e) whether this Act has been hampering the construction of metalled roads; and
- (f) if so, details thereof alongwith the remedial steps proposed/taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 is a regulatory Act, not prohibitory.

(d) Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 deals with non-forestry utilisation of forest lands. For the development of forest dwellers including adivasis, Central Government has granted general approval on 3rd January 2005 under this Act, for infrastructure development projects like school, dispensary/hospital, electric lines, drinking water, rain water harvesting structure, minor irrigation canal, non-conventional sources of energy, skill upgradation/vocational training centre, power sub-stations etc. Further, 510 forest villages have been converted into revenue villages in Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra and Uttaranchal so far. Also, 3.65 lakh ha. forest land has been diverted for regularisation of pre-1980 eligible encroachments. To protect the rights on forest lands, Central Government vide letter dated 21-12-2004 and subsequent letter dated 12-5-2005 has also issued directions to the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations not to evict forest dwellers including adivasis (tribals) from forest lands without proper verification.

(e) No, Sir. The Ministry of Environment and Forests has already issued detailed guidelines on 30th April, 2005 for upgradation of 'Kutchcha' roads constructed in forest areas prior to 1980, to 'Pucca' roads, and such conversions do not attract the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

(f) Does not arise.

[English]

Retirement Related Benefit Scheme

187. SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY :
SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA :

Will the minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Retirement and Savings Survey of the Ministry of Finance (2004) has conducted a survey that about 4.5 crore persons nearing retirement are not covered by any retirement related benefit scheme as reported in the Hindustan Times dated June 16, 2005;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the manner in which the government plans to rehabilitate such a large number of persons?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO) : (a) to (c) Under a technical assistance agreement with the Asian Development Bank, a national sample survey was conducted to study the income, expenditure and savings behaviour of the Indian labour force. Invest India Economic Foundation, an independent consultant, has intimated that their findings are based on an analysis of this date. The Government is implementing National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) for the poor. One of the components of the NSAP is National Old Age Pension Scheme. Almost all State Governments are implementing the scheme which has provision for payment of pension to old persons.

Monsoon Tourism

188. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA :

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Confederation of Indian Industry has proposed promoting monsoon tourism to provide a fillip to the industry;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government to promote monsoon tourism?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and

(b) A National Conference on Tourism "The Monsoon India" was organised by the Confederation of Indian Industry on 16th July 2005 at New Delhi. The proposal to promote Monsoon Tourism in various States in a coordinated manner was the theme of the conference.

(c) Ministry of Tourism promotes India as a year round destination by highlighting several tourism products including Monsoon destinations.

Earnings from Tourism

189. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD :

SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP :

SHRI ANIRUDH PRASAD ALIAS SADHU YADAV :

SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH :

SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the foreign exchange earnings from tourism sector has decreased considerably during the last three years in comparison to the currency gone abroad, like-wise;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is aware that higher grade foreign tourists shy away from visiting our country;

(d) if so, whether infrastructure like roads, hotel facility, etc. are the primary reason for this;

(e) if so, whether the Government has formulated any policy to attract more foreign tourists and discourage frivolous trips by Indians abroad; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) No, Sir. As per the information compiled and received from the Reserve Bank of India, earnings from tourism have increased, on an average, by about 17% during the period 2002-03 to 2004-05. However, travel payments due to

outbound tourism from India have grown, on an average, by about 24% during the same period.

(b) Receipts and Payments from Travel, as compiled by Reserve Bank of India, for the last 3 years are as follows:-

(In US \$ Million)

Year	Receipts	Payments
2002-03	3312	3341
2003-04	4122	3511
2004-05	5029	5526

(c) and (d) Despite the fact that India is a long-haul destination, there is shortage of hotel accommodation, particularly during the peak tourist season and road connectivity to many destinations is not upto the mark, there are various factors which motivate foreign tourists, including higher grade tourists, to visit India like its vast bounties of nature; its great treasures of art, architecture and philosophical thoughts; its rich cultural heritage; its rural and wildlife and practices of Yoga, Siddha, Ayurveda and Unani Systems of dealing with physical and mental ailments; etc. This is reflected from the increase in foreign tourist arrivals witnessed in the recent years.

(e) and (f) The Government of India has taken a number of steps to attract foreign and domestic tourists. These include:-

- Improving the tourist infrastructure at important destinations/circuits;
- Focusing on growth of hotel infrastructure particularly budget hotels;
- Enhancing connectivity through augmentation of air capacity and improving road infrastructure to major tourist attractions;

- Direct approach to the consumers through Electronic and print media through the "Incredible India" Campaign;
- Creation of World Class Collaterals;
- Centralized Electronic Media Campaign;
- Direct co-operative marketing with tour operators and wholesalers overseas;
- Greater focus in the emerging markets, particularly in the region of China, North East Asia and South East Asia;
- Participation in Trade Fairs and Exhibitions;
- Optimizing Editorial PR and Publicity;
- Use of internet and web marketing;
- Generating Tourist Publications;
- Re-inforcing hospitality programmes including grant of air passages to invite media personnel and tour operators on familiarization tours to India to get first hand knowledge on various tourism products; and
- Launching of Road Shows in key source markets of Europe.

[Translation]

Incomplete Irrigation Projects

190. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether despite spending the crores of rupees, many irrigation projects in States are lying incomplete due to negligence of State Governments as appearing in Dainik Jagran dated May 31, 2005;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto alongwith names of States where projects are pending;

(c) whether the Union Government has taken any steps to curb the misuse of Central assistance for irrigation projects; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) Irrigation being a State subject the irrigation projects are planned formulated, executed and funded by the State Governments out of their own resources and as per their priorities. As on 1-4-2004 there are 169 major and 219 medium ongoing irrigation projects as detailed in statement-I which have spilled over from Ninth Five Year Plan to Tenth Five Year Plan. The Central Government launched the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) during 1996-97 to provide Central Loan Assistance (CLA) to accelerate completion of approved ongoing major/medium irrigation projects in the country which are in an advanced stage of completion and beyond

the resources capability of States. Under this programme CLA/grant of Rs. 17120.82 crore has been provided for 184 major/medium irrigation projects in 24 States upto March, 2005. With the assistance provided 40 projects have been completed. The Dainik Jagran dated 31st May, 2005 has cited the report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March, 2003 which mentioned that some States have diverted funds to activities not connected with the AIBP. The names of the States and the amount diverted are enclosed as statement-II.

(c) and (d) The Union Government modified the programme in 2003 to address various lacunae which have come to light since inception of the programme. The corrective measures adopted include that the State Government has to release the assistance to the project authorities within 15 days of its release by the Government of India and submit quarterly progress reports regarding physical and financial progress to review the achievements from time to time.

Statement-I

(Rs. Crore/Th. ha.)

Sl. No	Name of State	Number of Projects			Latest Estimated Cost		Balance cost as on 1.4.2004 (Anticipated)		Balance Potential as on 1.4.2004 (Anticipated)	
		Major	Medium	Total	Major	Medium	Major	Medium	Major	Medium
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	15	9	24	17593.75	481.28	8444.49	134.51	655.64	50.44
2.	Assam	5	5	10	1677.54	163.34	1284.12	60.63	123.78	13.17
3.	Bihar	9	3	12	4444.61	180.21	2237.84	66.32	667.36	11.97
4.	Chhattisgarh	3	5	8	1742.16	190.17	236.57	113.46	126.24	31.99
5.	Goa	1	0	1	966.56	0.00	464.95	0.00	13.68	0.00
6.	Gujarat	3	18	21	31118.35	843.44	14453.64	252.49	1575.84	62.68

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
7.	Haryana	4	0	4	962.13	0.00	191.31	0.00	86.00	0.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1	2	3	203.84	84.73	121.55	74.00	23.80	8.24
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	7	7	0.00	226.30	0.00	83.23	0.00	24.21
10.	Jharkhand	5	19	24	4670.05	1077.94	3246.62	656.55	418.57	83.54
11.	Karnataka	16	18	34	19175.60	1363.25	7232.26	329.92	750.93	53.76
12.	Kerala	4	4	8	1884.80	724.00	600.78	487.77	106.51	28.13
13.	Madhya Pradesh	16	5	21	17777.83	218.80	11682.48	164.52	1577.85	46.61
14.	Maharashtra	56	95	151	32543.65	7151.91	17683.61	3204.22	1917.26	403.54
15.	Manipur	2	1	3	639.22	63.10	230.56	37.02	44.40	7.54
16.	Meghalaya	0	1	1	0.00	57.07	0.00	34.48	0.00	5.15
17.	Orissa	10	10	20	6504.12	674.40	3413.95	210.67	472.89	29.17
18.	Punjab	1	0	1	1324.18	0.00	1196.09	0.00	0.00	0.00
19.	Rajasthan	4	4	8	6497.19	366.76	2346.45	20.27	386.54	12.12
20.	Tamil Nadu	0	2	2	0.00	105.36	0.00	19.24	0.00	7.19
21.	Tripura	0	3	3	0.00	178.00	0.00	40.39	0.00	23.42
22.	Uttaranchal	3	0	3	5334.11	0.00	5081.03	0.00	290.60	0.00
23.	Uttar Pradesh	9	0	9	7534.32	0.00	3286.93	0.00	1440.28	0.00
24.	West Bengal	2	8	10	2663.34	65.08	1666.92	22.55	516.76	4.03
Total		169	219	388	165257.35	14215.14	85102.15	6012.24	11194.73	906.9

Statement-II

Sl. No.	Name of State	Amount (Rs. crore)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1.87

1	2	3
2.	Bihar	30.55
3.	Chhattisgarh	1.60
4.	Gujarat	8.23

1	2	3
5.	Haryana	44.74
6.	Jammu and Kashmir	29.15
7.	Karnataka	22.08
8.	Kerala	0.36
9.	Madhya Pradesh	195.37
10.	Maharashtra	366.97
11.	Orisa	3.94
12.	Punjab	0.50
13.	Rajasthan	27.19
14.	Uttar Pradesh	7.54
15.	West Bengal	1.25
Total		741.34

**Grants Received from
Voluntary Organizations**

191. SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL :
SHRI V.K. THUMMAR :

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

(a) the names of the voluntary organizations
receiving grants from the Government for protection of
environment;

(b) the amount of grants provided to various
voluntary organisations for this purpose during the last
three years:

(c) the details of the items of work for which grants
have been provided during the last three years;

(d) whether the Government has conducted any

inquiry into the works executed by these voluntary
organisation; and

(e) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN
MEENA) : (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will
be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Land Acquired by POSCO in Orissa

192. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK : Will the Minister of
STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the land proposed to be acquired
by POSCO for its steel plant in Orissa;

(b) the number of people likely to be displaced
thereby;

(c) the rate at which compensation is likely to be
paid;

(d) whether acquisition of land by POSCO has been
represented against by certain organisations;

(e) if so, the details thereof and reasons there for
alongwith the action taken/proposed in this regard;

(f) the approximate quantum of iron ore required by
POSCO; and

(g) the status of permission given/proposed to be
given to POSCO as regards its level of consumption of iron
ore?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) :

(a) The company will require approximately 4000 acres of
land for the steel project and associated facilities, including
port facilities and a storage yard for coking coal. In addition,
the company will also require approximately 2000 acres
of land for township development and all related social

infrastructure development activities. In addition to the land required for the core activities of the overall project, the company may require additional land pockets for development of the transportation project, the water project and any other project-related infrastructure facilities.

(b) The number of people likely to be displaced will only be known when POSCO files a formal requisition for land.

(c) Compensation will be paid as per the prevailing rehabilitation and re-settlement policy of the Government of Orissa.

(d) Since acquisition has not yet begun, the question of any representation against acquisition does not arise.

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

(f) As per the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the State Government of Orissa and POSCO, the company will need 600 million tonnes of iron ore for their proposed steel plant of 12 million tonnes per annum capacity for a period of 30 years.

(g) The company has not yet filed an application for allotment of iron ore mines.

Defaulting Units/Establishments

193. SHRI MADAN LAL SHARMA :

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of defaulting units/establishments detected by Provident Fund authorities as on date alongwith total amount involved therein, State-wise;

(b) the details of defaulting units/establishments against whom action was taken during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the names of the establishments against whom recoveries of more than Rs. one crore are pending as on date; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken against such units?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO) : (a) As on 31.03.2005, the number of defaulting establishments was 96,978 involving a sum of Rs. 211526.80 lakhs as default towards provident fund. Region-wise details are enclosed as statement-I.

(b) Action for recovery of dues is taken invariably against all the defaulting establishments. Region-wise details of action taken during the last three years are given at statement-II enclosed.

(c) The details are enclosed as statement-III.

(d) Recovery of outstanding Provident Fund dues is effected in accordance with the provisions of the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952. This includes attachment and sale of properties, arrest and detention of defaulters, appointment of receiver to manage the defaulters' properties.

Statement-I

Region-wise Details of Defaulting Establishments

Sl. No.	Region	No. of defaulting establishments	Amount in default (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	16507	12137.68
2.	Bihar	1965	4879.30
3.	Chhattisgarh	1702	1048.11
4.	Delhi	3434	6558.13

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
5. Goa		502	333.88	14. N.E.Region		2085	4628.12
6. Gujarat		733	5518.23	15. Orissa		2850	11859.00
7. Haryana		979	6175.51	16. Punjab		16364	5789.88
8. Himachal Pradesh		70	395.11	17. Rajasthan		3909	3638.95
9. Jharkhand		266	12341.20	18. Tamil Nadu		5570	19268.87
10. Karnataka		5948	12537.67	19. Uttaranchal		1908	4277.33
11. Kerala		1966	9378.35	20. Uttar Pradesh		12805	14845.46
12. Madhya Pradesh		3019	11583.02	21. West Bengal		3419	39825.30
13. Maharastra		10977	24507.70	Total		96978	211526.80

Statement-II

*Coercive actions taken against defaulters during
the last three years—2002 to 2005*

Sl. No.	Region	Prosecution u/s. 14	Police Complaint u/s. 406/409 IPC	Attachment of bank accounts	Attachment of properties
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	646	94	10814	295
2.	Bihar	182	6	406	0
3.	Chhattisgarh	907	8	318	0
4.	Delhi	18	9	88	12
5.	Goa	769	99	1350	3
6.	Gujarat	141	59	1471	63
7.	Haryana	204	44	898	5
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	56	0

1	2	3	4	5	6
9.	Jharkhand	475	1	694	1
10.	Karnataka	3134	455	2926	50
11.	Kerala	4112	1460	2098	394
12.	Maharashtra	537	53	1563	195
13.	Madhya Pradesh	98	76	1057	147
14.	N-E Region	0	41	892	80
15.	Orissa	830	103	2273	116
16.	Punjab	1079	89	2430	23
17.	Rajasthan	184	38	1822	8
18.	Tamil Nadu	3508	2420	10534	970
19.	Uttaranchal	36	6	73	4
20.	Uttar Pradesh	13	19	1497	76
21.	West Bengal	2809	784	3106	185
Total		18390	5864	46366	2627

Statement-III

List of defaulting Establishments Rs. One crore and Above as on 31.3.2005

**[Including Provident Fund, Pension and EDLI Contribution,
Administration Charges and Penal Damages]**

Sl. No.	Office	Code No.	Name of the Establishment	Amount in default (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
ANDHRA PRADESH				
1.	Guntur	1184	Panyam Cements and Minerals Industries Ltd., Kurnool Dist.	658.63

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Guntur	2	Nellimaria Jute Mills	610.04
3.	Hyderabad	144	Praga Tools Limited	385.56
4.	Guntur	370	Sarvaraya Textiles, Rajamundry	269.82
5.	Hyderabad	3071	HMT Ltd. (Machine Tools Div.)	253.88
6.	Hyderabad	26391	Allwyn Watches Ltd., Modak Distt.	238.25
7.	Hyderabad	11898	Adilabad Cotton Grovers Coop. Spg. Mills Ltd., Adilabad	224.96
8.	Guntur	294	G.N. Products Pvt. Ltd., Kurnool Distt.	211.61
9.	Guntur	22041	Chittor Distt. Milk Producers Coop. Union Ltd., Chittor	201.85
10.	Guntur	2814	Sarvaraya Textiles Ltd.	194.31
11.	Guntur	19888	Parkins Textiles Ltd., Chittor Distt.	129.16
12.	Guntur	23	Rayalacemma Mills Ltd., Kurnool Distt.	115.53
Total				3493.60

BIHAR

1.		2806	Bihar Rajya Sahkari Bhumi Vikas Bank, Patna	2399.55
2.		3	N.J.M.C Katihar	271.19
3.		1806	Bihar State Electricity Board	223.65
4.		20 and 2226	Kalyanpur Cement Ltd.	215.07
5.		290	Newspapers and Publications, Patna	195.03
6.		3256	Ashok Paper Mill	173.77
7.		3481	Bihar Rajya Beej Nigam	161.68
Total				3639.94

CHHATTISGARH

1.		1681	Kedia Castle and Dellon Ind., Kumhari	174.57
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1	2	3	4	5
2.	6482	Kedia Distilleries, Bhilai		143.73
Total				318.30

DELHI

1.	Delhi-North	171	DTC	1820.86
2.	Delhi-North	7413	Gas Authority of India	1581.61
3.	Delhi-North	2271	Food Corporation of India	259.62
4.	Delhi-North	4831	SEWA International	251.36
5.	Delhi-North	1091	Pure Drinks (New Delhi) Ltd.	238.60
6.	Delhi-North	10148	Elbee Services P. Ltd.	129.20
7.	Delhi-North	24673	Stylish Fabricators	124.38
8.	Delhi-North	17946	DSS Mobile Commission Ltd.	101.35
9.	Delhi-South	8076	Altos India Ltd.	177.33
Total				4684.31

GUJARAT

1.	Ahmedabad	353	M/s. Mahendra Mill, Kalol, Gandhinagar	202.51
2.	Ahmedabad	4471	M/s. S.L.M. Manekia, Vatva, Ahmedabad	196.02
3.	Ahmedabad	264	M/s. The Ahmedabad Kaiser-e-Hind Mill, Raipur Gate, Ahmedabad	176.59
4.	Ahmedabad	4514	M/s. T. Maniklal, Vatve	123.23
5.	Surat	1383	M/s. Baroda Rayon Corporation Ltd.	456.46
6.	Surat	1045	Sarabhai Chemicals, Baroda	294.24
7.	Surat	9269	M/s. L.D. Textile Industries Ltd.	120.60
8.	Ahmedabad	1003	M/s. Parshuram Pottery Works	131.42
Total				1701.07

1	2	3	4	5
HIMACHAL PRADESH				
1.	10429	Sidhartha Super Spg. Mills Ltd. Solan		100.35
Total				100.35
HARYANA				
1.	16166	HUDA, Panchkula		2529.80
2.	286	M/s. Jhalani Tools		571.00
3.	1061	HMT Ltd.		488.46
4.	2058	Haryana Sheet Glass		198.70
5.	954	Rollatainers Ltd.		145.32
6.	1152	Jhalani Tools		105.71
Total				4038.99s
JHARKHAND				
1.	1465	Heavy Engineering Corporation		9890.35
2.	16	M/s. Khatari Cement Ltd, Ranchi		333.66
3.	2203	MECON India		288.40
4.	6562	M/s. Jenson and Nicholson India Ltd.		272.73
5.	11055	M/s. Jharkhand State, Forest Dev. Corporation		200.88
6.	935	M/s. R and D Centre for Iron and Steel		159.70
7.	5152	M/s. Sri Ram Needle Ltd.		158.60
8.	422	IAG Company Limited		132.31
9.	2630	M/s. Daltonganj Central Co-operative Bank Ltd.		118.54
10.	1230	Indian Firebricks Insulator Company Ltd.		110.66
Total				11665.83

1	2	3	4	5
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KARNATAKA

1.	Bangalore	873A	HMT Watch Factory	2571.54
2.	Bangalore	6820	Karnataka Handloom Development Corpn.	2036.30
3.	Bangalore	873	HMT Machine Tools	1100.64
4.	Mangalore	2260	Ideal Jawa India Ltd.	1068.52
5.	Bangalore	873E	HMT Corporate Office	548.86
6.	Bangalore	44	Mysore Lamps	338.69
7.	Bangalore	970	Mysore Minerals	184.72
8.	Bangalore	1	Binny Mills Ltd.	113.97
9.	Mangalore	154	HMP Cements	110.90
10.	Bangalore	2853	Karnataka Agro Industries	109.27
11.	Bangalore	13490	Victory Glass and Industries	102.51
Total				8285.92

KERALA

1.	68	Manjumallay Estate, Ram Bahadur Thakur Ltd., Idukky Dist.	253.45
2.	270	Thungamally Estate, Ram Bahadur Thakur Ltd., Idukky Dist.	225.84
3.	12344	Keltron Equipment Complex Special Products	209.18
4.	16	Travancore Rayons Ltd., Ernakulam	197.44
5.	622	Travancore Plywoods Ltd., Punalur, Kollam Dist.	188.87
6.	267	Pambanar Estate, Ram Bahadur Thakur Ltd., Idukky Dist.	184.47
7.	67	Kozhikanam Estate, Ram Bahadur Thakur Ltd., Idukky Dist	170.69
8.	2985	The Kerala Agro Industries Corporation Ltd.	163.79
9.	2568	Madras Spinners Ltd., Palakkad	162.80

1	2	3	4	5
10.	294	Pasumallay Estate, Ram Bahadur Thakur Ltd., Idukky Dist.		159.24
11.	266	Thengakkal Estate, Ram Bahadur Thakur Ltd., Idukky Dist.		152.83
12.	268	Granbdy Estate, Ram Bhadur Thakur Ltd., Idukky Dist.		151.15
13.	15	Aluminium Industries Ltd., Kundara		145.67
14.	2638	Thiruvepathy Mills Ltd., Kannur		138.24
15.	10160	Autocast Ltd. Cherthalai, Alleppey		131.60
16.	3110	Mount Estate, Ram Bahadur Thakur Ltd., Idukky Dist.		115.46
17.	390	Bonacaud Estate, Trivandrum		111.41
Total				2862.13

MAHARASHTRA

1.	Mumbai-II	1654	Ralliwolf Ltd.	617.72
2.	Pune	1459	Hindustan Antibiotics Ltd.	483.90
3.	Nagpur	80393	Marathwada Agricultural University	418.11
4.	Pune	348	Laxmi Vishnu Textile Mills Ltd.	389.87
5.	Mumbai-I	9264	Carona Ltd.	381.09
6.	Nagpur	15491	Vasant Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd.	326.21
7.	Pune	11718	Kolhapur Zilha Shetkari Vinkari Sah. Soot Girani Ltd.	314.15
8.	Nagpur	21949	Godawari Manar S S K Ltd.	272.21
9.	Mumbai-I	93	Bradbury Mills Ltd.	272.12
10.	Nagpur	18279	Vinayak S S K Ltd.	269.88
11.	Nagpur	80005	Gajanan S S K Ltd.	265.37
12.	Nagpur	60244	Balaji Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd.	260.98
13.	Nagpur	18982	Ambajogai S S K Ltd.	239.79

1	2	3	4	5
14.	Pune	3746	Vasantdada Shetkari Sahkari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd.	235.06
15.	Nagpur	19443	Jhalani Tools Ltd.	222.54
16.	Nagpur	15480	Satpuda Tapi Parisar Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana	220.88
17.	Nagpur	3771	Gangapur S S K Ltd.	214.68
18.	Nagpur	36194	Jaina S S K Ltd.	193.34
19.	Pune	37877	Tuljabhawani S S K Ltd.	181.01
20.	Nagpur	18166	Kannad S S K Ltd.	175.10
21.	Nagpur	19479	Marathwada Sahkari Sakhar Kharkhana Ltd.	174.95
22.	Pune	32889	P I Rachkar and Company	174.10
23.	Nagpur	13350	Panzarkan Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd.	169.59
24.	Nagpur	80683	Patil Construction	166.28
25.	Pune	12644	Yeshwant Saha Soot Girni	162.76
26.	Pune	13506	Vasantdada Co-op. Spinning Mills Ltd.	157.34
27.	Nagpur	22194	Sant Eknath Sahkari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd.	147.51
28.	Mumbai-I	101	Hindustan Spg. and Wvg. Mills	146.95
29.	Mumbai-II	1492	Indian Day Stuff Industries (Novinon Ltd.)	144.54
30.	Nagpur	22493	Maharashtra Antibiotics and Pharma Ltd.	133.62
31.	Pune	29122	Manganga Sahkari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd.	132.17
32.	Mumbai-I	5291	Kamani Tubes	129.08
33.	Nagpur	21403	Kade S S K Ltd.	128.12
34.	Pune	29634	Tasgaon Sah. Sakhar Karkhana Ltd.	121.55
35.	Mumbai-I	415	Shree Sitaram Mills Ltd.	120.22
36.	Pune	11482	Solapur Vinkar Sahakari Soor. Girni	114.31
37.	Pune	998	New Phaltan Sugar Works	110.24

1	2	3	4	5
38. Pune	29088	Yashwant Sah. Sakhar Karkhana Ltd.		104.91
39. Mumbai-I	4395	Navinon Ltd.		100.63
Total				8592.89

MADHYA PRADESH

1.	1267	MPSRTC, Bairagarh	920.16
2.	225	MPSRTC, Gwalior	661.68
3.	11	Binod Mills Ltd. Ujjain	599.96
4.	2070	Shree Sunthetics, Ujjain	515.76
5.	264	MPSRTC, Jabalpur	501.20
6.	4044	MPSRTC, Ujjain	489.67
7.	4046	MPSRTC, Rewa	427.45
8.	1143	MPSRTC, Indpre	420.18
9.	5416	MPSRTC, Khargaon	271.90
10.	3839	Indore Development Authority Industries	267.35
11.	1378	MPSRTC, Bhopal	239.68
12.	5417	MPSRTC, Seoni	220.73
13.	3982	G.S.I.T.S. Indore	186.47
14.	11A	Binod Mills Ltd., Ujjain	181.45
15.	4	Rajkumar Mills Indore	180.53
16.	1382	M.P. Hath Kargha Bunkar Sah S. Jbi.	163.52
17.	229	MPSRTC, Gwalior	131.82
18.	79	Burn Standard Co., Jabalpur	114.48
19.	2663	Jayant Vitamins, Ratlam	102.68
Total			6596.67

1	2	3	4	5
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NORTH EASTERN REGION

1.	1874	Assam Polyester Co-operative Society Ltd., Guwahati	350.91
2.	830	Meghalaya Transport Corporation, Shillong	339.70
3.	1366	Assam Small Minor Irrigation Development Corporation, Guwahati	320.51
4.	1339	Tripura Jute Mills Ltd., Tripura	294.98
5.	1268	St. Anthony's College, Shillong	286.31
6.	613	Assam State Co-op. Marketing and Consumers Federation Ltd. (STATFED)	230.69
7.	403	Assam Small Industries Development Corporation, Guwahati	188.78
8.	923	Assam Plantation Crops, Guwahati	181.88
9.	922	Fertichem Ltd.	175.13
10.	746	Presbyterian Church Synod Hospital	158.95
11.	518	Assam Agro Ind.	151.43
12.	741	Tripura Road Transport Corporation, Tripura	120.69
13.	886	Assam Tea Corporation, Guwahati	105.44
14.	219	Brahmaputra Sugar Mill, Baruah Bamun Gaon, Golaghat Distt.	102.71
Total			3008.11

ORISSA

1.	1	Orissa Textile Mills	1027.85
2.	439	Orissa Industries Ltd.	957.83
3.	1690	Bhubneswar Dev. Authority	664.46
4.	87	OSRTC	622.88
5.	917	OWCS Mill	474.59
6.	1833	Kalinga WCS Mills	465.63

1	2	3	4	5
7.		655	Bhaskar Textile Mills	438.27
8.		5649	Orissa Power Generation Corporation	364.67
9.		700	Orissa Agro Industries	272.22
10.		347	Hirakud Indl. Works.	255.35
11.		3164	Sonepur Spinning Mills	172.94
12.		3464	G.C. Shah	146.74
13.		8 and 107	OCL	134.55
14.		3115	Baripade Spinning Mill	130.78
15.		1361	OSRTC	111.35
16.		2063	Utkal Weaver's Co-op. Spinning Mills	108.56
17.		3121	IDCOL Piping and Engineering	100.39
Total				6449.06

PUNJAB

1.	Chandigarh	4715	Punwire, Mohali	414.47
2.	Chandigarh	12777	FCI, FSD, Rajpura, Patiala	110.11
Total				524.58

RAJASTHAN

1.		5723	Awas Vikas Sansthan, Jaipur	1176.56
2.		3962	Perfect Thread Mills, Udaipur	215.08
3.		5	Jaipur Metal and Electricals Ltd., Jaipur	177.60
4.		2993	RSRDCC Ltd.	120.20
5.		4195	Tirupati Fibres Industries Ltd., Sirohi	116.62
Total				1806.06

1	2	3	4	5
TAMIL NADU				
1. Coimbatore	153	Sree Uma Parameswari Mills Ltd		318.13
2. Madurai	6357	Swamiji Mills Ltd.		309.26
3. Coimbatore	128	Akilandeswari Mills Ltd.		289.90
4. Madurai	2133	South India Co-op. Spinning Mills Ltd.		289.30
5. Coimbatore	5562	M/s. Karur Dist, Co-op. Spinning Mills		282.46
6. Coimbatore	5531	M/s. Nagapattinam Dist Co-op. Spinning Mills		245.04
7. Coimbatore	8400	Kongarar Spinners		228.43
8. Coimbatore	16681	Uma Maheswari Mills Ltd.		221.20
9. Madurai	7130	Seyadu Beedi Company		204.09
10. Madurai	159	Mahalakshmi Mills Ltd., Pasumalai, Madurai		183.69
11. Madurai	861	Sri Visalakshmi Mills (P) Ltd.		177.08
12. Madurai	20905	Viswabharathi Textiles (P) Ltd.		175.92
13. Chennai	8427	TN Civil Supplies Corporation		174.75
14. Coimbatore	6091	Arcot Textile Mills		170.70
15. Madurai	2298	Sitalakshmi Mills Ltd., Thirunagar, Madurai		170.58
16. Madurai	11266	Venkateswara Paper and Boards Ltd.		168.92
17. Coimbatore	6517	Salem Textiles Ltd.		160.77
18. Madurai	5610	Kanyakumari District Co-op. Spinning Mills Ltd.		151.83
19. Madurai	3926	Tiruchendur Coop. Spinning Mills Ltd.		150.60
20. Madurai	20567	Ramanathapuram District Co-operative Spinning Mills Ltd.		149.37
21. Madurai	1115 B	Annamalaiyar Textiles (P) Ltd.		145.33
22. Madurai	5518	Madurai Co-op. Spinning Mills		141.04

1	2	3	4	5
23.	Coimbatore	55	Coimbatore Pioneer Mills	140.40
24.	Coimbatore	1038	Coimbatore Pioneer Mills	129.59
25.	Coimbatore	3179	Trichirapalli Consumers Co-op. Whole Sale Stores Ltd.	127.15
26.	Chennai	4981	Sree Saraswathi Mills	123.39
27.	Chennai	19769	Dunlop India Ltd.	119.62
28.	Madurai	1707	Sheela Rani Taxtiles Ltd., Thennur	118.21
29.	Madurai	861-A	Sri Visalakshmi Mills (P) Ltd.	116.63
30.	Madurai	935	Geethanjali Mills Ltd	116.29
31.	Chennai	19937	K. Abdul Azeez and Sons	109.80
32.	Madurai	3115	Srivilliputhur Coop. Spinning Mills Ltd., Madurai	109.68
33.	Chennai	31	Binny Engineering Ltd.	107.37
34.	Chennai	4683	Chennai Petro Chemical Ltd.	103.94
35.	Chennai	23718	Kilburn Electricals Ltd.	102.70
36.	Coimbatore	8132	Sam Turbo Industry Ltd.	101.60
Total				6130.76

UTTAR PRADESH

1.	4049	Duncans Industries, Kanpur	788.30
2.	5384	UP Electronics Corporation Ltd., Lucknow	748.85
3.	423	UP State Cement Corpn., Churkij	482.56
4.	423	UP State Cement, Sonebhadra	482.55
5.	4427	UP State Cement Corporation Ltd., Sonebhadra	434.60
6.	4427	UP State Cement Corpn., Allahabad	434.60
7.	338	Allahabad Patrika Pvt. Ltd.	426.85

1	2	3	4	5
8.	203	Ayodhya Sugar Mill, Moradabad		400.64
9.	6918, 6946, 784, 4805, 791, 792	UPSRTC (5 units)		303.76
10.	1189	UPICA, Kanpur		297.18
11.	14436	Uttar Pradesh Sahkari Katai Mill, Amroha		283.56
12.	13852	Betwa River Board, Lalitpur		274.46
13.	4572	Kisan Sahkari Chini Mill		209.12
14.	856	UPSRTC, Moradabad		195.41
15.	14182	Rajendra Steels Ltd., Kanpur		176.52
16.	526	UPSSC, Bhatni, Deoria		169.68
17.	7493	Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd., Jhansi		160.25
18.	5384	UP Electronics Corporation, Lucknow		157.66
19.	843	UPSRTC, Azamgarh		153.71
20.	795	UPSRTC, Workshop, Agra		143.48
21.	933	UPSRTC, Bareilly		136.38
22.	1151	Synthetic and Chemical Ltd., Bareilly		132.63
23.	11399	Nagina Sahakari Katai Mills, Bijnor		131.96
24.	6156	Kisan Sahkari Chini Mill		131.01
25.	513	UPSRTC, Varanasi		125.92
26.	797	UPSRTC, Aligarh		116.04
27.	495	Sitapur Plywood, Sitapur		115.25
28.	14779	Arhint Industries, Bulandsahar		115.10
29.	4136	Indian Telephone Industries, Naini, Allahabad		109.59
30.	5525	UPSRTC, Sahibabad (Ghaziabad)		105.81

1	2	3	4	5
31.		176	UP State Sugar Corporation, Hardoi	104.30
32.		735	UPSRTC, Meerut	100.83
Total				8148.56

UTTARANCHAL

1.		1261	ONGC Ltd.	2166.58
2.		14072	HMT Watch Factory	583.00
3.		1281	UPSRTC, Dehradun	284.11
4.		32512	Nagar Nigam Dehradun	172.41
5.		16927	Cristal Credit	101.36
Total				3307.46

WEST BENGAL

1.	Kolkata	78 and 10839	NJMC (National)	3372.82
2.	Kolkata	36 and 47	The nuddea Mills Co. Ltd	2442.00
3.	Kolkata	49, 51 and 5529	New Central Jute Mill Co. Ltd.	2164.39
4.	Kolkata	48, 55	NJMC (Kinnison)	2012.33
5.	Kolkata	11, 43	NJMC (Khardah)	1714.25
6.	Kolkata	338	Titaghur Jute Mill No. 2	1271.71
7.	Kolkata	32	Hooghly Jute Mills (Hukumchand Jute Mill)	1214.28
8.	Kolkata	46	NJMC (Alexandra)	1133.74
9.	Kolkata	97	Kanoria Jute and Inds. Ltd.	948.34
10.	Kolkata	64	The Samnuggur Jute Factory Co. Ltd.	939.51
11.	Kolkata	62 and 71	Victoria Jute Co. Ltd.	874.74
12.	Kolkata	8	NJMC (Union)	868.97

1	2	3	4	5
13.	Kolkata	63	Angus Jute Works	763.38
14.	Kolkata	375	Gondalpara Jute Mills	642.98
15.	Kolkata	2, 27 and 40	Baranagore Jute Factory	625.88
16.	Kolkata	7 and 25	The Gouripore Co. Ltd.	548.15
17.	Kolkata	35	Meghna Jute Mills	536.84
18.	Kolkata	23	Kelvin Jute Mill	469.06
19.	Kolkata	542	Central Cotton Mill	456.37
20.	Kolkata	37	Agarpara Jute Mills Ltd.	422.18
21.	Kolkata	1267	Amrita Bazar Patrika	418.00
22.	Kolkata	11732	SBSTC	406.54
23.	Kolkata	89A	Auckland International Ltd. (Ambica Jute Mills)	353.52
24.	Kolkata	26232	National Thermal Power Corp.,	340.00
25.	Kolkata	9608	SCIL India Ltd.	331.51
26.	Kolkata	4	Hooghly Mills Co. Ltd.	315.47
27.	Kolkata	1 and 24	Budge Budge Co. Ltd.	296.96
28.	Kolkata	16165	Favourite Small Investments Ltd.	292.09
29.	Kolkata	1266	Statesman Ltd.	284.66
30.	Kolkata	1651	Hindsutan Cables Ltd.	267.44
31.	Kolkata	26	The Empire Jute Co. Ltd.	267.07
32.	Kolkata	30	Hooghly Mill Co. Ltd. (Wevarty Jute Mills)	256.93
33.	Kolkata	28	Caledonian Jute and Industries	241.17
34.	Kolkata	1630	Eastern Paper Mills Ltd.	227.01
35.	Kolkata	716	Dunlop India Ltd.	221.05
36.	Kolkata	57, 61	India Jute Mills	207.72

1	2	3	4	5
37. Kolkata	118	Bowreah Cotton Mill Co. Ltd		204.06
38. Kolkata	12201	Indo Japan Steels Ltd.		188.80
39. Kolkata	3405 and 11543	Electro Steel Casting Ltd.		174.96
40. Kolkata	15	Kanknarrah Co. Ltd.		173.45
41. Kolkata	12646	Alloy Steel Mech. Corp.		148.32
42. Jalpaiguri	694	Kalchini TE		141.60
43. Kolkata	9744	Wool Comers of (I) Ltd.		131.16
44. Kolkata	12317	Eastend Paper (P) Ltd.		131.02
45. Kolkata	28546	Star Security and Detective Agency		129.78
46. Kolkata	9152	Holman Climax Mfg. Ltd.		117.52
47. Jalpaiguri	670	Raimatang TE		107.50
48. Kolkata	593	Small Tools Mfg. Co. (I) Ltd.		102.73
Total				29906.96
GRAND TOTAL				115261.55

**Assistance to Maharashtra
Maritime Board**

194. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Maharashtra Maritime Board, Mumbai has sent any proposal to the Union Government for grant of assistance worth Rs. 195 crore; and

(b) if so, by when the assistance is likely to be released to the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The Maharashtra Maritime Board submitted a

proposal for an estimated cost of Rs. 195.50 crore in July 2002 for inclusion in the proposed National Coastal Protection Project (NCPP).

(b) As the NCPP has been planned for seeking external funding, an approach paper on coastal protection has been prepared and submitted to the Planning Commission. Planning Commission has taken up matter with Department of Economic Affairs (DEA) for exploring the possibility of getting external funding.

**Environment Clearance for
Dholera Port Project**

195. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Gujarat Marine Board has requested the Ministry for clearance of Dholera Port Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal received for prior environmental clearance envisages construction of an all weather port in the Gulf of Khambhat in Gujarat for handling coal, other bulk cargo etc.

(c) As per extant procedure, the proposal can be given environmental clearance after appraisal by the Expert Committee on Infrastructure Development and Miscellaneous Projects. The Committee has already appraised the proposal and has recently recommended the project, subject to furnishing of requisite clarifications by the proponents to the Ministry.

[Translation]

Bank Loan to Farmers

196. DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether 29 per cent farmers of the country are still dependent on private sector for loans because agricultural loans from public sector are not easily available;

(b) if not, the facts thereabout;

(c) whether the government has made certain arrangements under anytime-bound scheme to end the dependence of farmers on the private sector;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) if so, the details of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. Pursuant to the Government of India announcement of 18th June, 2004 for providing relief to the indebted farmers, the banks have been permitted to advance loans to the farmers who face acute distress because of the heavy burden of debt from non-institutional lenders. Under this scheme, banks have extended loans of Rs. 57 crores to 16.758 farmers upto 31 March, 2005.

[English]

Arrival of Foreign Tourists

197. SHRI JUAL ORAM :

SHRI NAVJOT SINGH SIDHU :

SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI :

SHRI RAJENDER KUMAR :

SHRI RAKESH SINGH :

SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the inflow of foreign tourists of India has considerably increased this year;

(b) if so, the number of tourists visited India, State-wise, till-date;

(c) whether the Government has adopted any strategy to increase foreign tourists arrival during Tenth Plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof particularly the specific steps taken to develop infrastructure during Tenth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per the information received from the State Governments/UT Administrations, the foreign tourist visits to different States is estimated at 8296983 as against 6716479 in the year 2003, showing an increase of about 24%. A statement giving the number of visits of foreign tourists to different States/Union Territories during the years 2003 and 2004 is enclosed.

(c) and (d) The Government has taken up a number of steps to increase foreign tourist arrivals to India like:-

- Creation of World Class Collaterals;
- Centralized Electronic Media Campaign;
- Direct co-operative marketing with tour operators and wholesalers overseas;
- Greater focus in the emerging markets, particularly in the region of China, North East Asia and South East Asia;
- Participation in Trade Fairs and Exhibitions;
- Optimizing Editorial PR and Publicity;
- Use of Internet and web marketing;
- Generating Tourist Publications;
- Re-inforcing hospitality programmes including grant of air passages to invite media personnel and tour operators on familiarization tours to India to get first hand knowledge on various tourism products;
- Launching of Road Shows in key source markets of Europe;
- Focusing on growth of hotel infrastructure particularly budget hotels;
- Enhancing connectivity through augmentation of

air capacity and improving road infrastructure to major tourist attractions;

- Launching a social awareness campaign amongst stakeholders called "Atithi Devo Bhavah";

In order to develop infrastructure during the 10th Plan, the Government is implementing the following schemes:

1. Integrated Development of Tourist Circuits.
2. Product/Infrastructure and Destination Development.
3. Assistance for Large Revenue Generating Projects.

Statement

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Foreign Visits 2003	Foreign Visits 2004
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	479318	501019
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	123	269
3.	Assam	6610	7285
4.	Bihar	60820	38118
5.	Goa	314357	363230
6.	Gujarat	37534	21179
7.	Haryana	84981	66153
8.	Himachal Pradesh	167902	204344
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	24330	40242
10.	Karnataka	249908	530225
11.	Kerala	294621	345546
12.	Madhya Pradesh	92278	145335

1	2	3	4
13. Maharashtra	986544	1218382	
14. Manipur	257	249	
15. Meghalaya	6304	12407	
16. Mizoram	279	326	
17. Nagaland	743	1084	
18. Orissa	25020	28817	
19. Punjab	4589	7312	
20. Rajasthan	628560	971772	
21. Sikkim	11966	14646	
22. Tamil Nadu	901504	1058012	
23. Tripura	3196	3171	
24. Uttaranchal	55228	62885	
25. Uttar Pradesh	825000	974000	
26. Chhattisgarh	1150	3000	
27. Jharkhand	3223	4375	
28. West Bengal	705457	775694	
29. Andaman and Nicobar	4142	4578	
30. Chandigarh	17057	16137	
31. Daman and Diu	3274	4111	
32. Delhi	693827	839574	
33. Dadra and Nagar Haveli	136	168	
34. Lakshadweep	682	1285	
35. Pondicherry	25559	32053	
Total	6716479	8296983	

*[Translation]***Construction Work in Forest/Tribal Areas**

198. DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL :
SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO :

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

(a) whether any construction work in forest/tribal
areas is being carried out;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reaction
of the Government thereto;

(c) whether instructions have been issued by the
Government regarding facilities to tribals and other forest
dwellers; in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN
MEENA) : (a) to (d) With a view to ensuring development
of tribals and forest dwellers by providing basic and
essential developmental facilities and sense of security
without compromising on environmental considerations,
the Central Government, on 03.01.2005, granted general
approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 to all
the State/Union Territory Governments for diversion of
forest land to the Government Departments subject to
certain conditions for schools, dispensary/hospitals, electric
and telecommunication lines, drinking water, water/rain-
water harvesting structures, minor irrigation canals, non-
conventional sources of energy, skill up-gradation/vocational
training centres, power sub-stations, communication posts,
and police establishments like police stations/outposts/
border outposts/watch towers.

Substandard Fertilizers and Seeds

199. SHRI MOHD. TAHIR :
SHRI MUNSHI RAM :
SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHAWAHA :

PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR :
MOHD. SHAHID :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has conducted any survey/test the samples of the fertilizers and seeds sold in various States of the country;

(b) if so, the percentage of fertilizers and seeds found sub-standard and assessment of losses made to the farmers thereto;

(c) the details of the areas of States from where such samples have been tested;

(d) whether the Government propose to take actions the erring companies; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) to (c) The samples of fertilizers and seeds are periodically drawn by State Enforcement Agencies and tested to ensure their quality as per the provisions of Fertiliser (Control) Order, 1985/Seeds Act/Seeds (Control) Order respectively. In addition few random samples are also drawn by Central Fertiliser Inspectors from the field and its reports sent to State Governments. The State-wise samples of fertilizers and seeds drawn and found non-standard during 2003-04 is given in statement-I and II respectively.

(d) and (e) The administrative/legal action is taken against the non-standard fertilizers and seed samples by the State Governments under the provisions of FCO, 1985/ ECA, 1995, Seeds Act 1966, Seed Rules 1968 and Seed (Control) Order respectively.

Statement-I

Statewise Number of Fertiliser Samples Analysed and Found Non-standard During 2003-04

Sl. No.	Name of State	No of Labs.	Annual Analysing Capacity	No. of Samples Analysed	Non-standard			% Capacity Utilisation	% Samples Non-standard
					Nutrient deficient	Physical Parameter and impurities	Total		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Assam	1	250	76	1	0	1	30.4	1.3
2.	Mizoram	1	250	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
3.	Jharkhand	1	1500	432	2	0	2	28.8	0.5
4.	Bihar	1	2000	861	43	13	56	43.1	6.5
5.	Orissa	2	3500	2534	112	27	139	72.4	5.5

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
6.	West Bengal	3	4500	3180	249	92	341	70.7	10.8
	Total East and NER	9	12000	7083	407	132	539	59.0	6.9
7.	Gujarat	3	7750	8267	102	5	107	106.7	1.3
8.	Madhya Pradesh	4	9150	5060	872	143	1015	55.3	20.1
9.	Chhattisgarh	1	2843	2007	92	0	92	70.6	4.6
10.	Maharashtra	4	12000	12145	719	350	1069	101.2	8.8
11.	Rajasthan	3	6000	4671	106	10	116	77.9	2.5
	Total West Zone	15	37743	32150	1891	508	2399	85.2	5.2
12.	Haryana	2	3305	3082	91	0	91	93.3	3.0
13.	Himachal Pradesh	2	2000	1335	9	0	9	66.8	0.7
14.	Jammu-Kashmir	2	1280	1268	2	1	3	99.1	0.2
15.	Punjab	2	3500	3525	65	0	65	100.7	1.8
16.	Uttar Pradesh	3	10000	11098	1061	0	1061	111.0	9.6
17.	Uttaranchal	2	800	396	12	0	12	49.5	3.0
	Total North Zone	13	20885	20704	1240	1	1241	99.1	6.2
17.	Arunachal Pradesh	5	15000	9207	183	28	211	61.4	1.1
18.	Karnataka	4	8150	5872	177	170	347	72.0	5.9
19.	Kerala	2	5000	4355	249	6	255	87.1	5.9
20.	Pondicherry	1	700	519	0	0	0	74.1	0.0
21.	Tamil Nadu	14	16800	17028	285	231	516	101.4	3.0
	Total South Zone	26	45650	36981	894	435	1329	81.0	3.4
22.	Govt. of India	4	8500	7729	191	86	227	90.9	3.6
	Total All India	67	124778	104647	4623	1162	5785	83.9	5.5

Statement-II

Statewise number of samples drawn and analysed during 2003-04

Sl. No.	State	No. of notified Inspector	Total No. of samples drawn	No. of samples found sub-standard
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1160	9413	672
2.	Assam	474	—	—
3.	Andaman	—	—	—
4.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	1029	147
5.	*Bihar		NA	
6.	Chandigarh UT			
7.	Chhattisgarh	237	535	16
8.	Delhi	10	163	3
9.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli			
10.	Diu and Daman			
11.	Gujarat	76	3332	98
12.	Goa	10	1170	—
13.	Haryana	81	3281	65
14.	Himachal Pradesh	225	675	—
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	6	192	11
16.	Jharkhand	22	721	95
17.	Karnataka	1232	6107	61

1	2	3	4	5
18.	*Kerala		NA	
19.	Lakshadweep			
20.	Madhya Pradesh	4980	3360	271
21.	Meghalaya		Nil report	
22.	Maharashtra	884	10902	408
23.	Manipur		Nil Report	
24.	Mizoram	8	1000	245
25.	Nagaland		Nil reported	
26.	Orissa	748	1812	159
27.	Punjab	1190	4195	313
28.	Pondicherry	14	153	9
29.	Rajasthan	352	3829	36
30.	Sikkim	8	1304	18
31.	Tamil Nadu	59	21685	1243
32.	Tripura	54	—	—
33.	Uttar Pradesh	228	4093	133
34.	Uttaranchal	20	56	13
35.	West Bengal	258	4648	841
Total		12348	80667	4785

[English]

Exploitation of Ground Water

200. SHRI NAVJOT SINGH SIDHU :
SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA :
SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR :

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS :

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME :

SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH :

SHRI SWADESH CHAKRABORTTY :

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has issued any directions to the State Governments to take necessary steps to preserve the ground water storage against its unlimited exploitation;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the States thereon;

(c) whether the Government is contemplating to introduce any special scheme to minimise the use of ground water;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the average rate of extraction of ground water for agriculture per day?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) 'Water' being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments to take necessary steps to check over-exploitation of ground water. The Central Government, has however, circulated a Model Bill to regulate and control the development of ground water to all State Governments/ Union Territories in 1970, which has been re-circulated in 1992, 1996 and 2005 for adoption. So far, the States of Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Union Territories of Lakshadweep and Pondicherry have enacted and implemented the ground water legislation on the lines of Model Bill. The States of Gujarat and Maharashtra have passed the legislation but they have not enacted it. The States/Union Territories of Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura, Punjab and Chandigarh have intimated that they do not feel it necessary to enact legislation in this regard. The

States/Union Territories of Arunachal Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Manipur have not responded. Other States/Union Territories have intimated that they have initiated action for enacting legislation.

(c) The Ministry of Water Resources has no such proposal.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The rate of extraction of ground water for agriculture varies from place to place depending upon the cropping pattern, rainfall intensity, etc. However, the net annual ground water withdrawal for irrigation is estimated as 150 Billion Cubic Meters.

Upkeep of National Parks

201. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Prime Minister during his recent visit to Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve expressed his displeasure over the upkeep of the National Parks;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the follow up action taken thereon;

(d) whether any new strategy is proposed to be prepared to prevent poaching of tigers and other animals and to improve the upkeep of the parks; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) This Ministry is not aware of any such report.

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

(d) and (e) Based on the decision taken during the second meeting of the National Board for Wildlife on 17-3-2005, the Prime Minister has constituted a Task Force

for reviewing the management of tiger reserves. The Terms of Reference of the Task Force are enclosed as statement.

Statement

The terms of reference of the Task Force are as follows :-

1. Suggest measures to strengthen tiger conservation in the country.
2. Suggest measures to incentivise the local community in conservation of tigers.
3. Suggest measures to incentivise local forest staff posted in sanctuaries/national parks and ensure an effective HR plan for tiger conservation/wildlife managers.
4. Suggest measures to improve the methodology of tiger counting and forecasting.
5. Suggest methods of transparent professional audit of wildlife parks and placing data on tiger conservation in the public domain.
6. Suggest a new wildlife management paradigm that shares concerns of conservation with the public at large.

Foodgrains for Poor Families

202. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of foodgrains supplied to the Below Poverty Line families during the last three years and likely to be supplied during 2005-06; and

(b) the extent of change in the quantum of foodgrains supplied for BPL families during 2005-06 over the previous year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b) The quantum of foodgrains (rice and wheat) allocated to the Below Poverty Line families (BPL) {including Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families who are part of the BPL families} in all the States/Union Territories during 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 is as under :-

(in lakh tonnes)

Year	Quantum
2002-03	268.99
2003-04	271.05
2004-05	273.31

No change is envisaged in the quantum of foodgrains likely to be allocated to BPL families (including AAY families) in all the States/Union Territories during 2005-06 over the previous year.

Convention of Joint Trade in Endangered Fauna and Flora

203. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether India had signed a Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) of World Fauna and Flora recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the present status of implementation of the above agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) India became party to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) in October, 1976.

(b) For implementation of the Convention the following have been notified as Management and Scientific Authorities—

(I) Management Authorities

- Director General of Forests, Ministry of Environment and Forests, New Delhi.
- Director, Wildlife Preservation, Ministry of Environment and Forests, New Delhi.

(II) Assistant Management Authorities

- Deputy Director, Wildlife Preservation, Northern Region, New Delhi.
- Deputy Director, Wildlife Preservation, Southern Region, Chennai.
- Deputy Director, Wildlife Preservation, Eastern Region, Kolkata.
- Deputy Director, Wildlife Preservation, Western Region, Mumbai.
- Deputy Director, Project Tiger, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, New Delhi.

(III) Scientific Authorities

- Director, Botanical Survey of India, Kolkata.
- Director, Zoological Survey of India, Kolkata.
- Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Cochin.
- Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun.

Designated Ports under CITES

Delhi, Kolkata, Guwahati, Chennai, Mumbai, Cochin and Amritsar

- (c) As a signatory to CITES India is obliged to take

all necessary steps to implement the provisions of the treaty to ban international commercial trade in Appendix-I species of plants and animals and regulate trade in Appendix-II and III species of CITES. International trade in all wild fauna and flora in general and the species covered under CITES in particular, is regulated jointly by the provisions of The Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, Export Import (EXIM) Policy of Government of India and The Customs Act.

Construction of Houses for Fishermen

204. DR. K. DHANARAJU :

SHRI JIVABHAI A. PATEL :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has constructed houses for the fishermen under the Centrally sponsored scheme during 2004-05;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these houses have been allotted to the fishermen;

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

(e) the number of houses for fishermen proposed to be constructed during 2005-06 and the allocation made for the purpose, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Central assistance of Rs. 1505.30 lakh has been sanctioned to States/UT during 2004-05 for construction of 12458 new houses and 10018 earlier sanctioned units.

(c) and (d) Construction of houses is a continuous process and funds are released to the implementing

agencies in installments. On completion of construction, the State Government allots houses to the intended beneficiaries.

(e) Central assistance for construction of houses is extended to the States on need basis and State-wise allocations are not made as such. However, during the current financial year, Central assistance of Rs. 834.07 lakh has been sanctioned to various States/UTs till 8.7.2005 for construction of 5729 new houses and 9527 earlier sanctioned units.

Agreement between India and Romania in Tourism Sector

205. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether India and Romania have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to smoothen visa procedures and also to strengthen tourism and travel relation between the two countries;

(b) if so, the salient features of the agreement; and

(c) the extent to which the relations between the countries have improved and tourist traffic increased?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (c) India has signed a bilateral agreement with Romania on 2nd June, 1994 to encourage cooperation in the field of tourism. It provides to promote and develop tourist exchanges, encourage technical assistance in the field of tourism and hotel industry, exchange of promotional material and information on tourism resources. The agreement was signed on mutually agreed terms beneficial to both the countries. It has helped in promoting interactions in the tourism sector and could provide the necessary fillip to the growth of tourist traffic between the two countries in the long run.

Protection of Birds from Flu

206. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has chalked out any plan to protect the birds of sanctuaries from flu;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons/sources for spread of flu; and

(d) the steps taken or being taken by the Government to tackle recent avian influenza found in the Chinese migratory birds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) All Chief Wildlife Wardens have been directed to increase level of surveillance in the major sites for migratory birds. The Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying has been provided information on important birds sanctuaries of the country and assured them of full co-operation of the Ministry of Environment and Forests and State Forest Departments in protecting domestic poultry and migratory and resident birds.

(c) The exact cause of spread of bird flu is not known. However, experts opinion suggests that it may be due to unhygienic poultry practices, transportation and sale of live poultry, poultry products, trade in wild birds and normal movements of wild migratory birds, particularly ducks.

(d) A dialogue has been initiated with Department of Animal Husbandry, Ministry of Agriculture and Avian Experts of the country about the potential risks and readiness in India on the issue. Chief Wildlife Wardens of all States and Union Territories have been directed to be cautious and report immediately.

Employment Commission

207. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal is lying pending with the Government to set up a Employment Commission in the country to generate employment avenues;

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

(c) whether the existing mechanism to create employment avenues is not upto the mark; and

(d) if so, the extent to which the setting up of Employment Commission is going to resolve the problem of unemployment in the country?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO) : (a) At present, there is no proposal under consideration in the Ministry of Labour and Employment to set up an Employment Commission in the country.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Financial Assistance for Establishment of FPI

208. SHRI RAJENDER KUMAR : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has received several requests from the Government of Uttaranchal for financial assistance for establishment of Food Processing Industries in the State during the last three years and thereafter till date;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) this financial assistance provided to this State during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY) : (a) to (c) During last three years and till date,

21 proposals have been received for financial assistance from different units for establishment/modernization/expansion of Food Processing Industries in the State of Uttaranchal. The scheme formulated in this regard is project specific, not state/area specific and as such assistance is provided to the agency implementing the project. Accordingly, an amount of Rs. 127.09 lakh has been released for different projects in Uttaranchal during last three years and till date.

Awareness Camps Against Dangers of Pesticide

209. DR. M. JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to hold awareness camps on the dangers of pesticides consumption and use; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) and (b) The Central and State Governments already impart training to farmers on the safe and judicious use of pesticides. The ill effects of the indiscriminate use of pesticides is also emphasized during the training of farmers in the Farmers' Field Schools (FFSs) on Integrated Pest Management (IPM). A total of 9111 FFSs have been conducted by the Directorate of Plant Protection, Quarantine and Storage from 1994-95 to 2004-05 wherein 37,281 Agricultural Extension officers and 2,75,056 farmers have been trained in IPM.

Indo-Pak Meet on Wullar Barrage

210. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether India and Pakistan Water Secretaries met on Wullar barrage recently;

(b) whether Pakistan claims that the water flow in the lake would be obstructed once the barrage is constructed;

(c) if so, the main points discussed in the meeting;

(d) whether all the outstanding issues have been settled; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Pakistan is of the view that the barrage means a "man-made" obstruction to flow of Jhelum river and the obstruction will cause changes in the volume of daily flow of the waters.

(c) Indian Secretary referred to the talks held in august 1992 when Pakistan side had indicated that a draft agreement, comprehensively discussed and adjusted to address the concerns of Pakistan, was under the consideration of their Hon'ble Prime Minister, after which, in 1994. Pakistan side indicated that it was not correct that all technical and legal issues of the issue had been resolved at the previous rounds of talks and all aspects needed to be discussed comprehensively in accordance with the Indus Waters Treaty. Indian Secretary further stated that the Treaty provides for interference in the flow of the river restricted to Non-Consumptive Use, control or use of water for navigation provided the water remains in or is returned to the same river and Non-Consumptive Use without prejudice to the uses on the river by the other Party. Also that no man-made storage is involved in the project as the gates are completely lifted up so long as the lake level keeps rising, thus permitting the storage in the lake to occur under natural condition. Only when lake level starts receding below the designated level, gates are closed for controlled depletion to facilitate navigation without prejudice to downstream uses, ensuring that outflow is more than or equal to inflow.

Pakistan Secretary stated that no agreement or changes in the design of the project were finalized and in the case of an agreement having been finalized earlier, there would have been no reason for the meetings to continue for resolution. He further stated that the Treaty forbids any interference by India in the flow of Western Rivers to Pakistan and India should have no control over the waters meant for unrestricted use of Pakistan, except for certain specified uses allowed to India. Further, that the proposed barrage means a "man-made" obstruction to flow of Jhelum river and the obstruction will cause changes in the volume of daily flow of the waters. No storage is allowed to India on the main stem of river Jhelum and the storage incidental to the barrage on Jhelum Main should not exceed 10,000 Acre Feet. Holding the waters in a particular period or season and releasing it in a subsequent period or season cannot be regarded as a control for Non-Consumptive Use of waters. Pakistan Secretary also stated that the viability of the navigation project is not established.

(d) No.

(e) Technical experts from both the sides discussed the issues and the views of both the sides were recorded. The two sides agreed to continue the discussion at the next round of the Dialogue Process with a view to resolving the issue in accordance with the provisions of the Treaty (Indus Waters Treaty 1960).

[Translation]

Subsidy Dues of Fertilizer Industry

211. SHRI SITA RAM SINGH : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount due as subsidy to fertilizer industry by the end of year 2004; company-wise;

(b) the reason for accumulation of dues;

(c) its impact noticed on the performance of fertilizer industry; and

(d) the remedial measures taken/proposed to be taken to pay the dues to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) :

(a) and (b) The total amount of due for payment as subsidy to urea manufacturing units at the end of year 2004 was Rs. 194.41 crore and the same was paid before the end of the financial year 2004-05 i.e., by 31.3.2005. The unit-wise details are given in the enclosed statement-I.

As regards the decontrolled phosphatic and potassic (P and K) fertilizers, the Department of Fertilizers administers a Concession Scheme on the sale of decontrolled (P and K) fertilizers under which 85%/90% 'on account' payment of concession is released to the manufacturers/importers covered under the Scheme. The claims of concession are settled finally only after the sales are certified by the concerned State Governments, wherein the fertilizer was sold. Delay in sales certification on the part of the State Governments has been responsible for the final settlement of the claims of concession. The amount due as subsidy keeps on changing on day to day basis. Two statements showing the pending claims of concession company-wise during 1.10.2000 to 31.3.2005 in case of indigenous manufacturers and 1.10.2000 to 31.1.2004 for importers are enclosed as statement-II and III respectively.

(c) and (d) A timeframe has been prescribed in the guidelines issued on 5.8.2002 on Concession Scheme for the State Governments to certify the sales of P and K fertilizers. The absence of sales certification by the States in the given time schedule led to a huge unadjusted 'on account' payment of concession. In order to reduce its magnitude, the Department of Fertilizers launched a drive in 2003 whereby the State Governments were asked to certify the sales by the given deadline of dates year-wise. The companies were also encouraged to cooperate with the State Governments in this regard. It resulted in considerable reduction of the unadjusted 'on account' payment of concession on one hand and clearance of dues of companies on the other hand.

Statement-I

*Claims due for payment as on 31.12.2004
for urea units*

(Rs. in crore)

S.No.	Name of the unit	Amount
1.	CFCL-Gadepan-I	3.86
2.	CFCL-Gadepan-II	31.63
3.	GSFC-Vadodara	4.23
4.	BVFCL-Namrup-III	0.11
5.	IFFCO-Aonla-I	1.16
6.	IFFCO-Aonla-II	1.20
7.	IFFCO-Kalol	19.12
8.	IFFCO-Phulpur-I	18.62
9.	IFFCO-Phulpur-II	25.50
10.	Indo Gulf-Jagdishpur	1.27
11.	KRIBHCO-Hazira	5.47
12.	NFL-Panipat	3.86
13.	NFL-Bhatinda	7.03
14.	NFL-Nangal	6.86
15.	OCFL-Shahjahanpur	0.75
16.	SFC-Kota	5.94
17.	SPIC-Tuticorin	26.08
18.	TCL-Babral	15.38
19.	ZIL-Goa	16.34
Total		194.41

Statement-II

Pending payment of concession during 1.10.2000 to 31.3.2005 in case of Indigenous Manufacturers of decontrolled P and K fertilizers

Sl. No.	Name of Company	Amount (In Rs. Crore)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Sugar	0.43
2.	Agro Phos	0.00
3.	Asha	0.30
4.	Arawali Phos	0.23
5.	Arihant Phos	0.00
6.	Asian Fert.	0.43
7.	Balaji Fert.	0.17
8.	Basant Agro	0.65
9.	BEC	1.56
10.	Bharat Fert.	0.05
11.	Bhiwani Mishra	0.10
12.	Bohra Industries	0.21
13.	CFL	25.25
14.	Chemtech	0.05
15.	Coimbatore Pioneer	0.25
16.	Deepak	1.33
17.	DMCC	0.92
18.	FACT	19.26
19.	Gayatri Spin.	0.12

1	2	3
20.	GFCL	31.66
21.	GNVFC	5.66
22.	GSFC	49.08
23.	Hindalco	18.95
24.	IFFCO	82.33
25.	IFFCO (GFCL)	0.60
26.	IPL (SSP)	0.01
27.	Jai Ram Phos	0.14
28.	Jai Shree	0.50
29.	Jubliant Org.	-0.06
30.	Jubliant Org. (Sadhna)	0.03
31.	Khaitan Ch and Fert. I	4.36
32.	Kashi Urv	0.00
33.	Krishna Ind. Corp.	0.15
34.	Liberty Phos	1.64
35.	Liberty Urvarak	0.41
36.	Madhya Bharat Phos	0.07
37.	MARDIA	0.16
38.	Manglam	0.08
39.	MCFL	8.34
40.	Mukteshwar	0.00
41.	Mahadev	0.09
42.	MFL	22.82
43.	Natraj Org.	0.04

1	2	3
44.	Nirma	0.64
45.	OCFL	86.33
46.	Phosphate Co.	0.52
47.	PPCL	0.00
48.	PPL	85.88
49.	Pragati Fert.	0.21
50.	Premisakhi	0.26
51.	Prathyusha	0.05
52.	Priyanka	0.04
53.	Rama Phos (I)	1.28
54.	Rama Phos (U)	0.55
55.	Raashi	0.02
56.	Raj Laxmi	0.03
57.	RCF	15.60
58.	RKRL	0.60
59.	Shiva	0.39
60.	Shri Ganpati	0.03
61.	Shree Krishna	0.04
62.	Shaw Wallace	0.08
63.	Sadhana	0.24
64.	Sona	0.01
65.	Shurvi Color	0.05
66.	SPIC	7.96
67.	Subhodya	0.10

1	2	3
68.	Shree Acid	0.33
69.	Swastik	0.05
70.	TATA CHEM	24.09
71.	Tedco Granite	0.18
72.	Teesta Agro	0.83
73.	TJ Agro	0.10
74.	Tungbhadra	0.19
75.	ZIL	19.48
Total:		543.43

Statement-III

Pending claims during 1.10.2000 to 31.12.2004 in case of importers of decontrolled P and K fertilizers

Sl. No.	Name of the Company	Total Amount (In Rs. Crore)
1	2	3
1.	Cargill	11.09
2.	CFCL	7.27
3.	CFL	4.94
4.	DIL	0.03
5.	FACT	0.41
6.	GFCL	0.04
7.	GNVFC	0.80
8.	TATA	12.58
9.	IFFCO	4.04

1	2	3
10.	IPL	83.24
11.	MFL	0.73
12.	MMTC	0.01
13.	PPL	5.40
14.	RCF	3.66
15.	RIL	0.56
16.	SFC	20.29
17.	SPIC	0.71
18.	ZIL	2.97
Total		158.77

National River Action Plan

212. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a proposal under National River Action Plan on Godavari river in Paithan town of Aurangabad was sent to the Government on March 20, 2004 for approval; and

(b) if so, the reasons for the non-approval of the said proposal till date and details of non-release of 70 per cent amount to be provided by the Government of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The project could not be considered for approval due to constraint of funds during the X Plan. However, it was suggested that the State Government may undertake the project out of the State Plan provisions by seeking necessary funds from the Planning Commission including

exploring the possibility of initiating the project with public-private partnership.

Cultivation of Herbal Plants

213. SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the government has conducted any survey to promote cultivation of herbal plants and set up botanical gardens in the country;

(b) if so, the names of places identified for the purpose;

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the government in this regard; and

(d) the schemes formulated by the Government for selection of herbal plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) and (b) The Government has not conducted any survey to promote cultivation of herbal plants and for setting up of botanical gardens in the country.

(c) and (d) The National Medicinal Plant Board (NMPB) under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is implementing a scheme for the development of medicinal plants including herbs in the country. Besides, the Ministry of Agriculture has been providing assistance to selected State Agricultural Universities (SAU) and Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) Institutes for setting up herbal gardens under its Macro-Management in Agriculture Scheme.

[English]

Construction of New Hotels

214. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware that there is not sufficient number of hotels in the country to facilitate foreign tourists;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to utilize the surplus land available with the Airports Authority of India for the construction of hotels to attract tourists;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the areas identified for the same; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Based on the Master Plans of the Airports namely IGI Airport, Delhi, CSI Airport, Mumbai and NSCBI Airport, Kolkata, hotels already exist there on AAI land.

Airports Authority of India has identified areas in 7 (Seven) non-metro airports for setting up of budget class/ star category hotels.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Sugar Mills in Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal

215. MOHD. MUKEEM : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the area-wise details of the sugar mills functioning in Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal as on date alongwith their annual turnover;

(b) whether the Government proposes to establish new sugar mills in cooperative sector in these said States during the current year;

(c) if so, the details thereof, location-wise; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) The area-wise details of sugar mills operated during 2004-2005 sugar season is as under :-

Sl.No.	Area	No. of Sugar Mills
1.	Western Uttar Pradesh	27
2.	Central Uttar Pradesh	36
3.	Eastern Uttar Pradesh	42
4.	Uttaranchal	10

As regards annual turnover of the sugar mills, the Central Government does not maintain the information regarding annual turnover of the sugar mills in the country.

(b) to (d) The Central Government does not set up sugar mill in any part of the country in any Sector. The Sugar Industry has since been de-licensed w.e.f. 11.9.1998. The entrepreneurs are free to set-up sugar mill as per techno-economic viability of their project maintaining a distance of 15 KMs from the existing mill.

[English]

Promotion of Bio-Farming

216. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH :
SHRI JUAL ORAM :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is assisting the State Government in promoting bio-farming; and

(b) if so, the details of the assistance extended by government to States in promoting bio-farming, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government is assisting the State Governments in promoting bio-farming (organic farming) through the "National Project on Organic Farming". The Government has provided financial assistance of Rs. 322.44 lakhs to different States during 2004-05 as given below:-

Sl. No.	State	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3
1.	Assam	1.07
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	4.49
3.	Chhattisgarh	14.98
4.	Gujarat	2.00
5.	Himachal Pradesh	2.00
6.	Karnataka	1.53
7.	Kerala	1.71
8.	Maharashtra	5.32
9.	Manipur	6.69
10.	Meghalaya	2.34
11.	Mizoram	45.31
12.	Madhya Pradesh	6.89
13.	Punjab	0.24
14.	Sikkim	10.34
15.	Tripura	8.98

1	2	3
16.	Tamil Nadu	1.00
17.	Uttar Pradesh	9.35
18.	Uttaranchal	48.20
19.	Through NABARD	150.00
Total		322.44

Felling/Smuggling of Bhoj Trees

217. SHRI AJIT JOGI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Birch (Bhoj Tree) is on the verge of extinction due to its indiscriminate felling and smuggling;

(b) if so, whether the government is formulating any action plan for the protection of this tree; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Following measures have been taken for the protection and conservation of forests including those of Bhoj trees:-

- (i) Legal measures like Indian Forest Act, 1927, Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, Forest Conservation Act, 1980 and Environment Protection Act, 1986 and the rules, guidelines thereof.
- (ii) Management measures like working of forests according to approved Working Plans, Forest Development Agencies and Joint Forest Management.
- (iii) Financial measures like providing assistance to the States/Union Territories under centrally

sponsored schemes and externally aided projects. Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme called 'Integrated Forest Protection Scheme', in operation since 2002-03, funds are provided to states and Union territories primarily for strengthening of infrastructure for protection of forests from illicit fellings, fires, encroachments etc.

- (iv) A network of protected areas has been established.

Pending Irrigation Projects

218. SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of minor and medium irrigation project that are basically aimed at preventing the flow of water into the seas pending for approval of the Government, State-wise; and

(b) by when the projects are likely to be accorded approval?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) Irrigation being a State subject the irrigation projects are planned formulated, executed and funded by the State Governments out of their own resources and as per their priorities. The Minor irrigation projects are approved by the State Governments themselves. The medium irrigation projects not having inter-State ramifications are planned, approved and executed by the State Governments themselves. Medium irrigation projects on inter-State rivers are techno-economically appraised by the Central Water Commission for enabling the Advisory Committee of Ministry of Water Resources for acceptance and thereafter to provide investment approval by the Planning Commission. The State-wise number of medium irrigation projects pending approval is given in the Statement enclosed. The clearance of the project depends upon the promptness with which the State Government

comply with the observations of the Central appraising agencies.

Statement

State-wise Abstract of New Medium Projects as on 01.07.2005

Sl. No	State	Medium		
		A	B	Total
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6	10	16
2.	Chhattisgarh	—	1	1
3.	Haryana	1	—	1
4.	Himachal Pradesh	1	—	1
5.	Jammu and Kashmir	9	2	11
6.	Karnataka	1	—	1
7.	Kerala	1	—	1
8.	Maharashtra	28	9	37
9.	Manipur	—	1	1
10.	Nagaland	—	1	1
11.	Orissa	1	7	8
12.	Punjab	2	1	3
13.	Rajasthan	6	—	6
14.	Tamil Nadu	—	1	1
15.	Uttar Pradesh	1	—	1
Grand Total		57	33	90

A — PROJECT UNDER VARIOUS STAGES OF APPRAISAL

B — ACCEPTED BY THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF MOWR SUBJECT TO CERTAIN OBSERVATIONS.

[Translation]

**Water Lifting and Supply
Project of Rajasthan**

219. SHRI SRICHAND KRIPLANI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal is under consideration of the Government with regard to water lifting and supply project in Barmer district of Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the number of phases the said project completed; and

(c) the towns and villages of Rajasthan covered under the said project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (c) Irrigation being a State subject the irrigation projects are planned formulated, executed and funded by the State Governments out of their own resources and as per their priorities. As reported by the State Government of Rajasthan, there is no proposal under the consideration of State Government with regard to Water Lifting and Supply project in Barmer District of Rajasthan. However, for the drinking water supply the major projects namely Pokaran Falsoond Balotra Siwana Lift Project, Barmer Lift Water Supply Project and Narmada Canal Based Water Supply Project cover towns and villages of Barmer District.

[English]

Raw Material for Steel

220. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL :
SHRI JUAL ORAM :
SHRIMATI P. SATHEEDEVI :
SHRI SAMIK LAHIRI :

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) what are the methods adopted by various public/private sector Steel Plants for production of steel;

(b) the approximate requirement of iron ore for production of one tonne of steel by each of the methods;

(c) whether any latest method is proposed to be followed by any of the new Steel Plants coming up in Orissa;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether supply of raw materials for production of steel is lower than its demand; and

(f) if so, the details thereof alongwith the remedial steps taken/proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) :

(a) The following methods are adopted by various public/private sector steel plants for production of steel:-

- (i) Coke-oven, sinter plant-Blast furnace-Basic Oxygen furnace-Continuous casting.
- (ii) Direct reduced Iron-Electric Arc furnace/Induction furnace-Continuous casting.
- (iii) Direct reduced Iron and/or Blast furnace-Electric Arc furnace-Continuous casting.
- (iv) Pellet-corex furnace-Basic Oxygen furnace-Continuous casting.
- (v) Electric Arc furnace.
- (vi) Induction furnace.
- (vii) Direct reduced Iron/Electric Arc furnace.
- (viii) Direct reduced Iron/Induction furnace.
- (ix) Blast furnace/Energy Optimising furnace-Continuous Casting.

(b) The approximate iron ore requirement to produce 1 tonne of hot metal through the above processes is about 1.65 tonnes.

(c) POSCO is reportedly considering adopting the FINEX Iron Making Process in their Orissa project. This process can use cheaper iron ore fines and low ash non coking coal as feed stock.

(d) In the FINEX process, the iron ore fines are passed through a series of four circulating Fluidised Bed Reactors into which reducing gas of carbon monoxide from Melter Gasifier is passed which reduces the iron ore fines into Direct Reduced Iron (DRI) which is taken to a Hot Briquette Plant to be converted into Hot Briquetted Iron (HBI). Non-coking coal is briquetted, and both briquetted coal and HBI is fed into the Melter Gasifier in which iron oxides in HBI are further reduced and molten iron and slag are taken out through different tap holes. Non-coking coal is oxidized as carbon monoxide in the Melter Gasifier in which pure oxygen is injected at a higher pressure and is passed on to Fluidised Bed Reactors to reduce iron oxides to DRI which is then converted into steel.

(e) and (f) The major raw materials required for production of steel are iron ore, coking coal, non-coking coal and flux materials like limestone etc.

Iron Ore	— There is no shortage of Iron Ore in the country.
Coking Coal	— There is shortage of coking coal in the country and majority of the requirement is imported.
Non-coking coal	— There is a shortage of low ash non-coking coal in the country, hence this is also imported.
Steel Melting Scrap	— There is a shortage of this ingredient as well.

Remedial steps taken/proposed:-

(i) Since sponge iron is a partial substitute for steel

melting scrap, the production of sponge iron is being encouraged.

- (ii) Captive coking blocks are being allocated to the steel producers to meet their coal requirements.
- (iii) Customs duty on coking coal and metallurgical coke has been substantially reduced by the Government.
- (iv) The individual companies arrange for tie-ups of raw materials. As part of their business strategy some of them are exploring possibility of getting assured supply of coking coal through acquiring coking coal mines abroad or participation in the development of these mines through the equity/joint venture route.

[Translation]

Pending Schemes under Forest Conservation Act

221. SHRI KRISHNA MURARI MOGHE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of schemes of Madhya Pradesh pending with the Government under Forest Conservation Act; and

(b) the time by which these schemes are likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) As per available information, 12 proposals received from Madhya Pradesh for forestry clearance, are under various stages of examination in the Ministry. The details of these proposals are given in statement enclosed. The project proposals involving non-forestry use of forest lands, received from various States/Union Territories, are examined according to the

procedure prescribed under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2003, and the guidelines issued from time to time thereunder. The whole examination and the decision on the proposal is a

continuous process, for which Central Government has prescribed a time limit of 60 days for itself for processing and taking decision on the complete proposal, under the Rules.

Statement

Details of projects seeking Forestry Clearance under FC Act, 1980 in respect of Madhya Pradesh

S.No.	Name of Proposal	District	Area (ha.)	Category of Project
1	2	3	4	5
1.	LAYING of KV TRANSMISSION LINE	Riva	7.155	TRANSMISSION LINE
2.	BINA PROJECT IN FAVOUR OF M/s. NORTHERN COALFIELD LIMITED	Sidhi	378.935	MINING
3.	LAYING of 220 KV SATNA-CHATARPUR ELECTRIC LINE IN FAVOUR OF M.P. ELECTRICITY BOARD	Satna	38.883	TRANSMISSION LINE
4.	LAYING of 33 KV TRANSMISSION LINE IN FAVOUR OF M.P.E.B.	Datia	0.41	TRANSMISSION LINE
5.	SAND MINING BY SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR DUBEY AT VILL. SEWADHA	Datia	0	MINING
6.	BLOCK-B, GORBI PROJECT IN FAVOUR OF M/S NORTHERN COALFIELD LIMITED	Sidhi	447	MINING
7.	RENEWAL OF TIRODI MINE OF M/s. MANGANESE ORE INDIA LIMITED	Balaghat	115.473	MINING
8.	REHABILITATION OF BADKACHHAR VILLAGE FROM SATPURA TIGER RESERVE	Hoshangabad	200	REHABILITATION
9.	MINING LEASE IN F/O MANGANESE ORE INDIA LIMITED, BHARVELI MINES	Balaghat	29	MINING

1	2	3	4	5
10.	LAYING PETROLIUM PIPELINE IN FAVOUR OF M/s. BHARAT PETROLEUM LTD.	Shajapur	1.249	Others
11.	LAYING 132 KV TRANSMISSION LINE FROM GEENNA TO AMARPATAN IN FAVOUR OF MPEB	Satna	4.59	TRANSMISSION LINE
12.	RENEWAL OF PYROFYLITE MINING IN F/O M/s. KHAJURAHO MINERAL	Chatarpur	4.65	MINING

[English]

Forest Conservation

222. PROF. M. RAMADASS :

SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO :

SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH :

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA :

SHRIMATI P. SATHEEDEVI :

SHRI SWADESH CHAKRABORTTY :

ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The State/Union Territory-wise percentage of forest cover in comparison to land area is given in the statement enclosed.

(d) The measures undertaken to increase the forest cover in the country are:-

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

(a) whether the forest cover in some States has been constantly decreasing;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the percentage of forest cover in comparison to land area, State-wise;

(d) the details of the action plan formulated to increase the forest cover in various States and to obtain necessary financial assistance for this purpose; and

(e) the steps taken to promote community participation for preservation of forest cover?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

(i) Legal measures like Indian Forest Act, 1972, Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, Forest Conservation Act, 1980 and Environmental Protection Act, 1986 and the rules, guidelines thereof.

(ii) Management measures like working of forests according to approved Working Plans, Forest Development Agencies and Joint Forest Management.

(iii) Financial measures like providing assistance to the States/Union Territories under centrally sponsored schemes and externally aided projects.

(iv) Afforestation programmes undertaken by the State Governments/UT Administration from their own resources as well as with financial assistance from Government of India.

- (v) A network of protected areas has been established.

- (vi) The State Governments and Union Territory Administrations have been requested to constitute Coordination Committees of all departments owning lands, chaired by the Chief Secretary of concerned State to take up increased tree planting, to formulate and implement a communication strategy and a media plan to raise mass awareness for increased tree planting.

(e) During the 10th plan, National Afforestation Programme is being implemented through decentralized two-tier mechanism of Forest Development Agency (FDA) at Forest Division level and joint Forest Management Committee (JFMC) at village level to elicit people's participation in afforestation programme.

Statement

State/UTs	Geographic Area (in sq. km.)	Forest cover as per State of Forest Report, 2003 (in Sq. km.)	Percentage of forest cover in comparison to land area (%)
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	2,75,069	44,419	16.15
Arunachal Pradesh	83,743	68,019	81.22
Assam	78,438	27,826	35.48
Bihar	94,163	5,558	5.90
Chhattisgarh	1,35,191	55,998	41.42
Delhi	1,483	170	11.47

	1	2	3	4
Goa		3,702	2,156	58.24
Gujarat		1,96,022	14,946	7.62
Haryana		44,212	1,517	3.43
Himachal Pradesh		55,673	14,353	25.78
Jammu and Kashmir		2,22,236	21,267	9.57
Jharkhand		79,714	22,716	28.50
Karnataka		191,791	36,449	19.00
Kerala		38,863	15,577	40.08
Madhya Pradesh		3,08,245	76,429	24.79
Maharashtra		3,07,713	46,865	15.23
Manipur		22,327	17,219	77.12
Meghalaya		22,429	16,839	75.08
Mizoram		21,081	18,430	87.42
Nagaland		16,579	13,609	82.09
Orissa		1,55,707	48,366	31.06
Punjab		50,362	1,580	3.14
Rajasthan		3,42,239	15,826	4.62
Sikkim		7,096	3,262	45.97
Tamil Nadu		1,30,058	22,643	17.41
Tripura		10,486	8,093	77.18
Uttar Pradesh		2,40,928	14,118	5.86
Uttaranchal		53,483	24,465	45.74
West Bengal		88,752	12,343	13.91

1	2	3	4
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	8,249	6,964	84.42
Chandigarh	114	15	13.16
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	491	225	45.82
Daman and Diu	112	8.34	7.45
Lakshadweep	32	23	71.88
Pondicherry	480	40	8.33
Total	32,87,263	678,333	20.64

[Translation]

Minimum Wages

223. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO :

SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware that

certain industries in Delhi are not paying the minimum wages to their workers and the Labour Courts have failed in discharging their duty of enforcing the labour laws;

(b) if so, the details and the reasons therefor and the steps proposed to be taken to ensure that the various labour laws are strictly implemented; and

(c) the details of the action taken by the Government during the last three years in connection with non-payment of the minimum wages?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO) : (a) to (c) There have been instances of non-payment of statutory minimum wages by certain establishments in Delhi. The enforcement of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 in Delhi is secured in respect of scheduled employments in State and Central spheres by the Government of National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi and the Chief Labour Commissioner (Central) respectively, whereas the Labour Courts only adjudicate the matters referred to them. Statements indicating the enforcement of the Act in Delhi during last three years in State and Central spheres are given at statement-I and II respectively.

Statement-I

Enforcement of MW Act in the state sphere of National Capital Territory of Delhi during last Three Years

Year	Complaints		Inspection carried out	Irregularities			No. of workers benefited	Amount got paid (in lakh Rs.)
	Received	Disposed of		Detected	Rectified	Prosecutions launched		
2002	9167	8886	8546	4946	4121	939	2326	127.77
2003	7270	6969	7245	4747	3723	859	2992	64.94
2004	8583	8377	8101	6460	4880	1223	3497	131.71

Statement-II**Enforcement of MW Act in the Central Sphere in
Delhi Region during last Three Years**

Sl. No.	2002- 03	2003- 04	2004- 05
1. No. of inspections made	453	396	486
2. No. of Irregularities detected	4548	3724	4390
3. No. of claim cases pending	81	75	48
4. No. of claim cases filed	64	110	84
5. No. of claim cases decided	70	137	72
6. No. of prosecution cases pending	778	919	952
7. No. of prosecution cases filed	247	287	280
8. No. of prosecution cases decided	106	254	85
9. Amount of compensation awarded (in lakh rupees)	7.93	11.14	6.72
10. Total amount of fine imposed (in lakh rupees)	3.04	2.65	6.75

*[English]***Increase in Rate of Interest**

224. SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY :
SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Employees Provident Fund

Organisation (EPFO) has made an appeal to the Government to meet the gap of 719 crores of rupees recorded due to sudden increase in the rate of interest to 9.5 per cent for the year 2004-05;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps being taken to resolve the issue; and

(d) the future plans of the Government in regard to rate of interests on EPF alongwith the source of funding therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO) : (a) to (d) The Central Board of Trustees, Employees' Provident Fund in its special meeting held on 28.05.2005 decided to recommend the final rate of interest @ 9.5% for the financial year 2004-05 to be credited to the accounts of the Employees' Provident Fund subscribers. It was also decided to transfer a sum of Rs. 716.07 crore from the Special Reserve Fund to bridge the deficit.

Further, it was resolved that in future, interest payment liability, in no case, should exceed the interest income of the Fund, during that particular year.

Setting up of Task Force

225. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA :
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL :
SHRI GANESH SINGH :

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

(a) whether the Government had constituted a task force to spot tigers in the Tiger reserves in the country;

(b) if so, whether the said task force has visited all tiger reserves across the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the number of tigers spotted by the task force, part-wise;

(e) the measures suggested by the task force to strengthen tiger conservation in the country; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to implement these suggestions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) Based on the recommendations made in the meeting of the National Board for Wildlife on 17-03-2005 under the Chairmanship of Prime Minister, a Task Force has been constituted to review the management of Tiger Reserves in the country. The Terms of Reference of the Task Force are enclosed as statement.

(b) and (c) During the course of its study the Task Force visited the following tiger reserves as representative cases:-

- Periyar (Kerala)
- Pench (Maharashtra)
- Pench (MP)
- Kanha (MP)
- Sariska (Rajasthan)
- Ranthambhore (Rajasthan)

(d) The Task Force spotted as many as 15 tigers during the field visit [1 in Pench (MP)] and 14 in Kanha (MP).

(e) As per the Terms of Reference the Task Force is expected to submit its report within three months.

(f) Question does not arise.

Statement

The terms of reference of the Task Force are as follows:-

1. Suggest measures to strengthen tiger conservation in the country.

2. Suggest measures to incentivise the local community in conservation of tigers.

3. Suggest measures to incentivise local forest staff posted in sanctuaries/national parks and ensure an effective HR plan for tiger conservation/wildlife managers.

4. Suggest measures to improve the methodology of tiger counting and forecasting.

5. Suggest methods of transparent professional audit of wildlife parks and placing data on tiger conservation in the public domain.

6. Suggest a new wildlife management paradigm that shares concerns of conservation with the public at large.

Rural Tourism

226. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD :
SHRI ANIRUDH PRASAD ALIAS SADHU YADAV :
SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH :
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is making any efforts to attract more foreign tourists to the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether rural India is expected to be made more attractive to foreign tourists;

(d) if so, whether the Government plans to promote certain villages in tourist targeted region; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Promotion of tourism to further augment the inflow of tourists is being undertaken on a regular basis, through an integrated marketing and promotional strategy and a synergized campaign in association with the travel trade and State Governments. The promotional activities being undertaken include advertising in the print and electronic media, participation in fairs and exhibitions, organizing seminars, workshops and road shows, brochure and joint advertising support, inviting media personalities, tour operators and opinion makers to visit India under the Hospitality Programme.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Recognizing the important role tourism can play as a catalyst for development in the rural sector, a "Rural Tourism Scheme" has been announced for positioning the

rural tourism product of the country as a unique visitor experience in a low-impact setting. Under this product category about 31 key rural areas have been identified for development. The objective is to showcase the rural life, art, culture and heritage at rural locations thereby benefiting the local community economically and socially and to enable interaction between tourists and local population for an enhancing and enriching tourist experience.

During the Tenth Five Year Plan the Central Financial Assistance extended till now for infrastructure creation under the Rural Tourism Scheme of Ministry of Tourism, Government of India is enclosed as statement-I while the central assistance extended for capacity building etc. under GOI-UNDP project is enclosed as statement-II.

Statement-I

Statewise Rural Tourism Scheme/Projects Sanctioned During 10th Plan

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No	State	Name of the Project	Year of Sanction	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1 Development of Pochampalli, Nalgonda District	2003-04	50.00	40.00
		2 Rural Tourism at Konaseema Village, East Godavari District	2003-04	50.00	50.00
		3 Development of Puttaparthi, Ananthpur District	2004-05	49.50	39.60
		4 Development of Chinchinada, East Godavari District	2004-05	50.00	40.00
		5 Development of Srikalahasti, Chittoor Districts	2004-05	50.00	40.00
2.	Assam	6 Development of Rural Tourism at Durgapur, Distt. Golaghat	2002-03	46.83	14.04

1	2	3	4	5	6
	7	Dehing-Patakai Kshetra, District Tinsukia	2004-05	44.33	35.46
	8	Rural Tourism at Sualkuchi in Kamrup District	2004-05	50.00	40.00
3. Bihar	9	Rural Tourism Project, Nepura Village, District Nalanda	2003-04	50.00	40.00
4. Chhattisgarh	10	Development of Rural Tourism at Village Chitrakote, District Bastar	2003-04	50.00	15.00
	11	Development of Rural Tourism at Chitrokote Village, District Bastar	2003-04	50.00	40.00
	12	Development of Rural Tourism at Champaran, District Raipur	2003-04	50.00	15.00
	13	Rural Tourism at Nagarnar, District Bastar	2003-04	48.00	38.40
	14	Development of Kondagaon, District Bastar	2005-06	50.00	40.00
5. Delhi	15	Rural Tourism at Kotla Mubarakpur	2003-04	09.78	09.78
	16	Rural Tourism at Nangli, Razapur, Delhi	2003-04	36.30	36.30
6. Gujarat	17	Development of heritage village at Tera	2003-04	50.00	40.00
	18	Rural Tourism at Hodka, District Kachchh	2003-04	50.00	40.00
	19	Development of Navagaon and Malegaon rural tourism, District Rajkot	2003-04	92.70	27.81
7. Haryana	20	Rural Tourism at Jytisar, District Kurukshetra	2003-04	50.00	40.00
8. Himachal Pradesh	21	Rural Tourism at Nagar, District Kullu	2003-04	50.00	40.00
	22	Rural Tourism Paragpur, District Kangra Valley	2003-04	50.00	15.00
9. Jammu and Kashmir	23	Development of Rural Tourism at Village Drung, District Baramula	2005-2006	50.00	40.00
	24	Development of Rural Tourism at Village Surinsar, District Jammu	2005-2006	50.00	40.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
		25 Development of Rural Tourism at Village Gagangir, District Srinagar	2005-2006	50.00	40.00
10. Karnataka		26 Rural Tourism Project at Kokkare Bellur, District Bellur	2002-03	50.00	15.00
		27 Development of Attiveri Bird Century as a rural tourism project, District Uttar Kannada	2003-04	60.00	18.00
		28 Rural Tourism at Banvasi District, Uttar Kannada	2003-04	50.00	40.00
		29 Rural Tourism project in Anegundi, District Bellary	2003-04	50.00	40.00
		30 Rural Tourism project in Coorg	2003-04	50.00	40.00
11. Kerala		31 Development of Kumbalangi as rural tourism Destination, District Ernakulam	2003-04	50.00	40.00
		32 Development of rural tourism at Arnamura, District Pathanamthitta	2003-04	20.00	16.00
		33 Development of village Balrampur in Thiruvananthapuram District	2004-05	50.00	40.00
12. Madhya Pradesh		34 Rural tourism in Hatwa village	2002-03	40.00	13.20
		35 Rural tourism at Chaugan, District Mandla	2003-04	50.00	40.00
		36 Rural tourism project at Pranpur, District Ashoknagar	2003-04	48.00	38.00
		37 Rural Tourism Project at Orchha, District Tikamgarh	2005-06	50.00	40.00
13. Maharashtra		38 Rural Tourism at Sulibhanjan-Khultabad District Aurangabad	2003-04	50.00	40.00
14. Nagaland		39 Rural Tourism at Mopunchupket	2002-03	50.00	15.00
15. Orissa		40 Rural Tourism project at Raghurajpur, District Puri	2002-03	50.00	40.00
		41 Development of village Pipli in Puri District	2004.05	50.00	40.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
16. Rajasthan	42	Rural tourism at Neemrana, District Alwar	2003-04	50.00	40.00
	43	Rural tourism project Samode Village, District Jaipur	2003-04	50.00	40.00
17. Sikkim	44	Development of village Lachen in North District	2004-05	50.00	40.00
18. Tamil Nadu	45	Development of Kazhugumalai under rural tourism, District Thoothukudi	2003-04	48.66	38.94
	46	Development of Theerthamalai, District Dearnmapuri	2003-04	50.00	40.00
	47	Rural tourism at Karaikudi, Chettinadu, District Sivaganga	2003-04	50.00	40.00
	48	Development of Devipattinam (Navbhashnam in Ramnathpuram District)	2005-06	50.00	40.00
	49	Thirukurungudi, District Tirunelveli	2005-06	50.00	40.00
19. Tripura	50	Rural tourism at Kamlasagar, District West Tripura	2002-03	42.92	13.48
	51	Rural tourism at Champui Hills, District North Tripura	2003-04	50.00	15.00
20. Uttaranchal	52	Rural tourism project at Jageshwar, District Almora	2002-03	50.00	40.00
	53	Rural tourism project in Agora village (Dodital) Uttar Kashi District	2005-06	48.50	38.80
	54	Development of Hub Village at Mottad and its satellite station	2005-06	48.05	38.44
21. West Bengal	55	Development of Rural Tourism Centre at Ballabhpur Danga, District Birbhum	2003-04	50.00	15.00
	56	Development of village Sonada, District Darjeeling	2004-05	50.00	40.00
Total				2737.57	1891.25

Statement-II**GOI-UNDP Endogenous Tourism Project Sanctioned during 2004-2005**

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Site	District	State	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Pochampalli	Nalgonda	Andhra Pradesh	20.00	16.00
2.	Hodka	Kachchh	Gujarat	20.00	16.00
3.	Sulibhanjan-Khultabad	Aurangabad	Maharashtra	20.00	16.00
4.	Aranmula	Pathanamthitta	Kerala	20.00	16.00
5.	Karaikudi	Sivaganga	Tamil Nadu	20.00	16.00
6.	Banavasi	Uttar Kannada	Karnataka	20.00	16.00
7.	Chitrakote	Bastar	Chhattisgarh	20.00	16.00
8.	Pranpur	Ashok Nagar	Madhya Pradesh	20.00	16.00
9.	Nepura	Nalanda	Bihar	20.00	16.00
10.	Raghurajpur	Puri	Orissa	22.00	17.60
11.	Kazhugumalai	Thoothukudi	Tamil Nadu	20.00	16.00
12.	Kumbalanghi	Ernakulam	Kerala	20.00	16.00
13.	Naggar	Kullu	Himachal Pradesh	20.00	16.00
14.	Lachen	North District	Sikkim	20.00	16.00
15.	Sualkuchi	Kamrup	Assam	19.95	15.96
16.	Haldighati	Rajsamand	Rajasthan	19.32	15.45
17.	Mana	Chamoli	Uttaranchal	20.00	16.00
18.	Srikalahasti	Chittoor	Andhra Pradesh	19.80	15.84
19.	Durgapur	Golaghat	Assam	20.00	16.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
20.	Nagamar	Bastar	Chhattisgarh	20.00	16.00
21.	Jyotisar	Kurukshetra	Haryana	20.00	16.00
22.	Chaugan	Mandla	Madhya Pradesh	20.00	16.00
23.	Pipli	Puri	Orissa	20.00	16.00
24.	Rajasansi	Amritsar	Punjab	20.00	16.00
25.	Neemrana	Alwar	Rajasthan	20.00	16.00
26.	Samode	Jaipur	Rajasthan	20.00	16.00
27.	Kamlasagar	West Tripura	Tripura	20.00	16.00
28.	Bhaguwala	Saharanpur	Uttar Pradesh	19.75	15.50
29.	Ballabhpur	Birbhum	West Bengal	20.00	16.00
30.	Mukutmanipur	Bankura	West Bengal	20.00	16.00
31.	Jageswar*	Almora	Uttaranchal	20.00	
Total				620.82	480.35

*Under submission for approval.

[Translation]

Fertilizer Storage Work

227. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has received any representation in May 2005 from the Agricultural Investment Production and Marketing Co-operative Society Limited, Maliawan, district Hardoi (Uttar Pradesh) in regard to start fertilizers storage work;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) M/s. Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited (IFFCO) had agreed to avail the storage facilities of the Agricultural Investment Production and Marketing Cooperative Society Ltd., Maliawan, Distt. Hardoi (Uttar Pradesh) during Kharif, 2004 subject to fulfillment of the terms and conditions communicated to the society. Since, the society did not fulfill the requisite terms and conditions, the storage work was not awarded to them. No security deposit was demanded by IFFCO for availing of storage facilities of the society.

(c) The work pertaining to storage and marketing is undertaken by fertilizer manufacturers based on commercial and technical considerations and the Government has limited role in this activity.

[English]

Milk Producers under Insurance Cover

228. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK :

SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to bring the milk producers under the insurance cover;

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard;

(c) whether any survey has been conducted on the total number of people engaged in the dairy sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) No, Sir. There is no proposal to bring the milk producers under the insurance cover; however a proposal to introduce livestock insurance is under consideration.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir. No survey provides the total number of people engaged only in the dairy sector.

(d) Does not arise.

Review of Development Activities

229. SHRI MADAN LAL SHARMA :

SHRI D. VITTAL RAO :

SHRI ANANT GUDHE :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has reviewed the status of developmental activities in rural areas to work out appropriate strategic for accelerating growth in agriculture and related non-crop sector through a comprehensive policy measures/package;

(b) if so, the details of the trends revealed therein; and

(c) the details of the New Agricultural initiatives for thrust areas, particularly for non-green/dry and farming?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) and (b) The Mid-Term Appraisal of the Tenth Five Year Plan has, insofar as agriculture sector is concerned, identified several areas for accelerating growth in agriculture and allied sectors. There include a step up in public investment particularly in irrigation and water resource management; reforming and rejuvenation of support and delivery system; improvement in the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme; modification in the marketing laws in the States to facilitate contract farming; and giving major priority for demand management of milk and milk products.

(c) The new initiatives include launching of National Horticulture Mission for doubling the horticulture production by 2011-12 and formulation of programmes for enhancing the sustainability of dryland farming systems and micro-irrigation for efficient utilization of available water resources.

[Translation]

Agriculturist Families

230. DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN" :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total estimated number of agriculturist families in the country at present;

(b) the estimated number of agriculturist families holding less than one hectare of land;

(c) the percentage of the agriculturist families reported debt-ridden;

(d) the reasons behind their being debtors in such a large number; and

(e) the steps being taken to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) to (d) As per the National Sample Survey Report No. 498 : Indebtedness of Farmers (January-December, 2003), the total number of farmer households in the country was 89.35 million of whom 58.91 million farmer households were holding one or less than one hectare of land. The said Report further reveals that the estimated percentage of indebted farmer households was 48.6% and the loans had been taken for various purposes including investment in farm and non-farm business and meeting expenditure connected with marriages and ceremonies, education, medical treatment, etc.

(e) The availability of institutional credit for agricultural purposes in a hassle free manner at reasonable rates of interest and reducing the dependence on money lenders for meeting the credit needs is one of the key factors to promote investment in agriculture, accelerate its growth and increase the income of farmers. With this objective in view, the Government announced a comprehensive credit policy on 18th June, 2004 which provided, inter alia, for doubling of flow of credit in three years, increasing the coverage of institutional credit; debt restructuring in case of (a) farmers in distress; (b) farmers in arrears; (c) one time settlement for small and marginal farmers; and (d) farmers indebted to non-institutional lenders. In line with this announcement, the target for agricultural credit was increased from Rs.86,000 crores in 2003-04 to Rs. 1,05,000 crores in 2004-05. The actual disbursement increased from Rs. 86,981 crores during 2003-04 to Rs. 1,15,242 crores during 2004-05 representing an increase of almost 32.5%. Against the target of 50 lakh new farmers to be brought within the fold of institutional credit, over 78 lakh new farmers were actually provided credit from institutional sources during 2004-05.

11.23 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, July 26, 2005/Sravana 04, 1927 (Saka)

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