

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Sixth Session
(Fourteenth Lok Sabha)



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*The sign + marked above the name of a Member indicates that the Question was actually asked on the floor of the House by that Member.

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Monday, December 5, 2005/Agrahayana 14, 1927 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

(MR. SPEAKER in the Chair)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Q. 162.

...(Interruptions)

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (SOUTH DELHI) :

Sir, I have given notice for suspension of Question Hour.
...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : My request is to raise it after the Question Hour.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I will allow you after Question Hour.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I am appealing to the senior leaders. Shri Vajpayee and Shri Advani. Let the matter be raised after Question Hour.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It could be raised one hour later.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Some important questions are listed.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, I am not saying that any issue you wish to raise is not important. I am not saying that at all. I am not saying that. Because of importance of Question Hour, I am saying that you can raise the matter after Question Hour. I am saying this. I appeal to the senior leaders who are present here.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, you should all feel

inspired by your leaders, Shri Vajpayee and Shri Advani. They are sitting quietly. They are cooperating with the Chair. You should follow their examples.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet again at 11.30 a.m.

11.05 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till thirty minutes past Eleven of the Clock.

11.30 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at thirty minutes past Eleven of the Clock.

(MR. SPEAKER in the Chair)

...(Interruptions)

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Rain Water Harvesting

162. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA :
SHRIMATI ARCHANA NAYAK :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has prepared any action plan for rain water harvesting in view of the receding ground water level in the country;

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

(c) whether any instructions/guidelines have been issued to the State Governments in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the financial assistance provided to the State Governments during the last three years and proposed to be provided in the near future for implementation of the said action plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) to (e) "Water" being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments to formulate action plan for rain water harvesting and for augmentation of water resources. The Ministry of Water Resources has not prepared any action plan for rain water harvesting. However, the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), a subordinate office of the Ministry of Water Resources, has prepared a report, 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 in the identified areas of 4.5 lakh sq.km. The report outlines broad framework about feasibility of these recharge structures in various parts of the country. During the IX Plan (1996-2004), CGWB has implemented a Central Sector Scheme on "Study of Recharge to Ground Water" and taken up 165 demonstrative projects on rain water harvesting and artificial recharge in 27 States/UTs. The detail of funds released to various States/UTs under the scheme and released during 2002-03 and 2003-04 is given in the enclosed statement.

Ministry of Agriculture has implemented the National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPR) whose impact evaluations have shown that watershed based interventions have led to increase in ground water recharge.

Soil and water conservation works are also included under various activities of area development programmes, being undertaken by Department of Land Resources. However, funds under the above programme are not exclusively allotted for checking declining ground water, which is a resultant activity of moisture conservation works undertaken for the development of watershed areas.

Besides, Union Ministry of Water Resources has circulated a Model Bill to all the States/Union Territories to enable them to enact suitable legislation for regulation and control of ground water development. Manual/Guidelines on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water have also been circulated to the States/Union Territories to enable them to formulate area specific artificial recharge schemes to check the declining trend of ground water levels.

The Union Government has also taken following steps to check the decline in ground water level in the country :

- (i) Central 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.

- (ii) CGWA is regulating withdrawal of ground water by industries/projects. List of these critical areas has been circulated to the State Pollution Control Boards and the Ministry of Environment & Forests which refer the new industries/projects to CGWA for obtaining permission.
- (iii) Organisation of mass awareness programmes and training courses on rain water harvesting and artificial recharge of ground water.
- (iv) The Ministry of Urban Development & 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.

Statement

Details of funds released to various States/UTs under DGWB's Central Sector Scheme on "Study of Recharge to Ground Water"

Sl.No.	State/UT	Funds released during 2002-03	Funds released during 2003-04	Total funds released during 1998-04
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.00	0.00	52.25
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	20.00
3.	Assam	33.50	0.00	63.50
4.	Bihar	0.00	0.00	9.84
5.	Chandigarh	0.00	3.74	64.23
6.	Delhi	0.00	8.61	92.22
7.	Gujarat	0.00	0.00	20.05

1	2	3	4	5
8. Haryana	36.41	0.00	107.17	
9. Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	81.65	
10. Jammu and Kashmir	0.00	0.00	78.96	
11. Jharkhand	0.00	5.03	25.43	
12. Karnataka	14.55	0.00	43.30	
13. Kerala	13.11	0.00	88.18	
14. Madhya Pradesh	0.00	0.00	53.85	
15. Maharashtra	0.00	0.00	81.63	
16. Meghalaya	0.00	1.65	20.30	
17. Mizoram	0.00	0.00	28.00	
18. Nagaland	25.47	5.96	116.43	
19. Orissa	474.41	187.85	1338.79	
20. Punjab	88.98	0.00	361.92	
21. Rajasthan	30.52	0.00	122.24	
22. Tamil Nadu	15.20	2.55	161.14	
23. Uttar Pradesh	27.34	31.64	134.95	
24. Uttaranchal	0.00	0.00	2.00	
25. West Bengal	0.00	0.42	130.23	
26. Andaman and Nicobar	0.00	4.53	12.92	
27. Lakshadweep	11.85	0.00	19.85	
Total	771.34	251.98	3331.03	

[Translation]

Changes in Existing Farming System

163. SHRI JIVABHAI A. PATEL :
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to bring about changes in the existing system of farming practices;

(b) if so, the aspects of farming practices on which attention is to be paid in the new policy;

(c) whether farmers in certain areas are supplying more than the required quantity of fertilizers and pesticides;

(d) if so, whether any agency is to be involved in educating the farmers for optimal use of ground water and growth oriented resources so that agriculture may be more viable; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) and (b) The Government is promoting sustainable and resource conserving farming practices like zero tillage, raised bed planting, system of rice intensification, efficient water management, in situ moisture conservation in rainfed areas, integrated nutrient management and integrated pest management besides cultivation of hybrids/improved varieties of crops.

(c) The per hectare consumption of chemical fertilizers in the country is still around 90 kg per hectare which is far less than that of many developed countries. However in many areas, there is imbalance use of fertilizers and micro-nutrients. As regards application of pesticides, its improper use is being reported. Programmes such as Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) is underway to remedy these failings.

(d) and (e) The Department of Agriculture & Cooperation and its agencies, the State Departments of Agriculture, State Agriculture Universities, Institutes of Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Krishi Vigyan Kendras and other institutions are involved in educating the farmers about improved farming practices, including use of INM and IPM practices.

[English]

Pollution Control Measures

164. SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the union Government provides funds to control all types of pollution including environmental pollution in the country;

(b) if so, whether environmental pollution has not decreased commensurate with the funds spent in this regard;

(c) if so, the reasons attributed thereto; and

(d) the details of action plan chalked out to check increasing pollution?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI A. RAJA) : (a) The Union Government provides financial assistance under the following scheme for controlling Environmental pollution :

- (i) Abatement of pollution in rivers and lakes;
- (ii) Establishment of Common Effluent Treatment Plant;
- (iii) Construction for infrastructure facilities for treatment, storage and disposal of Solid and Hazardous Waste;
- (iv) Monitoring for compliance of Environmental Standards;
- (v) Assistance for Abatement of Pollution;
- (vi) Grant-in-aid to Central Pollution Control Board

(b) and (c) Due to various abatement and enforcement measures taken, there has been improvement in environmental quality as determined by monitoring by independent scientific and technical institution. In this connection, as regards pollution abatement in rivers, analysis carried out by the Harvard Institute of International Development has observed that in terms of both time and cost involved, the Ganga Action Plan-1 compares favourably with those of major rivers of the world. Similarly, the air quality in all metro cities have shown improvement as a result of various abatement measures undertaken. Monitored data indicate that Sulphur Dioxide and Oxides of Nitrogen which are key air pollutants are currently within notified standards.

- (d) The steps initiated to abate pollution include :
- (i) Notification and enforcement of emissions and effluent standards for various industries/activities;
 - (ii) Regular monitoring of environmental quality;
 - (iii) Issuance of notices/directions to non-complying units;
 - (iv) Action plans of improvement of air quality in identified polluted cities; and
 - (v) Implementation of Charter of Corporate Responsibility for Environmental Protection (CREP) for 17 categories of polluting industries.

Supply of Hybrids to Farmers

165. **SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL :**
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether there is no mechanism to see that all new varieties of hybrids are reaching farmers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reason therefor; and
- (c) the measures taken to bring reforms in Krishi Vigyan Kendras and make them responsible for strategic crop planning and activate the existing interface mechanism with farmers?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) and (b) The new varieties or hybrids developed by State Agriculture Universities and ICAR institutions are evaluated for performance and released through a system established under the Seeds Act, 1966 and the rules made thereunder.

The released breeder seeds are provided to the seed producing agencies like National Seeds Corporation, State Farms Corporation of India and State Seed Corporation etc., on the basis of indented requirement for multiplication into foundation and certified seeds. The certified seeds produced by seed producing agencies are made available to the farmers.

To popularize new varieties and hybrids frontline demonstrations are conducted by the scientists. Demonstrations are also conducted by Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs). New varieties and hybrids are widely publicised through electronic and print media.

(c) Provision has been made for electronic connectivity of 200 KVKs during Xth Plan for dissemination of technology information to the farmers and for creation of Soil and Water Testing facilities in 326 KVKs to improve the functioning of KVKs. There is no proposal to make KVKs responsible for strategic crop planning.

Assistance for Sugarcane Price Arrears

166. **SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA :** Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government had extended one time assistance to some States for clearing the sugarcane price arrears by private sugar factories;

- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether these States have fully availed of the said assistance to clear the arrears;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (f) whether any proposal is under the consideration of the Government to reintroduce the said assistance; and
- (g) if so, the time by which it is likely to be re-introduced?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Ministry of Agriculture approved to provide Rs. 678.06 crores as assistance for the year 2002-03 to the State Governments of U.P., Uttaranchal, Bihar, Punjab and Haryana which declare State Advised Price (SAP), to sugar factories to clear the sugarcane price arrears by the private sugar mills. However, the assistance is in the nature of soft loan at a concessional rate of interest of 4% per annum with an initial moratorium of three years and repayable in three years thereafter. This one time assistance for payment of cane arrears was only for the sugar season 2002-03 arising out of difference between the State Advised Price (SAP) and Statutory Minimum Price (SMP) with the condition of an undertaking from the State Governments that they will not declare State Advised Price for sugarcane in future, along with other terms and conditions.

(c) to (e) An amount of Rs. 45.54 crores was released to the Uttaranchal Government which have spent Rs. 35.94 crores. An amount of Rs. 18.86 crores was sanctioned to the Government of Bihar. Despite revalidation of the sanction in June 2004, the State Government have not drawn the same which has since got lapsed. So far as Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and Haryana are concerned, these States did not accept the terms and conditions of the scheme and therefore no funds were released to them.

(f) and (g) There is no such proposal.

[Translation]

Financial Assistance to FPI

167. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government extends protection and cooperation to Food Processing Industries in the matter of increasing the level of processing, bringing down the quantum of wastes, value addition, increasing the income of farmers as well as promoting exports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government provided financial assistance to the implementing agencies engaged in setting up, expansion and modernization of the Food Processing Industries which cover all the sectors; and

(d) if so, the details of the financial assistance provided during 2004-05 and 2005-06, State-wise and Food Processing Industry-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY) : (a) to (d) Main objectives of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries are to promote Food Processing Industries so as to increase level of processing, reduce wastage of food, enhance value addition and shelf life of the food products, increase income of farmers etc. Accordingly, the Government has implemented Plan Schemes to provide financial assistance for establishment and modernization of the food processing units, creation of infrastructure, support for Research & Development, human resource development besides other promotional measures to encourage development of food processing industries in the country. The information about financial assistance provided during 2004-05 and 2005-06 (up to November 2005) Statewise and number of the FPI units assisted sectorwise is given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

A. Details of Financial Assistance extended to FPI Units under the Scheme for Technology Upgradation/Establishment/Modernization of FPI Units

State/UT	(Rs. in lakhs)	
	2004-05	2005-06 (upto Nov. 2005)
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	797.67	360.20
Assam	245.76	40.83
Bihar	25.32	51.96

1	2	3
Chhattisgarh	32.61	6.48
Delhi	2.50	11.77
Goa	25.00	47.58
Gujarat	262.15	239.12
Haryana	183.34	132.39
Himachal Pradesh	75.51	116.98
Jammu & Kashmir	74.78	35.36
Jharkhand	-	48.28
Karnataka	425.32	249.21
Kerala	152.86	275.38
Madhya Pradesh	45.62	161.97
Maharashtra	778.67	803.48
Meghalaya	12.14	-
Mizoram	12.30	-
Orissa	63.31	3.93
Pondicherry	24.54	-
Punjab	538.23	256.38
Rajasthan	35.83	61.47
Tamil Nadu	310.60	454.21
Uttar Pradesh	591.76	516.63
Uttaranchal	87.88	156.31
West Bengal	325.74	219.89

*B. Sector-wise Financial Assistance provided to
FPI units during 2004-05 and 2005-06*

Sl.No.	Sector	No. of units assisted	
		2004-05	2005-06 (upto Nov., 2005)
1	2	3	4
1.	Fruits & Vegetables Processing	29	20

1	2	3	4
2.	Cereal Based Consumer Food	17	15
3.	Meat & Meat Processing	10	04
4.	Dairy Processing	17	17
5.	Fish Processing	11	06
6.	Grain Processing	97	99
7.	Aerated Soft Drinks/Packaged Drinking Water/Alcoholic Beverages	04	-

[English]

Insurance for Godowns and Foodgrains

168. DR. K. DHANARAJU :

SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA :

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

(a) the details regarding the number and capacity of Food Corporation of India (FCI) godowns in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government extends insurance cover to these godowns and the foodgrains stored therein;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the other steps taken by the Government for the safety of the foodgrains?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) As on 30th September, 2005, the Food Corporation of India (FCI) had a total of 1451 godowns (owned/hired/covered/CAP) with a total storage capacity of 247.74 lakh MTs. The State-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) to (d) The FCI has its own watch and ward who provide security throughout the year both to the godowns and the foodgrains stored therein. The FCI have also taken the Services of Central Industrial Security Force (CISF), private security and home guards where the watch and ward of the FCI has been found inadequate. In view of its own

provision of security, the FCI has not undertaken insurance cover for the godowns and the foodgrains.

However, in respect of foodgrains stocks kept in the godowns of the Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) and State Warehousing Corporations (SWCs), the foodgrains stored therein are duly insured by these agencies and their godown rent includes the cost of insurance.

(e) The following steps, inter alia, are taken by the FCI for the safety of foodgrains :

- (i) Physical measures, including installation of barbed wires, fencing of the boundary walls, provision of street lights for illumination of godowns and proper locking of the sheds.
- (ii) Deployment of security staff of FCI as well as other agencies like Home Guards and special police officers.
- (iii) Deployment of Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) and State Armed Police at vulnerable depots/godowns.
- (iv) Security inspections as well as surprise checks of the Depots are conducted from time to time at various levels to detect and plug the security lapses.
- (v) Proper preservation by the trained and experienced quality control staff and due prophylactic/curative treatments are given to the foodgrains stocks periodically.
- (vi) Stocks stored in CAP (Covered and Plinth) godowns are well covered/lashed with polythene covers to ensure the proper safety of stocks from the vagaries of the weather.
- (vii) Periodical physical verification by audit teams.

Statement

The State-wise Numbers of Godowns and Storage Capacity available with the Food Corporation of India as on 30.9.2005

State	Number of Godowns (Covered & CAP)	Storage Capacity (in lakh MT)
1	2	3
Bihar	45	5.19
Jharkhand	16	1.13

1	2	3
Orissa	65	5.95
West Bengal	41	10.12
Sikkim	2	0.11
Assam	35	2.62
Arunachal Pradesh	4	0.18
Meghalaya	6	0.29
Mizoram	5	0.18
Tripura	6	0.34
Manipur	2	0.18
Nagaland	5	0.29
Delhi	10	3.70
Haryana	132	22.55
Himachal Pradesh	16	0.26
Jammu & Kashmir	18	1.17
Punjab	351	68.48
Chandigarh	15	1.15
Rajasthan	63	9.40
Uttar Pradesh	126	25.69
Uttaranchal	28	1.75
Andhra Pradesh	140	33.60
Kerala	29	5.36
Karnataka	58	6.59
Tamil Nadu	31	7.73
Pondicherry	5	0.50
Gujarat	25	5.54
Maharashtra	63	15.51
Goa	1	0.15
Madhya Pradesh	59	5.42
Chhattisgarh	49	6.61
Total	1451	247.74

Dependence of Agriculture on Rain

169. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether even after 58 years of Independence of the country and Ten Year Plans, 60% of cultivable land continues to depend on rain;

(b) if so, the extent to which rain dependence of agricultural land has declined since Fifth Five Year Plan;

(c) the steps taken during the last three years to minimize total rain dependence of agriculture; and

(d) the further steps proposed for the last phase of the Tenth Five Year Plan in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) and (b) As per statistics available 60% of cultivable land is rainfed. During the period from the 5th Plan to the 10th Plan the percentage of rainfed agricultural land has declined from 73.4% to 60%. Details are indicated in the Table below :

(Area in '000 hectares)

Five Year Plan (Last year)	Net Area Sown	Net Irrigated Area	Rainfed Area	Percent Rainfed Area
V Plan	142981	38059	104922	73.4
VI Plan	140892	42145	98747	70.1
VII Plan	142339	46702	95637	67.2
VIII Plan	142813	55049	87764	61.5
IX Plan	141383	55853	85530	60.5
X Plan (First year)	132798	53131	79667	60.0

(c) and (d) Total dependence of agriculture on rains can be minimized mainly through assured irrigation coverage and through improved water management practices. However, following schemes are implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Rural Development to enhance soil and water conservation.

Ministry of Agriculture

- (i) National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPA).

- (ii) Soil Conservation in the catchments of River Valley Projects and Flood Prone River (RVP & FPR)

- (iii) Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSA).

- (iv) Reclamation of Alkali Soils (RAS).

Ministry of Rural Development

- (i) Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP).

- (ii) Desert Development Programme (DDP).

- (iii) Integrated Waste Land Development Programme (IWDP).

The area developed during the last three years under these programmes is 62.02 lakh hectare at an expenditure of Rs. 3287.06 crores. The above schemes will be continued up to the end of X Five Year Plan.

[Translation]

Decline in Agricultural Profession

170. DR. RAJESH MISHRA :

SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KAUSHAWAHA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether as per the 59th survey report of National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) forty percent farmers are under compulsion to leave agricultural profession;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the measures being proposed to arrest this tendency;

(d) the estimated average growth rate in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is agriculture sector during the current year;

(e) whether it is likely to decline;

(f) if so, whether there has been two fold increase in loan burden as compared to the growth in the GDP in the agricultural sector;

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

(h) the remedial measures taken or likely to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) and (b) As per the 59th Round Survey Report of National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO), 60 per cent of farmer households like farming as a profession and the remaining 40 per cent do not like it, because it is either not profitable or it is risky. Of the 40 per cent, those who do not like farming as a profession, 27 per cent found agriculture being not profitable. While 8 per cent consider agriculture as a risky venture, remaining 5 per cent dislike it for some other reasons, which include low social status.

(c) A number of measures have been taken by the Government to increase production and productivity in agriculture sector as also to raise the farm income by ensuring remunerative prices and thereby reasonable return to them. The measures, *inter-alia*, include easy and timely availability of institutional credit in a hassle free manner to the farmer at low rate of interest, better risk management through implementation of crop insurance scheme, strengthening of marketing and storage facilities, promotion of agricultural diversification towards income enhancing crops and activities suitable to small holdings, sustainable dry-land farming, subsidy and price support measures like announcement of Minimum Support Prices and organising of purchase operation to prevent distress sales by the farmers.

A number of specific Schemes are being implemented for the benefit of farmers including small and marginal farmers. Prominent among these are National Horticulture Mission, Macro Management of Agricultural Scheme, Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm & Maize (ISOPOM), Technology Mission on Cotton, Technology Mission on Coconut; Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in North Eastern States, including Sikkim, Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttaranchal, Seed Village Scheme, Strengthening of Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure. Under these Schemes financial assistance is provided to the farmers. Besides, two new initiatives on micro irrigation and enhancing sustainability of dry land farming systems are on anvil, which are to be implemented in the resource poor areas.

(d) and (e) As per latest statistics released by Central Statistical Organisation, the average annual growth rate of agriculture sector during 2004-2005 was about 1.1 per cent (at 1993-94 prices). The average growth rate estimated in the first two quarters of the current year is 2.0 per cent (at 1993-94 prices). Keeping in view the favourable monsoon and

reversal in the declining trend in the public investment in agriculture, the growth rate is not likely to decline.

(f) and (g) The credit flow to the agriculture sector has increased from Rs. 86981 crores in 2003-04 to Rs. 115242.81 crores in 2004-05 i.e. an increase of 36.71 per cent.

(h) To reduce the dependence on non-institutional/non-formal sources of credit who normally charge high rate of interest and thereby increase the loan burden on the farmers, the Government has announced a comprehensive credit on 18th June, 2004 which aims at doubling the flow of agricultural credit in three years. The major components of the farm credit package, *inter-alia*, include restructuring of loans for providing credit related relief to farmers in distress, farmers in arrears, farmers indebted to informal sources and One Time Settlement Scheme for small and marginal farmers who have been declared defaulters and have become ineligible for fresh credit.

[English]

Sick Public Sector Drug Companies

171. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of Public Sector Drug Companies which are sick at present;

(b) the losses suffered by these companies during each of the last three years, company-wise; and

(c) the action being taken to revive them?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) declared the following Central Public Sector Drug Companies under the administrative control of this Department as sick :

(i) Indian Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Limited (IDPL),

(ii) Hindustan Antibiotics Limited (HAL),

(iii) Bengal Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals Limited (BCPL),

(iv) Bengal Immunity Limited (BIL),

(v) Smith Stanistreet Pharmaceuticals Limited (SSPL).

(b) The losses suffered by the Public Sector Drug companies during the last 3 years are as under :

(Rs. in crores)

Sl.No.	Name of PSU	Losses during the last 3 years		
		2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
1.	IDPL	278.00*	268.00*	252.10*
2.	HAL	25.80	16.37	22.93*
3.	BIL	18.76	46.94	--**
4.	SSPL	12.90	32.92	--**

*Provisional

**The employees of BIL and SSPL were relieved under Voluntary Separation Scheme (VSS) w.e.f. 30.9.2003. At present the companies are closed and referred to the High Court for appointing a Liquidator.

BCPL did not suffer any losses during the last 3 years.

(c) The proposals for revival of HAL, BCPL and IDPL are under consideration of the Government.

Child Labour Elimination Projects

172. SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI :
SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI :

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

(a) whether a special Rs. 200 crore Project on Child Labour Elimination is being implemented jointly with US Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this Project is in addition to the existing National Child Labour Elimination Programme;

(d) if so, the reasons for two parallel programmes with the same objectives being running simultaneously in the country;

(e) the number of districts selected for this project;

(f) whether the Indo-US child labour project is under scanner as reported in the Times of India dated September 20, 2005; and

(g) if so, the present status of the project and the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO) : (a) A Rs. 175 crore (approximately) equivalent to 40 million dollar Joint Indo-US project is being implemented for Child Labour Elimination in selected districts of the country.

(b) As a follow-up to the Joint Statement on "Enhanced Indo-US Cooperation of Eliminating Child Labour" signed between the Ministry of Labour and Employment and the US Department of Labour in August, 2000, Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India, Department of Elementary Education and Literacy of the Ministry of Human Resource Development and the US Department of Labour have launched a child labour project INDUS (Indo-US). The Indus project aims at withdrawing and rehabilitating children working in identified hazardous sectors through effective convergence with the Department of Education.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Indus (Indo-US) Project is being implemented only in those districts where the National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme is not in operation. The Indus Project contains certain additional interventions, which are not covered under NCLP Scheme.

(e) The project is being implemented in 21 districts of 5 States of Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and Delhi since 2004.

(f) and (g) The Indus project was launched in February 2004 and is being currently implemented in all 21 districts of 5 States of Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and Delhi.

Procurement of Foodgrains

*173. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to a serious lacunae in the procurement policy, foodgrains being procured by the Government in some States are not in accordance with their production;

(b) if so, whether only a small quantity of foodgrains is being procured from some States due to the inadequate number of procurement centres set up therein;

(c) if so, whether the benefit of Minimum Support Price is being availed of by the farmers of only a few States;

(d) if so, the manner in which the Government proposes to procure foodgrains equitably from the States;

(e) whether in some States handling charges are more than the actual price and the farmers are not immediately paid for the foodgrains procured from them; and

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

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) to (c) As per the existing policy, foodgrains procurement is carried out by the FCI/State agencies in an open-ended manner at the minimum support prices fixed by the Government of India in all the States irrespective of any quantum and discrimination. The number and location of procurement centres are fixed depending upon the local requirement. The quantity of foodgrains procured by Government agencies in a State depends on several factors including production of foodgrains, market prices prevailing in the State, extent of private participation and market arrivals.

(d) The Government of India has taken several measures to increase procurement in non-traditional States to fully extend the benefits of Minimum Support Price (MSP) to local farmers, enhance efficiency of procurement and PDS, as well as provide foodgrains more suited to local taste under the PDS. This would also effect savings in transportation and handling costs of the FCI.

(e) No complaint of handling charges being in excess of approved rates have been received. The FCI has further reported that farmers are being paid on the very day of acceptance of the foodgrains stock. Instructions have also been issued to State Governments to ensure prompt payment to farmers for foodgrains purchased under MSP operations by the State agencies.

(f) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Development of Wheat Variety

174. SHRI MOHD. TAHIR :

PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research has developed a variety of wheat which can be

sowed ever after 60 days of the sowing season as reported in the "Dainik Jagaran" dated November 13, 2005;

(b) if so, whether an assessment has been made in regard to ripening period of this variety of wheat;

(c) if so, whether centres are being set up to distribute such seeds to the farmers;

(d) if so, whether its rates have since been fixed;

(e) whether any assessment of the yield of this variety of seeds has also been made; and

(f) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) The Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi, unit of Indian Council of Agricultural Research has developed a wheat variety WR 544 (Pusa Gold) suitable for very late sown irrigated conditions for growing in the National Capital Territory of Delhi. The variety is released for Delhi State.

(b) The ripening period of this variety is about 90 to 100 days when sown in January.

(c) and (d) The seeds of this variety are available at Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi for the use of farmers. It is being sold at the rate of Rs. 15/- per kg.

(e) and (f) The average yield of this variety is about 35 q/ha under very late sown conditions.

Revival of Reservoirs

175. SHRI MUNSHI RAM :

SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has issued any guidelines to the State Governments for repair and revival of reservoirs linked with agriculture;

(b) if so, whether the Government has conducted any review of the reservoirs during the current year;

(c) if so, the details of reservoirs which are in bad shape and whether these reservoirs have been inspected. State-wise;

(d) whether funds have been allocated to the States for construction of reservoirs; and

(e) if so, the number of States which have constructed the new reservoirs during the current year till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Yes, Sir. In 2005, the Government of India has issued guidelines for the pilot projects for repair, renovation and restoration of traditional water bodies directly linked to agriculture.

(b) and (c) As per these guidelines, the State Governments are required to examine traditional minor irrigation water bodies having an original command between 40 hectare up to 2000 hectare and to propose their repair, renovation and restoration in one or two districts under the pilot project. The Central Government in co-ordination with the State Governments once in a period of five years conducts a census of all minor irrigation schemes in the country, which includes tanks and surface water storages.

(d) and (e) The Pilot scheme of the National Project for repair, renovation and restoration of traditional water bodies does not envisage the construction of new reservoirs.

Workers Participation in Management

176. SHRI CHHATTAR SINGH DARBAR : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has taken any decision about workers participation in management in industrial sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO) : (a) to (c) The Participation of Workers in Management Bill, 1990 was introduced in Rajya Sabha on 30.5.1990 which would require some modifications to reflect changes in economic and social parameters since 1990. Accordingly it has been decided to pursue the Bill with some modifications after discussion/consultation with social partners in tripartite fora. In such circumstances, it is not possible to precisely indicate any specific time frame.

Irrigation Facilities under Bharat Nirman Yojana

177. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA :
SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has received the Action Plans from the States under Bharat Nirman Yojana to bring an additional one crore hectare of land under irrigation;

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

(c) the total expenditure likely to be incurred therefor, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) to (c) State Governments were requested to furnish necessary details in respect of the identified projects/schemes proposed to be covered under Bharat Nirman. State Governments have informed the Ministry of Water Resources about various identified activities. State-wise preliminary assessment of targets for irrigation potential and the estimated cost thereof as informed by the State Governments is given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Information about State-wise preliminary assessment of targets received from State Governments in respect of Bharat Nirman

Sl.No.	Name of State	Irrigation potential ('000 Hectare)	Estimated fund requirement (Rs. in crore)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4601.32	51059.61
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	28.94	261.33
3.	Assam	42.28	402.26
4.	Bihar	2531.94	7987.57
5.	Chhattisgarh	387.06	3115.39
6.	Goa	23.13	499.57

1	2	3	4
7.	Gujarat	10.45	19546.00
8.	Haryana	138.92	1607.85
9.	Himachal Pradesh	97.21	781.32
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	70.54	811.93
11.	Jharkhand	742.02	4929.27
12.	Karnataka	247.79	14336.57
13.	Kerala	214.22	1821.62
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1300.00	9558.70
15.	Maharashtra	1846.73	17174.93
16.	Manipur	93.18	857.05
17.	Meghalaya	14.91	62.55
18.	Mizoram	10.98	92.68
19.	Nagaland	25.31	141.86
20.	Orissa	627.37	4273.52
21.	Punjab	1102.97	4421.32
22.	Rajasthan	1000.01	5439.74
23.	Sikkim	9.90	28.07
24.	Tamil Nadu	23.55	546.64
25.	Tripura	86.17	971.42
26.	Uttar Pradesh	1065.47	3884.83
27.	Uttaranchal	76.38	898.93
28.	West Bengal	108.35	730.03

*[English]***Mahananda Project**

178. SHRIMATI MINATI SEN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether in 1991 a project was planned to control the floods of Ganga basins;

(b) if so, whether the plan was expanded in the

year 2000 to encounter the floods of rivers including Gomati, Ghaghara and Mahananda;

(c) if so, whether in 1999-2000 after evaluation, the Flood Control Commission accepted important plans to protect Lucknow city from floods and to go in for embankment of Mahananda;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether a grant of Rs. 36 crore has been accorded for Mahananda Project of North Bengal, out of which the Union Government has to grant Rs. 26 crore and Rs. 10 crore to be shared by the State Government; and

(f) if so, the steps initiated so far by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b) The Ganga Flood Control Commission (GFCC) had prepared a Comprehensive Plan for the flood management in the Ganga basin as a whole in 1986. This included plans for Ghaghara, Gomati and Mahananda rivers. Subsequently the updation of Comprehensive Plans were taken up from 1991.

(c) and (d) After consideration of all relevant factors the Government of Uttar Pradesh have prepared 8 schemes which propose totally embankments to a length of 36.50 km to enhance the protection of Lucknow city from floods of river Gomati.

(e) and (f) In September 2005, Ministry of Environment and Forests sanctioned a project for the abatement of pollution of river Mahanada, Jorapani and Fuleswari Streams at Siliguri town of West Bengal at an estimated cost of Rs. 37.3680 crore out of which the share of Central Government and State Government will be Rs. 26.1576 crore and Rs. 11.2104 crore respectively.

Tourism Projects

179. SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN :

SHRI HEMMAL MURMU :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Central Government team has visited various States and submitted its reports on new tourism projects and for upgradation of the existing projects in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the projects approved by the Government, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) Development of tourism is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. The Ministry of Tourism, Government of

India extends financial assistance for tourism related projects which are identified in consultation and interaction with them for new tourism projects and upgradation of the existing projects in the country.

(c) The projects so far sanctioned and funds released, State-wise, during the last three years, is at Statement enclosed.

Statement

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		
		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 & Kashmir	3	94.38	89.47	5	895.00	895.00	5	819.25	699.04
11.	Jharkhand	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	40.22	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 & 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, Large Revenue Generating Projects, Rural Tourism (Software and Hardware) Projects, IT, Event, Fair & Festivals Projects.

Dissemination of Knowledge to Farmers

180. PROF. M. RAMADASS : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has taken/proposes to take steps to make the farmers aware about matters having a bearing on agriculture in relation to the World Trade Organization and genetic engineering related issues; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to disseminate the knowledge about these issues to the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) and (b) Since the entry into force of the World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreement, the Government has, from time to time, held wide ranging consultations with the State Governments and Union Territories, political parties, farmers', associations, eminent agro-economists, Non-Government Organizations and research institutions to discuss various aspects of the WTO negotiations and disciplines pertaining to agriculture.

Regional consultations with State Governments, farmers', organizations and NGOs were also held at

Ahmedabad, Kolkata, Cochin and New Delhi in the year 2000. Further the Government has advised the States to set-up a consultative mechanism at state level to create awareness and discuss issues connected with agriculture trade and WTO related matters. Some states have set up such consultative mechanisms and have started holding discussion with farmers and other stakeholders.

From time to time the Government also organizes workshops/seminars jointly with the UNCTAD and non-governmental organizations as part of its awareness programme on WTO matters. The last such workshop was organized on November 28-29, 2005 jointly with the UNCTAD. The workshop among others was attended by the representatives of a large number of farmer organization. These include the Bharatiya Kisan Union, Shetkari Sanghatana, National Federation of Farmers Association etc.

As far as genetic engineering issues are concerned Government is implementing a World Bank assisted GEF Project on Capacity Building for Bio-safety. A number of training cum awareness initiatives under this project are in progress. In addition a series of workshops have been organized for strengthening the capacity of the regulatory systems at local, state and central levels and enhancing awareness among farmers and other stakeholders. Subsequent to the release of the first transgenic crop, Bt Cotton in April, 2002, Government had organized a series of training cum awareness workshops for the benefit of farmers, seed distributors, seed inspectors and others concerned.

[Translation]

Production of Pulses

181. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT :
SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total production of pulses, pulse-wise and State-wise;

(b) the percentage of pulse production in the country as compared to world production;

(c) the per capita availability of pulses in the country in the year 2000 and the current year;

(d) the area of land under pulse cultivation in the country, State-wise as on date;

(e) whether the production of pulses is estimated to be lower this year as compared to previous year;

(f) if so, the details with the reasons for the same;

(g) the manner in which its shortage is likely to be met; and

(h) the steps taken or likely to be taken by the Government to increase the pulses production in the country to meet the requirement?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) The production of pulses, pulse-wise and state-wise for the year 2004-05 are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) As per the FAO Production Year Book, India produces around 21% of the World production.

(c) The per capita availability of pulses in the country was 11.6 kg per annum in 2000 which increased to 13.0 kg per annum in 2004.

(d) The area under pulses during the kharif season 2005-06 at the all India level was 114.02 lakh hectares. Rabi sowing season is in progress and as per the reports available as on 28.11.2005, the area coverage under pulses during the current rabi season is 80.78 lakh hectares. State-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(e) and (f) As per the first advance estimates of production of foodgrains, the kharif production of pulses in 2005-06 is estimated at 4.98 million tonnes which is marginally higher than the estimated production of 4.95 million tonnes in 2004-05. As far as rabi pulses production is concerned, sowing of pulses is still continuing and at this juncture no shortfall in production of rabi pulses is anticipated as compared to last year.

(g) Production of pulses is generally less than the requirement in the country. The gap between demand and supply is made up by imports. India imported 12.96 lakh tonnes of pulses valued at Rs. 1718.64 crores during April 2004 to March 2005.

(h) In order to increase the production and productivity of oilseeds and pulses, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize" (ISOPOM) is being implemented since 1.4.2004. Under this scheme, assistance is provided for production of

breeder seed, foundation seed and certified seed, crash programme for quality seed production, distribution of certified seed, and minikits, infrastructure development, integrated pest management etc. Besides, front line demonstrations on improved production technologies in oilseeds and pulses are being conducted through Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

Statement-I

*State-wise and Pulse-wise Production of Pulses during 2004-05**

Production : '000 Tonnes					
State/UT	Tur	Other Kharif Pulses	Gram	Other Rabi Pulses	Total Pulses
1	2	3	4	5	6
Andhra Pradesh	219	151	346	293	1009
Assam	6	20	2	76	104
Bihar	45	34	51	375	505
Chhattisgarh	31	50	114	170	365
Gujarat	234	146	107	19	506
Haryana	30	22	105	10	167
Himachal Pradesh	9	8	4	6	27
Jammu & Kashmir	—	38	—	41	79
Jharkhand	49	69	25	42	185
Karnataka	304	215	200	42	761
Kerala	4	—	—	3	7
Madhya Pradesh	257	237	2549	384	3427
Maharashtra	648	505	522	25	1700
Orissa	88	83	20	67	258
Punjab	8	14	5	9	36
Rajasthan	13	487	820	36	1356
Tamil Nadu	25	58	47	102	232
Uttar Pradesh	580	186	669	921	2356

1	2	3	4	5	6
Uttaranchal	1	13	2	12	28
West Bengal	—	31	40	138	209
Others	10	24	2	28	64
All India	2561	2391	5630	2799	13381

*4th Advance Estimates.

Statement-II

Area under Pulses Cultivation

(Lakh Hectares)			
Sl.No.	States/UTs	Kharif	Rabi (as on 28.11.2005)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	9.84	2.73
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.05	0.02
3.	Assam	0.00	0.83
4.	Bihar	1.70	0.50
5.	Chhattisgarh	4.32	3.84
6.	Goa	0.01	0.00
7.	Gujarat	6.10	0.68
8.	Haryana	0.65	1.28
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0.30	0.30
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.18	0.06
11.	Jharkhand	2.04	0.06
12.	Karnataka	12.59	3.87
13.	Kerala	0.01	0.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	9.53	27.77
15.	Maharashtra	21.58	4.80
16.	Manipur	0.04	0.00
17.	Meghalaya	0.01	0.00

1	2	3	4
18.	Mizoram	0.04	0.00
19.	Nagaland	0.17	0.06
20.	Orissa	6.89	2.09
21.	Punjab	0.32	0.16
22.	Rajasthan	25.27	9.22
23.	Sikkim	0.05	0.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	1.43	3.52
25.	Tripura	0.04	0.00
26.	Uttar Pradesh	9.89	18.31
27.	Uttaranchal	0.31	0.03
28.	West Bengal	0.66	0.66
All India		114.02	80.78

[English]

National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority

1651. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a lot of complaints are being received against National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) for irregularities;

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

(c) whether NPPA has started granting dual prices for the formulation based on the merits or the indigenously procured raw materials; and

(d) if so, the names of the formulation where dual prices were notified?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) and (b) The Department has received complaints against NPPA on various issues, from time to time. On that basis NPPA has been directed to take appropriate action wherever necessary.

(c) The practice of dual pricing was started to encourage the production of bulk drugs in the country from

basic stage of fermentation by considering higher prices notified for basic stage production of bulk drugs for captive user/formulator. However, this dual pricing is not existing at present.

(d) In the past, the dual prices were notified in the case of formulations namely Erythromycin Estolate, Prednisolone, Oxytetracycline and Griseofulvin.

Self-Employment Scheme for Youth

1652. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether self-employment scheme functioning by Union Government and State Governments have made any appreciable impact in providing employment to educated youths;

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

(c) the quantum of central funds allocated under the said scheme during the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO) : (a) to (c) Various Ministries/Departments of Central as well as State Governments promote self employment schemes for various category of persons including educated youth and a large number of educated unemployed youth have taken advantage of such schemes. The allocation of funds and employment generated for some of the schemes like Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY), Swarn Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) for the years 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Performance of Self Employment Generation Schemes during the years 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Funds Allocation & Employment Generation		
		2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4	5
1. Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY)				
	(i) Funds Allocated (Rs. in crores)	169.00	218.90	218.50

1	2	3	4	5
(ii) Person assisted for Self Employment (In lakh nos.)	2.18	1.94 (P)	0.02*	
2. Swarn Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY)				
(i) Funds Allocated (Rs. in crores)	100.74	99.10	154.59	
(ii) Person assisted to set up Micro Enterprises for Self Employment (In lakh numbers)	1.01	1.03	NA	
3. Swarn Jayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY)				
(i) Central Allocation (Rs. in crores)	800.00	1000.00	1000.00	
(ii) Swarozgaries assisted (In lakh numbers)	8.97	11.13	3.36**	

* = Upto May 2005

NA = Not Available

P = Provisional

** = Upto September 2005

Securing of Export Contracts by BHEL

1653. SHRI E. G. SUGAVANAM : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the BHEL has secured export contracts from international market;

(b) if so, the details of export contracts secured during 2004-05 and 2005-06, till date; and

(c) the other steps taken by the Government to improve the functioning and efficiency of BHEL?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The following are major export orders/contracts received during 2004-05 :

2x60 MW Steam Turbine based Thermal Power Plant from Indonesia.

- Compressor Packages from Petroleum Development Oman
- Main line Diesel Electric Locomotives for Sudan Railways
- 15.3 MW Steam Turbine Generator package for Thailand
- Supply of Solar Cells and PV Modules to Italy and Germany

BHEL has secured the following major export contracts/orders during 2005-06 (till date) :

- Two Gas Turbine based Power Plants on Turnkey basis from Petroleum Development, Oman
- 2x30 KV class Substations from Ethiopian Electric Power Corporation, Ethiopia
- Centrifugal Compressor package from Petroleum Development, Oman

(c) BHEL was given Navaratna status during July, 1997 providing it with greater autonomy in the areas of Capital Investment, Technology Upgradation, Organisation Restructuring, Human Resource Management Policies etc. In August, 2005 Government has further enhance Navratna powers of ceiling on equity investment to establish joint ventures, delegated powers for mergers and acquisitions and for business tours abroad for functional Directors of the Company.

Setting up of Heavy Industries in Tenth Plan

1654. SHRI RANEN BARMAN : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up heavy industries in the backward districts of the country during the Tenth Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b) So far as the Department of Heavy Industry is concerned, there is no proposal at present to set up any new public sector units during the Tenth Five Year Plan anywhere in the country.

(c) The Government is to act more as a facilitator and would encourage private sector participation in various sectors in the delicensed regime.

Categorization of PSUs

1655. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) have been categorized;

(b) if so, the basis and the reasons for categorization therefor; and

(c) the extent to which the categorization has improved the functioning of the PSUs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b) Public Sector Enterprises (PSEs) have been categorized into four schedules, viz., Schedule 'A', 'B', 'C' and 'D'. Categorization of PSEs in different Schedules is being done on the basis of their importance to the economy, complexities of problems and taking into consideration various quantitative, qualitative and other factors such as capital employed, turnover, profit, level of technology, competition from other sectors, location, image, etc. Categorization of PSEs is required for selection and appointment of Board level executives, deciding the pay scales and other perks of Chief Executives, functional Directors and other executives, deciding eligibility of PSEs for granting Navratna status etc.

(c) Improvement in performance of a PSE is dependent upon a wide range of factors including technology, processes, market conditions, status of economy, competitiveness, etc. as well as contribution of the top management.

[Translation]

New Schemes to Attract Foreign Tourists

1656. SHRI HARIBHAU RATHOD :
SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN :
SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the details of schemes and programmes being implemented in the country to promote tourism and the variant particulars adopted, if any, for different States in the said schemes;

(b) whether the Government has taken any decision regarding financing of tourism schemes/programmes during the current year; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) Ministry of Tourism has been implementing the following broad schemes in the country to promote tourism :

- (i) Product/Infrastructure Development for Destinations and Circuits.
- (ii) Assistance for Large Revenue Generating Projects.
- (iii) Incentives to Accommodation Infrastructure.
- (iv) Capacity building for Service Providers.
- (v) Domestic Promotion and Publicity including Hospitality.

Ministry of Tourism provides Central Financial Assistance to State Government/Union Territories for development and promotion of tourism products based on the proposals received from States/UTs and based on the priorities decided in consultation with them and funds are released subject to availability of funds in the respective head and inter-se-priority

(b) and (c) During the current year Rs. 786 crore has been earmarked for implementation of the various tourism schemes. The details in this regard are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement*The Scheme-wise Allocation under the Annual Plan 2005-06*

(Rs. in crores)

Sl.No.	Name of Schemes	Approved Annual Plan 2005-06 (BE)
I	Central Sector Schemes (CS)	
1.1	(a) Externally Aided Projects (Buddhist Centres)	10.75
	(b) UNDP Endogenous Projects	3.25
1.2	Assistance to IHMs/IITM/NIWS/NIAS/NCHMCT	30.00
1.3	Capacity Building for Service Providers	15.00
1.4	Overseas Promotion and Publicity including Market Development Assistance	140.00
1.5	Domestic Promotion and Publicity including Hospitality	70.00
1.6	Incentives to Accommodation Infrastructure	10.00
1.7	Construction of Building for IISM at Gulmarg Kashmir (J&K Package)	6.00
1.8	Market Research including 20 Years Perspective Plan	3.00
1.9	Assistance for Large Revenue Generating Project	30.00
1.10	Computerization and Information Technology	20.00
1.11	Total-CS Scheme (1.1-1.10)	338.00
II	Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS)	
2.1	Product/Infrastructure Development for Destinations and Circuits	359.00
2.2	Tourism Infrastructure Development Fund	10.00
2.3	Total-CSS Schemes (2.1-2.3)	369.00
2.4	Total-CS & CSS Schemes (1.11+2.3)	707.00
III	10% Lump sum provision for NE Region including Sikkim	79.00
3.1	Total (North East and Sikkim)	79.00
3.2	Grand Total (2.4+3.1)	786.00

*[English]***Pending Irrigation Projects of Karnataka**

1657. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether some of the important irrigation projects

of Karnataka are lying pending with the Union Government for long period;

(b) if so, the details of these projects;

(c) the estimated cost of each of these projects;

and

(d) the time by which these projects are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) to (d) Out of 5 irrigation project proposals (4 major and 1 medium) received from Government of Karnataka two irrigation projects (1 major and 1 medium) are under various stages of appraisal

and three major irrigation projects of Karnataka have been techno-economically accepted by the Advisory Committee of Ministry of Water Resources subject to compliance of few observations. The details of these five projects are in the enclosed Statement.

The time taken for clearance of projects depends upon the promptness with which the State Government arrange compliance to the observations of Central appraising agencies.

Statement

Sl.No.	Name of the Projects	Major/ Medium	River/Basin	District Benefited	Date of Receipt	Benefit (Th. Ha.)	Estt. Cost (Rs. crores)	Category
1.	Singatalur (Huligudda) Lift Irrigation Scheme	Major	Tungabhadra/ Krishna	Godage, Bellary	7/98	16.188	123.00	A
2.	Basapur Lift Irrigation Scheme	Medium	Tungabhadra/ Krishna	Dharwad	11/96	2.267	9.36	A
3.	Hippargi Irrigation Project	Major	Krishna	Bijapur	8/85	59.69	186.70	B
4.	Markandeya	Major	Markandeya/ Krishna	Belgaum	5/97	19.105	209.85	B
5.	Upper Tunga Project	Major	Tungabhadra/ Krishna	Shimoga, Davanagere, Haveri	1/02	80.494	1052.33	B

Status : A—Project under various stages of appraisal.

B—Accepted by the Advisory Committee of Ministry of Water Resources subject to certain observations.

**Environmental Projects in
Jammu and Kashmir**

1658. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of environmental projects aided by the Union Government in Jammu and Kashmir and funds allocated for each of the project/scheme; and

(b) the funds made available to Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) in Jammu and Kashmir for environmental/afforestation projects during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) The details of the Projects/Schemes assisted through plan are :

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of the Programme	Plan funds allocated		
		2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Development of Parks and Sanctuaries	99.90	138.82	63.20
2.	Conservation & Management of Mangroves & Coral Reefs	132.65	56.32	31.51

1	2	3	4	5
3. Integrated Forests Protection		74.25	109.78	193.84
4. National Afforestation		545.00	721.00	1622.00
5. National Environmental Awareness Campaign		22.55	18.50	7.69
6. Botanical Gardens		—	5.00	—
7. Assistance for Abatement of Pollution		31.86	—	—

(b) Funds released to the NGOs during last three years given below :

	(Rs. in lakhs)		
	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
1. Environmental Projects	22.55	18.50	7.69
2. Afforestation Projects	—	7.16	—
Total	22.55	25.66	7.69

Indo-Bangla Joint Rivers Commission

1659. SHRI M. K. SUBBA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the 36th meeting of Indo-Bangladesh Joint River Commission was held recently;

(b) if so, the specific issues discussed therein particularly those with regard to sharing of waters of Ichhamati in West Bengal and the seven Bangladesh rivers and to prevent erosion and other damages caused by these rivers; and

(c) the decisions arrived at and the steps being taken by the Government to implement the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) to (c) 36th meeting of Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission was held from 19th to 21st September, 2005. There was no agenda pertaining to sharing of waters of Ichhamati in West Bengal. However, the issues relating to dredging of common border stretch river Ichhamati and sharing of waters of river Teesta and other common rivers were discussed among other items.

With reference to bank protection works/minor lift

irrigation schemes/drinking water supply schemes on common border rivers and dredging of common border stretch of river Ichhamati, it was decided that Ministers of Water Resources of India and Bangladesh will jointly inspect these sites to assess the situation on the ground in order to give relevant decision on the future course of action to be undertaken by the two countries on their specific concerns. Accordingly, the details of sites have been exchanged between both the Governments.

Setting up of Devliya Safari Park

1660. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from the Government of Gujarat to improve the tourism in Devliya Safari Park in Gir Paschim Forest;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government has considered the proposal; and

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

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

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme

1661. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI :
DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had launched an Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) in 1996-97;

- (b) if so, the complete details thereof;
- (c) the activities carried out in Bihar so far under the programme and the amount spent thereon;
- (d) the present position of the programme;
- (e) the amended policy of the Government under the programme; and
- (f) the reaction of the Government on the proposal sent by the Government of Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Central Government launched the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) in 1996-97 to provide Central Loan Assistance (CLA) with the objective to accelerate the implementation of such approved major/medium irrigation projects which were in an advanced stage of completion and beyond the resources capability of the State Governments.

(c) The Government of Bihar has received CLA/ grant of Rs. 476.83 crore upto November, 2005 under the programme for 8 major/medium irrigation projects. During 2005-06, Rs. 10.764 crore has been released as grant. The ceiling fixed by the Planning Commission for the State of Bihar for 2005-06 for providing Central Assistance under AIBP is Rs. 75 crore.

(d) An amount of Rs. 18004.47 crore has been released as Central Loan Assistance/Grant under this programme upto November, 2005 for 188 major/medium irrigation projects and 4472 minor irrigation schemes. As reported by State Governments, 45 major/medium irrigation projects have been completed under AIBP as on date creating an irrigation potential of 3.25 million hectare through major/medium projects. Under minor irrigation, 3179 schemes have been completed and 121.15 thousand hectare potential created up to October, 2005.

(e) In order to make AIBP more effective, the guidelines of the programme have been revised from time to time and the important changes as per the latest guidelines effective from 1.4.2005 are : (i) From Financial Year 2005-06 onwards, only the grant component of the Central Assistance (CA) would be released by the Central Government while the

loan component of CA is be raised by the State Governments from market borrowing. However, in case of fiscally weak states, Central Government would help raise the loan component also; (ii) The completion period for projects under Normal Programme is fixed as 4 financial years and that under Fast Track Programme as 2 financial years; (iii) Extension, Renovation and Modernization projects are to be included on a selective basis; (iv) For Non-Special category States, only those Minor Irrigation Schemes with potential more than 100 hectare with preference to Tribal Areas and drought prone areas which wholly benefit dalits and adivasis are to be included under AIBP; and (v) Flood/Drought prone areas and tribal areas in the country to be identified in consultation with the Planning Commission shall be treated at par with Special Category States for funding under AIBP i.e., 90% grant and 10% loan.

(f) During 2005-06, the Government of Madhya Pradesh has sent proposals for 10 major/medium irrigation projects out of which 8 proposals have been returned to the State for certain clarification and an amount of Rs. 13.45 crore has been released as grant for two projects. The ceiling fixed by the Planning Commission for the State of Madhya Pradesh for 2005-06 is Rs. 750 crore.

Irrigation Projects

1662. SHRI V. K. THUMMAR :

SHRI JIVABHAI A. PATEL :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of irrigation schemes sanctioned for Gujarat;
- (b) the amount released as the Central and State Government share during the last three years, scheme-wise;
- (c) the number of projects out of them completed as per their schedule and the number of those still under implementation; and
- (d) the time by which the schemes are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b)

There are 15 major/medium irrigation schemes of Gujarat which have received Central Loan Assistance (CLA)/grant under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) since 1996-97 and an amount of Rs. 2181.189 crore has been released to these projects as CLA/grant during the last 3 years. The CLA under AIBP for Gujarat was provided in the ratio of 2 : 1 (Central : State) during 2002-03 and from 2003-04 onwards in the ratio of 4 : 1 (Centre : State) after categorizing the State as Reforming State. As per the guide-

lines of AIBP, the State share of the projects is released by the State Government itself based on the plan allocation. A statement is enclosed herewith in this regard.

(c) and (d) Out of 15 major/medium irrigation schemes which have received CLA, 9 have been completed and 6 schemes are still continuing under the programme. As reported by the State Government, the 6 continuing projects are scheduled for completion during the Tenth Five Year Plan period.

Statement

Central Loan Assistance (CLA)/Grant Released under AIBP to Govt. of Gujarat from 2002-03 to 2004-05

(Rs. in crore)

Sl.No.	Name of Project	Amount					Grand Total
		2002-03	2003-04	2004-05			
				Loan	Grant	Total	
(1)	(2)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(15)
1.	Sardar Sarovar	903.000	557.000	420.0000	18.0000	438.0000	1898.000
2.	Jhuj (C)						0.000
3.	Sipu (C)						0.000
4.	Mukteshwar	0.890	0.225				1.115
5.	Harnav-II (C)						0.000
6.	Umaria (C)						0.000
7.	Damanganga (C)						0.000
8.	Karjan (C)						0.000
9.	Sukhi (C)						0.000
10.	Deo (C)						0.000
11.	Watrak Kadana RB Canal (C)						0.000
12.	Aji-IV	0.665	0.093				0.758
13.	Ozat-II	1.115	0.335				1.450
14.	Brahamini-II						0.000
15.	Bhadar-II	0.660	0.206				0.866
Sub Total 1		906.330	557.859	420.0000	18.0000	438.0000	1902.189

(1)	(2)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(15)
CLA Released under Fast Track Programme (FTP)							
Sardar Sarovar Project (FTP-I)	94.000						94.000
Sardar Sarovar Project (FPT-II)			92.500	64.7500	27.7500	92.5000	185.000
Sub-Total 2	94.000		92.500	64.7500	27.7500	92.5000	279.000
Total	1000.330		650.359	484.7500	45.7500	530.5000	2181.189

C—Completed

*[English]***Utilization of Funds**

1663. SHRI JOACHIM BAXLA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation has not been utilizing its funds allocation;

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

(c) whether the Government proposes to take steps to ensure full utilization of the funds; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) and (b) The year-wise details of approved outlay and expenditure incurred by the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation during the last three years are as follows :

(Rs. in crore)

Year	BE	Expenditure	Percentage w.r.t. BE
2002-03	2167.00	1656.78	76.46
2003-04	2167.00	2050.77	94.64
2004-05	2650.00	2657.42*	100.28

*Provisional

The expenditure incurred was more than 90% in respect of BE during the first three years of the Tenth Five Year Plan except for the year 2002-03. The shortfall in 2002-03 was on

account of diversion of Plan funds to meet the expenditure incurred for procurement of Oilseeds under Price Support Scheme of National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED).

(c) and (d) The steps have been taken by the Department to ensure full and proper utilization of funds including timely release of funds, regular monitoring and review of implementation of the schemes.

Chandoli National Park for Tiger Project

1664. SHRI SHRINIWAS DADASAHEB PATIL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to declare Chandoli National Park for Tiger Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the benefits likely to accrue to the tiger project there from?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (c) The Government of Maharashtra had submitted a proposal for declaring the Chandoli forest area as a Tiger Reserve, which has not been accepted by the Steering Committee of Project Tiger.

Organic Manure

1665. SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the total bulk of the organic manure produced in the country by using various unconventional methods in the entire rural areas;

(b) the details of the total bulk of such organic manure extracted from the excreta of the cows;

(c) the details of the total percentage of such organic manure of cows account for out of total use of organic and chemical manure put together;

(d) the details of the total quantity of manure required for Indian agriculture during the last three years, State-wise with special references to Karnataka; and

(e) the total quantity of Chemical and Fertilizer required for a particular agricultural season?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) The total bulk of organic manure produced in the country by using various unconventional methods like animal excreta, crop residues, biogas slurry, green manures, rural compost, bio-fertilizer etc. in rural areas is estimated at 5.89 million tonne in plant nutrient form (N+P+K).

(b) About 1.299 million tonne (in plant nutrient form—N+P+K) organic manure is extracted from the excreta of the cattle.

(c) Approximately 5.20% of such organic manure of cattle account for out of total use of organic and chemical manure put together.

(d) Since organic manure are mostly produced and used on farm, the state-wise information is not available.

(e) The total requirement of chemical fertilizers has been assessed to be 11.78 million tonne (N+P+K) for Rabi 2005-06.

[Translation]

Integrated Agricultural Trade Package

1666. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to formulate an Integrated Agricultural Trade Package for the trade of processed fruits, vegetables, milk, meat and poultry products including raw and finished food products; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY) : (a) and (b) At present, no Integrated Agricultural Trade Package for trade of processed fruits, vegetables, milk, meat and poultry products has been formulated. However, promotional schemes to encourage trade in respect of specific products are operated by Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) and other agencies.

[English]

Funds for Fish Production

1667. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Fish Farming in India was not getting its due share from the Government; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government for allotment of funds for improving fish production in the country as that would improve the income of farmers besides bringing in substantial foreign exchange through exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN) : (a) and (b) Major thrust of the schemes and programmes being implemented by the Central Government is to enhance the fish production and productivity as well as welfare of the fishers. In order to enhance fish production and productivity during the Tenth Plan, under marco-management approach, the Government has formulated two Centrally Sponsored Schemes, namely, Development of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture; and Development of Marine Fisheries, Infrastructure and Post-Harvest Operations. Both the above schemes have a number of components. The schemes are being implemented by the respective States/UTs. Under the above schemes, financial assistance in the form of subsidy for developmental activities is shared between the Government of India (50-80%) and the State Governments (20-50%). Fish production in the country has been showing an increasing trend in inland fish production in particular and has reached a record level of 6.4 million tonnes (both marine and inland) in 2003-04.

[Translation]

Special Scheme for BPL Families

* 1668. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to formulate any special scheme for providing foodgrains to the people living Below Poverty Line (BPL);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the schemes being run by the Government presently for the BPL families?

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) Yes, Sir. The Village Grain Bank Scheme is being revised to provide foodgrains to the people living below poverty line in food scarce areas of the country;

(b) It is proposed to establish Village Grain Banks in chronically food scarce areas e.g. drought prone areas, the tribal areas, hot and cold deserts and inaccessible hilly areas to safeguard against starvation during the period of natural calamity or during the lean season when the poor in village households do not have sufficient resources to purchase the ration. The scheme envisages inclusion of all willing Below Poverty Line and Antyodaya Anna Yojana families in the villages to become members of the grain banks. The grain banks are to be established by Gram Sabha/ Panchayats, Self Help Groups of Non Government Organizations (NGOs) in villages notified by the State Governments as food scarce areas. During the current financial year a provision of Rs. 20.20 crore has been made under the Plan Head and about 3471 grain banks are proposed to be established in the country. The estimated expenditure for one grain bank comprising an average of 40 members would be Rs. 60,000.

(c) The details of other schemes being run by the Government for BPL families are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

1. Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) :

For 652.03 lakh BPL families, foodgrains @ 35 Kgs. per month per family at subsidised rates are being allocated to all the State Governments/UT Administrations by the Central Government for distribution through Fair Price Shops in the entire country.

2. Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) :

Foodgrains at highly subsidised rate of Rs. 2.00 per

Kg. for wheat and Rs. 3.00 per Kg. for rice are being allocated to States/UT Governments for 2.5 crore poorest of poor households under BPL category.

3. Sampoon Gramin Rojgar Yojana (SGRY) :

SGRY—a wage employment programme open to all rural poor who are in need of wage employment and desire to do manual and unskilled work in and around their village/habitat is being implemented by Ministry of Rural Development in all States.

4. Special Component of SGRY :

Foodgrains are allocated for generating employment for the poor and affected people due to natural calamities like floods, drought etc. The Scheme is being implemented by Ministry of Rural Development.

5. National Food for Work Programme (NFFWP) :

The programme has been launched by Ministry of Rural Development in November, 2004 in 150 most backward districts of the country for providing additional resources for supplementing wage employment and creation of need based economic, social and community assets in these districts. The programme is open to all rural poor.

6. Mid Day Meal Scheme (MDMS) :

Foodgrains at BPL rates are being allocated for implementing Mid Day Meal Scheme by Department of Elementary Education and Literacy. Under the scheme cooked food is provided to school children upto primary level.

7. Annapurna Yojana :

Foodgrains at BPL rates are allocated to State/UT Governments for free distribution to indigent senior citizens of 65 years of age or above who though eligible for old age pension under National Old Age Pension Scheme but are not getting the pension, @ 10 Kgs. per person per month.

8. National Programme for Adolescent Girls (NPAG) :

Foodgrains at BPL rates are allocated to States/UT Governments for distribution of free foodgrains to under-nourished adolescent girls and expectant and nursing mothers in 51 identified districts of the country. The

programme is being implemented by Department of Women and Child Development.

9. Wheat Based Nutrition Programme (WBNP) :

Foodgrains at BPL rates are being allocated to State Governments for distribution to children 0-6 years age group and lactating mothers. The Scheme is being implemented by Department of Women and Child Development.

10. Additional Allocation for Hostels/Welfare Institutions :

Allocation of additional foodgrains at BPL rates is being made to the State Governments for catering to the needs of SC, ST & OBC hostels/welfare institutions/NGOs etc.

11. Emergency Feeding Programme (EFP) :

Foodgrains at BPL rates are being allocated to State Government of Orissa for 2 lakh beneficiaries in 8 KBK Districts for distribution among old, infirm and destitute persons.

12. Swarnjayanti Gramin Swarajgar Yojana (SGSY) :

This Centrally Sponsored Scheme for poverty alleviation and rural development provides for self employment. The scheme is being implemented by Ministry of Rural Development.

13. Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) :

The Scheme being implemented by Ministry of Rural Development provides shelter to the shelter-less rural poor families. The Scheme is specially meant for BPL families living in rural areas of the country.

14. Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) :

Ministry of Rural Development is implementing the scheme for providing financial incentive to the BPL households.

Committee for Cooperative Sector

1669. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has constituted a high level Committee to strengthen the cooperative sector in the country in future;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the required guidelines have been issued by the Government for functioning of the said Committee; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has constituted a High Powered Committee to review the achievements of Co-operative Movement during the last 100 years and to recommend the steps to be taken to address challenges being faced by the Co-operative Movement in the changing socio-economic environment and to suggest an appropriate policy and legislative framework and changes required in the cooperative legislation in the country with a view to ensure the democratic, autonomous and professional functioning of cooperatives.

(c) and (d) The Committee is empowered to devise its own procedure for functioning.

Unemployment Allowance to Labourers

1670. SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the unemployment allowance is being paid to the labourers under 'Rajeev Gandhi Shramik Kalyan Yojana';

(b) if so, the eligibility criteria laid for the unemployed being benefited under the said scheme;

(c) the details of the labourers benefited under above scheme and the amount disbursed to them, State-wise; and

(d) the present status of the said scheme?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Unemployment Allowance is paid to the Insured Persons found eligible under this scheme.

(b) An Insured Person who has contributed for a minimum period of five years prior to loss of employment, on account of closure of the factory or establishment,

retrenchment or permanent invalidity arising out of non employment injury is eligible for Unemployment Allowance w.e.f. 1.4.2005 for a maximum period of six months. This allowance can be availed in one or more spells, which shall not be less than one month. This allowance shall not be combined with other benefits such as Sickness, Maternity or Disablement Benefit for the same period. The Insured Person has to choose which benefit he/she wishes to avail of.

(c) 19 Insured Persons have been paid Unemployment Allowance upto October, 2005. The State-wise details are as under :

State/Region	No. of cases	Amount disbursed
Maharashtra	17	Rs. 2,46,656/-
Goa	02	Rs. 27,798/-
Total	19	Rs. 2,74,454/-

(d) The scheme is operational.

[English]

Decentralised Procurement

1671. SHRI MANOJ KUMAR : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the decentralization of procurement system will reduce the cost of handling and carriage;

(b) if so, the extent to which savings are likely to accrue therefrom; and

(c) the likely impact of this policy of Food Corporation of India?

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) Yes, Sir.

(b) This is expected to result in savings of around Rs. 40 to Rs. 100 per quintal in transportation and handling charges depending on the location of the State undertaking Decentralised Procurement.

(c) The Food Corporation of India (FCI) will continue to play a major role in the implementation of the food policy

of the Government of India with regard to procurement, storage and distribution of foodgrains.

Reduction in Subsidies

1672. SHRI P. RAJENDRAN : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to reduce/cancel present subsidies being provided to the Public Distribution System; and

(b) if so, present status of the proposal?

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) There is no proposal before the Government to reduce the coverage of households under the TPDS, at present. However, measures to improve the operational efficiency of the FCI to contain the food subsidy are at various stages of implementation.

[Translation]

Tiger Project in Madhya Pradesh

1673. SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP SINGH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Tiger projects are proposed to be set up in the State of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has any proposal to displace revenue villages falling under the territory of National Park/Sanctuary;

(d) if so, the time by which they are likely to be displaced;

(e) whether the basic amenities are being provided to the villages under the territory of the National Park/Sanctuary; 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) Based on proposal received from the

State, in principle approval was accorded by the Steering Committee of Project Tiger for inclusion of Sanjay National Park and Sanjay Dubri Wildlife Sanctuary of Madhya Pradesh under Project Tiger. Action has been initiated on the proposal.

(c) and (d) Based on the recommendations of the Tiger Task Force, action has been initiated for a country level appraisal of villages within Protected Areas which require relocation within a given time frame.

(e) and (f) Statutory provision has been made under Section 18A(2) of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, mandating the State Government to make alternative arrangements required for making available fuel, fodder and other forest produce to the persons affected, in terms of their rights as per the Government records, till such time as the rights of such persons are finally settled under Sections 19 to 24 (both inclusive) of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

[English]

Growing of Medicinal Plants in Orissa

1674. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has taken steps to grow and extend the cultivation of medicinal plants in Mahendragiri and some other hills and forest areas in Orissa; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the progress achieved in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Five projects have been sanctioned by the National Medicinal Plants Board for in-situ and ex-situ conservation of medicinal plants at Mahendragiri, Malyagiri reserved forest, Muniguda reserved forest, Kanjipani in Gandamardan hill range and Hatikote reserved forest. So far 46 projects involving financial outlay of Rs. 274.79 lakh covering 844 acres under contractual farming scheme have been sanctioned by the National Medicinal Plants Board in the State of Orissa.

Cultivation of Mahua Tree

1675. SHRI S. K. KHARVENTHAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware that the

scientists at the Forest College and Research Institute (FCRI) of the Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Mettupalayam have conducted research of an alternative edible oil from 'Mahua' seeds which is very useful for human beings, fish, cattle and the Mahua tree has the potential of enhancing rural income;

(b) if so, whether the Government has taken any steps to promote the cultivation of Mahua tree and any incentive is proposed to be given to the planters;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) Yes, Sir. Forest College and Research Institute of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University has conducted research on Mahua to identify and popularize potential oil yielding tree as a source of alternate edible oil. Accordingly, this institute has conducted intensive research and identified 30 potential genotypes based on oil content which ranged between 26.48% and 51.50%. The institute has also standardized the clonal propagation method using cleft grafting approach for mass multiplication of high yielding and high oil content varieties.

(b) and (c) To strengthen the current research and popularize Mahua as a source of oil yielding tree, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research has recently funded a network project to the Forest College and Research Institute (FCRI), Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu for improvement of Mahua tree and establishment of potential progenies suitable for various locations and their popularization as a Tree Borne Oilseeds.

(d) Does not arise.

Ganga Action Plan to Check Erosion

1676. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has formulated any plan to cover the area between Bangladesh and Katwa in West Bengal under the Ganga Action Plan to check the devastating erosion of Bhagirathi; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b) Ganga Action Plan is a component of National River Conservation Plan under the Ministry of Environment and Forests with the objective of abatement of pollution of rivers. Measures for soil erosion on banks of rivers etc. is not undertaken under this programme.

However, Government of India is rendering financial Assistance to the Government of West Bengal to take up Critical Anti Erosion Works through the Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Critical Anti Erosion Work in Ganga Basin States", which includes anti-erosion works along river Bhagirathi. An amount of Rs. 51 crore has been earmarked for West Bengal for the years 2004-07 out of which Rs. 15 crore was released during 2004-05.

Hybrid Variety of Potato

1677. SHRI JUAL ORAM : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a vast scope to increase areas under cultivation in Orissa;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard during the last three years;

(c) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has identified any area in the State to grow hybrid variety of potato; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) Yes, Sir. There is a scope to increase area under potato cultivation in southern plateau region under kharif season and also in the coastal districts as riverbed cultivation.

(b) Government of India had provided assistance to the State of Orissa for development of agriculture and horticulture including the production of fresh potato under the comprehensive Centrally Sponsored Macro Management Scheme. The financial assistance for the last three years is Rs. 1250.00 lakh (2002-03), Rs. 1967.31 lakh (2003-04) and Rs. 3792.00 lakh (2004-05).

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

Fertilizer Subsidy Coupons to Farmers

1678. SHRI K. C. PALANISAMY : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has any proposal to issue fertilizer subsidy coupons to farmers or provide cash subsidy against Kisan Cards; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) and (b) There is no proposal at present under consideration of the Government to issue fertilizer subsidy coupons to farmers or provide cash subsidy against Kisan Cards.

Bio-Diversity Project

1679. SHRI HITEN BARMAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a co-ordinated project on Coastal and Marine bio-diversity was launched during 1999-2000;

(b) if so, the objective thereof;

(c) the current status of its implementation, particularly in regard to the conservation of mangroves, coral reefs and other marine lives in the coastal zone;

(d) whether the Government had issued a Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification in 1991 under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986;

(e) if so, the salient objectives envisaged therein;

(f) whether any review of the status of its implementation has been carried out; and

(g) if so, the details thereof, State and Union Territory-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO RARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The three basic objectives are, namely, Survey and Inventorisation of Marine Flora and Fauna, Training and Capacity Building and Establishment of the Database Network.

(c) So far 21 projects have been assisted in the

field of Coastal and Marine Biodiversity with emphasis on Survey and Inventorisation, Training and Capacity Building in the area of Marine Taxonomy, and development of Data Bases on living marine organisms. Over 100 researchers and officers of the Coastal States have been trained in the taxonomy of marine flora and fauna, snorkeling, scuba diving and coral bio-monitoring methodologies. The Research, Conservation and Management of Mangroves and Coral Reefs are also supported under Schemes specifically designed to promote conservation of these two marine resources.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 1991, declares coastal stretches of seas, bays, estuaries, creeks, rivers and backwaters, which are influenced by tidal action (in the landward side) up to 500 meters from the High Tide Line (HTL) and the land between the Low Tide Line (LTL) and the High Tide Line as Coastal Regulation Zone. The objective of the said Notification is to conserve and protect the Coastal Regulation Zone.

(f) and (g) There has been no formal of structured review of the status of implementation of the CRZ Notification as such. The provisions of the Notification are enforced through State Coastal Zone Management Authorities and other State level agencies concerned.

Amendment of Forest Conservation Act

1680. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has requested the Union Government to amend the Forest Conservation Act, in view of the naxalite activities in Kudremukh area;

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

(c) the details of the schemes of Karnataka pending with the Government under Forest Conservation Act;

(d) the time by which these schemes are likely to be approved;

(e) the funds sanctioned, released and utilized for development/conservation of forest in Karnataka during the last three years; and

(f) the steps being taken by the Government to activate afforestation programmes in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO RARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) In the meeting of the Co-ordination Centre, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, held on 4.12.2004 at New Delhi, the State Government of Karnataka raised the issue of dislocation of tribals from Kudremukh National Park in Malenadu Region and their rehabilitation. Subsequently, on 18.2.2005, the Ministry of Environment and Forests requested the State Government to send a detailed report on the issue. No report has been received from the State Government as yet.

(c) and (d) The Ministry receives proposals from the State/Union Territory Governments for use of forest land for non-forestry purposes for which prior approval of the Central Government is required under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The proposals are considered by the Forest Advisory Committee constituted under the Act before being put up to the competent authority for decision. This is a continuous process and hence, at any point of time, some proposals always remain under consideration of the Ministry. Presently, five proposals received from the Government of Karnataka are at different stages of processing in the Ministry. A statement showing the details of these proposals is enclosed.

(e) and (f) The National Afforestation and Eco-development Board (NAEB) under the Ministry is implementing a National Afforestation Programme (NAP) on 100% central funding basis during the 10th Five Year Plan. This scheme is being implemented through the decentralized set-up of the Forest Development Agencies (FDAs) at the forest division level and Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) at the village level. The Ministry also sanctions funds for protection and development of existing forests under Integrated Forest Protection Scheme (IFPS).

Under the NAP Scheme, 43 FDA projects of Karnataka with a total of Rs. 110.42 crore have been sanctioned during the period from 2001-02 to 2005-06 (as on 30.11.2005). An amount of Rs. 70.60 crore has been released in respect of these projects so far. Under the Integrated Forest Protection Scheme (IFPS), an amount of Rs. 3.94 crore has been sanctioned during the period from 2002-03 to 2004-05. Out of this, an amount of Rs. 2.21 crore has been released.

Statement

Proposals received from the State Government of Karnataka under consideration of the Ministry of Environment and Forests for prior approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980

Sl.No.	Name of Proposal	Remarks
1.	Diversion of 1.9175 ha of forest land in Holenarsipura taluk for Halli Mysore Lift Irrigation Scheme in Hassan district in favour of Cauvery Neeravari Nigama.	The State Government has been requested to furnish certain essential details. No reply from the State Government has been received as yet.
2.	Diversion of 0.6 ha of forest land for reconstruction of Sri Sannammadevi temple in Karwar Division in Uttara Kannada District.	The proposal has been received on 25.11.2005 and is under examination.
3.	Diversion of 6.40 ha of forest land in Sirsi taluk for construction of houses in favour of forest employees housing co-operative society in Uttara Kannada district.	The State Government was requested to furnish certain essential details which have been received. The proposal is under active consideration of the Ministry.
4.	Renewal of lease for 121.41 ha of forest land for CPCRI (an ICAR unit) Research Centre at Kidu village of Sullia taluk in South Kannada district.	Site inspection by the Regional Office of the Ministry is to be conducted for further processing of the proposal.
5.	Diversion of 175.35 ha of forest land for construction of Ghataprabha Right Bank Canal from 151 km to 190 km in Badami, Bagalkote and Mudhol Taluks of Bagalkote district.	Site inspection by the Regional Office of the Ministry is to be conducted for further processing of the proposal.

**Project Schools of National
Fertilizers Limited**

1681. SHRIMATI P. SATHEEDEVI :

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN :

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

(a) whether the Expression of Interest for taking over the Project Schools of National Fertilizers Limited (NFL) published in 2003 is still valid;

(b) if so, prior sanction of the Government was obtained by the management before entering into this lease agreement;

(c) if not, the action taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) whether the NFL management has taken any action to defend the case in the High Court for vacating the stay for reopening the project schools;

(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) No, Sir.

(b) As the Board of Directors of NFL is the competent authority to take such decisions, Government permission was not required.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The writ petitions filed by M/s. Central Academy Educational Progressive Society of India and the students of the school at the Panipat unit have been dismissed by the Hon'ble High Court of Punjab and Haryana vide order dated 24.8.2005 on the pleadings of the Company's Advocate and the Project Kendriya Vidyalaya has since started functioning at the unit.

(f) Does not arise.

Violation of PFS Order

1682. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some cases of corruption for violation of PFS Order, 1989 by officers working at Regional Plant Quarantine Station, Mumbai and New Delhi are under investigation by way of releasing of propagating material to consumption and thereby causing loss to Government exchequer for over ten lakhs; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the remedial steps taken in this regard with present status of the investigation?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) and (b) Complaints have been received against Officer-in-charge, Regional Plant Quarantine Station, Mumbai for violation of PFS Order, 1989 resulting in loss of Government revenue due to release of import consignments of propagating material by changing their category to consumption. Preliminary investigation into the complaints has revealed that the consignments were released on the basis of valid import permits, phytosanitary certificates and undertaking to ensure their declared end use. A complaint was also received regarding issue of import permit with validity of more than the prescribed limit. It was ascertained that the import consignment was received and cleared well within the prescribed period. The complaints have therefore been closed.

Construction of Pharma Cities

1683. SHRI N. S. V. CHITTHAN : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the details and location of the pharma cities constructed in the country so far, State-wise;

(b) whether upcoming pharma cities are facing much difficulties and are lagging behind in getting primary facilities for their development; and

(c) if so, the measures being taken by the Government to ensure equal impartial treatment in the development of all these pharma cities?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (c) Pharma Cities are developed by the State

Governments for development of pharmaceutical units in a collective and focused manner. The State Governments are expected to provide necessary infrastructure facilities and other incentives required for the growth of the industry in the State. However, adequate information on State-wise details of such nature is not available with the Central Government.

New River Water Tribunal

1684. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has received any proposal from the Government of Punjab to set up a new rivers water tribunal to reassess the quantum of water in the rivers which feed Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan and other States in the region;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) to (c) A Letter of Complaint dated 11.1.2003 received from the Government of Punjab requested for the constitution of a Water Dispute Tribunal regarding water disputes appearing to have arisen with the Governments of Haryana and Rajasthan and certain other States in the region. One of the specific matters in dispute cited therein for adjudication and decision by the Tribunal was whether the allocation of surplus water by the agreements related to Ravi Beas water required reconsideration under certain changed circumstances, including reduction in the available water. The agreements in question were later terminated by Punjab Termination of Agreements Act, 2004 enacted by the State on 12.7.2004 and a Presidential Reference in the matter of the Act is before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India for consideration and report.

Also, during the 25th Meeting of the Northern Zonal Council held on 25th October, 2005 in Shimla, Chief Minister, Punjab is reported to have suggested that the entire issue of water sharing be considered in totality with due regard to the changed hydrological, ecological and sociological factors by a fresh Tribunal.

[Translation]

Export of Steel Wire

1685. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of steel wire exported during the last three years and thereafter till date alongwith the names of the importing countries;

(b) the foreign exchange earned through the export of steel wire;

(c) whether subsidies are being extended to steel wire exporting units; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) The quantum of steel wire exported by India during the last three years and the current year (April to July, 2005) is given below :

Year	Export of steel wire quantity (‘000 tonnes)
2002-03	107.84
2003-04	107.32
2004-05	89.97
2005-06 (April-July 2005) (Prov.)	25.15

Source : Joint Plant Committee.

Major countries to where steel wire has been exported by India include United States of America, Thailand, Bangladesh, United Arab Emirates, Italy and United Kingdom.

(b) The rupee equivalent of foreign exchange earned on account of exports of steel wires during the last three years is as follows :

Year	Export of steel wire value (Rs. crores)
2002-03	411
2003-04	458
2004-05	553

Source : Joint Plant Committee.

(c) and (d) The Government does not grant any subsidy specifically for the export of steel wires. The export incentives available in general are applicable in case of steel wires as well.

[English]

MoU for FDI in Steel Sector

1686. SHRI L. GANESAN : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) The States which have recently signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with foreign collaborators for Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) to produce steel;

(b) whether the Union Government has identified any PSU units in States to undertake production with FDI; and

(c) if so, the details of such steel units identified for the purpose, State-wise?

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

(a) As per available information, one Memorandum of Understanding each has been signed by the Governments of Orissa and Jharkhand with foreign collaborators for setting up steel projects.

(b) Union Governments has not identified any PSU units in States to undertake production with FDI.

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

Setting up of Tourism Development Authority

1687. SHRI NAVJOT SINGH SIDHU : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has received any proposal from the Government of Punjab for setting up Amritsar Development Authority to ensure speedy and proper development of Holy city of Amritsar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

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

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Water Tourism

1688. SHRI P. C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has any plan to promote water tourism;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government of Kerala has requested for helping various boat races including Nehru Trophy boat race at Alleppey; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) Ministry of Tourism sanctions Central Financial Assistance to State Governments/Union Territories for promotion and development of tourism products including water based tourism products based on the priorities decided in consultation with the State Governments/Union Territories. During the first three years of the 10th Plan Period (2002-05) 636 projects have been sanctioned and Rs. 72970.77 lakh has been released to State Governments/Union Territories for development of tourism products including water based tourism products.

(c) and (d) The projects prioritized in consultation with the State Government of Kerala for grant of Central Financial assistance for fairs, festivals and events including support for an event related to boat race.

VSS for BOGL Employees

1689. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has received any request from the employees of Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Limited (BOGL) for a peaceful separation through a liberalized Voluntary Separation Scheme (VSS);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) to (c)

Yes, Sir. Employees of Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Limited (BOGL) have requested for calculation of retirement benefits after increasing the retirement age to 60 years, grant of three pending revision of pay scales (1992, 1997 and 2002) and payment of accrued arrears; and thereafter ex-gratia payment as per Gujarat or DHI model etc. The employees have also requested for implementation of a suitable scheme for post-retirement medical benefit and ownership right for the company allotted quarters on depreciated price.

A proposal regarding the future of BOGL was considered by the Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE), which has made its recommendations. Government would take a final view based on the recommendations of the BRPSE. Payment of VRS/VSS and other retiral benefits would be as per the guidelines issued in this regard by the Department of Public Enterprises from time to time.

Restructuring of HMT

1690. SHRI SURENDRA PRAKASH GOYAL :

SHRI J. M. AARON RASHID :

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has decided to restructure Hindustan Machine Tools Limited (HMT) by allocating sufficient funds for its expansion plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether HMT is vying to have Joint Venture (JVs) with Japanese companies for manufacturing of mono-rails and other vehicles; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b) The Government has asked HMT group of companies to formulate comprehensive plans for revival. The revival plans in two cases of HMT group of companies have been approved by the Government as under :

Revival package	
Company	Rupees in Crores
HMT Bearings Limited	51.37
Praga Tools Limited	214.71

(c) and (d) Efforts are being made by the holding company HMT Ltd. to enter into automobile manufacturing for which technology partners are being scouted including auto majors from Japan. These initiatives are at a preliminary stage.

[Translation]

Investment in PSUs

1691. DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL :
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA :

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has formulated any policy regarding investment in Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Public Sector Undertakings have been discouraged by the said policy; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b) The policy of the Government as contained in National Common Minimum Program is that Government is committed to a strong and effective public sector whose social objectives are met by its commercial functioning. It also provides to devolve full managerial and commercial autonomy to successful, profit-making companies operating in a competitive environment. Further Public Sector companies will be encouraged to enter the capital market to raise resources and offer new investment avenues to retail investors. In pursuance of this policy, Government has recently delegated enhanced financial powers for investment in new projects, subsidiaries, joint venture etc. to Navratna, Mini-ratna Companies. Other profit making Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) have also been delegated enhanced powers for capital investment.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

[English]

Development of Worship Places as Tourist Spots

1692. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the number of places of worship developed as tourist spots in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether the Union Government has received any proposal to provide financial assistance to the State Government; and

(c) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (c) Development and improvement of facilities at religious places is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/UT Administrations. Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, extends financial assistance to the State Governments/UTs for tourism-related projects which are identified in consultation with the State concerned every year for providing financial assistance under the schemes Integrated Development of Tourism Circuits, Product and Destination Development and Large Revenue Generating Projects. Project proposals that are complete in all respect are approved on the basis of inter-se priority, competing demands from other States and funds are released subject to availability under the respective Head. The details of the financial assistance provided to the State Government during the current financial year are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Projects sanctioned to the State of Uttar Pradesh during the current financial year

(Rs. in lakh)		
Sl. No.	Name of the project	Amount sanctioned
1	2	3
1.	Beautification/Renovation/Construction of TICCI Fort Complex at Etawah	55.68
2.	Beautification of Kali Vahan Temple at Etawah	46.90
3.	Preparation of Site Survey Plan of Park-rama Path for Goverdhan and Vrindavan Research Institute at Vrindavan	0.79
4.	Development and Beautification of Nana Rao Smarak at Bithoor (Distt. Kanpur - Nagar)	422.17

1	2	3
5. Renovation/Beautification of Chhatris of Govardhan in Mathura Distt.	58.60	
6. Celebration of Jhansi Ayurved Festival, 2004	2.50	
7. Development of Garhmukteshwar-Brij Ghat under Destination Development Scheme	256.80	
8. Development of Rae Bareilly and surrounding area under Destination Development Scheme	490.27	
9. Development of Wayside amenities around Ghuisamath Dham, Block Sangipur, Distt. Pratapgarh under Destination Development Scheme	258.09	
10. Development of Mirzapur-Chunar-Roberts-ganj under Vindhya Tourist Circuit	800.00	
11. Investors' Meet at Agra in Feb., 2006	15.00	

Antyodaya Anna Yojana

1693. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to introduce Antyodaya Anna Yojana for the Below Poverty Line families in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands in view of the slow progress of relief and rehabilitation work in the aftermath of Tsunami disaster;

(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 (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and

(b) The Andaman and Nicobar Administration has intimated that Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) cards valid up to February, 2006 were issued to all the Tsunami affected families, covering 13,762 families. The Administration has further decided to extend this facility up to December, 2006.

(c) Does not arise

Andhra Pradesh Water Projects

1694. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA :

SHRI MUNSHI RAM :

SHRI ANIRUDH PRASAD ALIAS

SADHU YADAV :

KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH :

PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR :

SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHAWAHA :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of loan application for water projects pending with the World Bank as on date, State-wise;

(b) whether World Bank has consented to provide loans for implementation of water projects;

(c) if so, the time by which the aforesaid amount of loan is proposed to be made available and the names of projects on which it is likely to be spent; and

(d) the time by which the projects are likely to be launched with the said loans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) The following World Bank assisted projects in Water Sector are in the active pipeline :

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Estimated Project Cost/Loan Amount	States	Date of posing to World Bank
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project	Rs. 718.99 Crores	Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Kerala, Uttaranchal, Tamil Nadu and Madhya Pradesh	7.5.2003

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Tamil Nadu Water Resources Consolidation Project-II	Rs. 2600 Crores	Tamil Nadu	23.1.2003
3.	Hydrology Project-II	US \$ 104.98 Million	Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Goa, Kerala, Orissa, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Himachal Pradesh, Pondicherry and Punjab	9.1.2003

(b) The above projects are under appraisal by the World Bank. The World Bank has approved the Hydrology Project-II. The Loan Agreement for the Project is yet to be signed.

(c) and (d) After being posed to the World Bank the projects proposals undergo various stages such as proposal appraisal, negotiation, Board approval, etc. for which there is no specific time frame and the time taken for each proposal depends upon the particulars of the proposal.

[Translation]

Pending Irrigation Projects

1695. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of irrigation projects in the country lying pending with the Union Government, State-wise;

(b) the reasons for the pendency of these projects, State-wise;

(c) the likely cost overrun of these projects due to their pendency; and

(d) the time by which these projects are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Out of 187 irrigation project proposals (98 major and 89 medium) received from the States 105 irrigation projects (47 major and 58 medium) are under different stages of appraisal and remaining 82 irrigation projects (51 major and 31 medium)

have been techno-economically accepted by the Advisory Committee of Ministry of Water Resources subject to compliance of a few observations. The State-wise details of these projects are in the statement enclosed.

(b) to (d) Various reasons for delay in techno-economic appraisal and investment approval of irrigation projects are :

- Projects formulated not confirming to the guidelines for preparation of detailed project reports for irrigation and multi-purpose projects issued by the Central Water Commission.
- Projects formulated without adequate investigations.
- Hydrological aspects based on inadequate data and not applying standard techniques.
- Cost estimates not meeting the required standard.
- Concurrence of State Revenue, Financial and Agriculture Departments not obtained while sending the proposal.
- Want of clearance from Ministry of Environment and Forests for environmental and forest aspects and clearance of resettlement and rehabilitation plan of Tribal population affected from Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
- Unduly long time taken by the State Governments for compliance of the observations of Central appraising agencies.

The cost overrun of the projects are not assessed during the techno-economic appraisal of projects. The time taken for clearance of projects depends upon the promptness with which the State Governments arrange compliance to the observations of Central appraising agencies.

Statement**State-wise Abstract of New Projects**

Sl.No.	States	Major			Medium			Total		
		A	B	Total	A	B	Total	A	B	Total
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8	7	15	6	10	16	14	17	31
2.	Bihar	1	2	3	—	—	—	1	2	3
3.	Chhattisgarh	2	—	2	—	1	1	2	1	3
4.	Gujarat	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
5.	Haryana	—	2	2	1	—	1	1	2	3
6.	Himachal Pradesh	—	1	1	1	—	1	1	1	2
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	—	11	2	13	11	2	13
8.	Jharkhand	3	4	7	—	—	—	3	4	7
9.	Karnataka	1	3	4	1	—	1	2	3	5
10.	Kerala	—	1	1	1	—	1	1	1	2
11.	Madhya Pradesh	5	5	10	—	—	—	5	5	10
12.	Maharashtra	9	8	17	28	7	35	37	15	52
13.	Manipur	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	2	2
14.	Nagaland	1	—	1	—	1	1	1	1	2
15.	Orissa	2	4	6	1	7	8	3	11	14
16.	Punjab	5	1	6	1	1	2	6	2	8
17.	Rajasthan	3	5	8	6	—	6	9	5	14
18.	Tamil Nadu	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	2	2
19.	Uttar Pradesh	5	5	10	1	—	1	6	5	11
20.	Uttaranchal	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
21.	West Bengal	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
Grand Total		47	51	98	58	31	89	105	82	187

A—Project under various stages of appraisal.

B—Accepted by the Advisory Committee of Ministry of Water Resources subject to certain observations.

World Pulses Research Conference

1696. SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE :

SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Pulses Research Conference was held in India recently for the first time;

(b) if so, the number of agriculture scientists and the foreign delegates participated in the said Conference;

(c) the background/objectives on the basis of which the said Conference was held; and

(d) the suggestions made by the participants and the decisions arrived at?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Fourth International Food Legumes Research Conference (IFLRC-IV) was organised for the first time in India by the Indian Society of Genetics and Plant Breeding and Indian Council of Agricultural Research from 18-22 October, 2005.

(b) The conference was attended by nearly 600 agricultural scientists including 96 foreign delegates.

(c) The major objective of the conference was to review the progress made and to take stock of scientific and technical information on global basis covering all aspects of research and development of food legumes for nutritional security and sustainable agriculture.

(d) Recommendations that emerged from the deliberations in various sessions are : enhancing research on genomics, molecular aided selection and transgenics for resistance to pod borer; emphasis on development of hybrids in legume crops specially in pigeonpea, and to lay more thrust on development of drought tolerant and short duration varieties of various pulse crops for their use in crop diversification in different cropping systems.

[English]

Elephant Sanctuaries

1697. SHRI B. MAHTAB : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of elephant sanctuaries in the country, State-wise and location-wise;

(b) whether more area is needed for these sanctuaries;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the facilities likely to be provided for elephants in these sanctuaries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) There are no elephant sanctuaries. However,

the details of "Elephant Reserves" state-wise and location-wise approved by Government of India are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) There is no such proposal.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Central Assistance is provided to the State Governments for the protection of elephants, development of elephant habitats and corridors, eliciting public co-operation, mitigation of human-animal conflict, improvement of support services etc.

Statement

Details of Elephant Reserves

Sl.No.	State	Name of the Elephant Reserves
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	(i) Rayala
2.	Assam	(i) Sonitpur (ii) Dihing-Patkai (iii) Kaziranga-Karbi Anglong (iv) Dhansiri-Lungding (v) Chirang-Ripu
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	(i) Kameng (ii) Deomali
4.	Jharkhand	(i) Singhbhum
5.	Karnataka	(i) Mysore
6.	Kerala	(i) Wayanad (ii) Nilambur (iii) Anamudi (iv) Periyar
7.	Meghalaya	(i) Garo Hills
8.	Nagaland	(i) Intanki
9.	Orissa	(i) Mayurbhanj (ii) Mahanadi (iii) Sambalpur

1	2	3
		(iv) South Orissa
		(v) Baitarani
10. Tamil Nadu		(i) Nilgiri
		(ii) Coimbatore
		(iii) Anamalai
		(iv) Srivilliputtur
11. Uttaranchal		(i) Shivalik
12. Uttar Pradesh		(i) Shiwalik (UP) or Ganga Jamuna
13. West Bengal		(i) Mayurjharna
		(ii) Eastern Dooars

[Translation]

**Pending Irrigation Projects of
Madhya Pradesh**

1698. SHRI CHHATTAR SINGH DARBAR : Will the
Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

Statement

Sl.No.	Name of the Projects	Major/ Medium	River/Basin	District Benefited	Date of Receipt	Benefits (Th. Ha.)	Estt. Cost (Rs. crores)	Category
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Halon Irrigation Project	Major	Halon/Narmada	Mandla	1/2000	11.736	249.90	A
2.	Upper Narmada	Major	Narmada	Mandla & Shadol (DPA)	9/96	18.61	381.71	A
3.	Lower Goi	Major	Goi/Narmada	Barwani	07/2003	13.76	189.56	A
4.	Bhanpura Canal Scheme	Major	Chambal	Mandsaur	12/02	9.2	59.49	A
5.	M.P. Water Restructuring Project	Major	Chambal, Betwa, Sindh, Ken/ Chambal		7/04	495.0	1919.0	A
6.	Pench Diversion	Major	Godavari	Seoni, Chindwara	7/2000	96.52	641.35	B
7.	Kolar Project	Major	Narmada	Sehore	10/91	60.87 Th.ha. 56.75 hm3 water supply to Bhopal	139.14	B

(a) the details of the irrigation projects of Madhya Pradesh lying pending with the Union Government for approval;

(b) the reasons for delay in clearing the projects; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Union Government to avoid delay in clearing these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) to (c) Out of 10 major irrigation project proposals received from Government of Madhya Pradesh 5 major irrigation projects are under various stages of appraisal and 5 major irrigation projects are techno-economically accepted by the Advisory Committee of Ministry of Water Resources subject to compliance of few observations. The details of these 10 projects are in the statement enclosed.

The time taken for clearance of projects depends upon the promptness with which the State Government arrange compliance to the observations of Central appraising agencies.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
8. Thanwar Tank		Major	Godavari	Mandla	12/89	18.21	24.38	B
9. Rajghat Canal		Major	Yamuna	Datia, Bhind, Gwalior, Guna, Shivpur and Tikamgarh	2/90	121.45	309.21	B
10. Punasa Lift Irrigation		Major	Narmada	East Nimar (Khandawa)	3/2003	36.758	185.03	B

Status : A—Project under various stages of appraisal.

B—Project accepted by the Advisory Committee of Ministry of Water Resources subject to certain observations.

Water Conservation Plan

1699. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN" :
DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the per capita water harvesting capacity in India is less in comparison to foreign countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the availability of water in India is not meeting its requirement as a result thereof;

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

(e) the details of the prospective plan of the Government to augment water harvesting?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b) The per capita storage capacity in India is about 207 cubic metre (m³) whereas the per capita storage capacity is relatively higher in many countries such as Russia (6103 m³), Australia (4733 m³), Brazil (3145 m³), United States (1964 m³), Turkey (1739 m³), Spain (1410 m³), Mexico (1245 m³), China (1111 m³) and South Africa (753 m³).

(c) to (e) It is necessary to conserve the water and create more storage capacity for meeting the future requirements. State Governments conceive, plan and implement major, medium and minor schemes for utilisation of water

resources. Storage capacity of about 213 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM) has been created so far. As per present assessment, the total estimated storage capacity of the various projects under construction is about 76 BCM and that for the projects under formulation is about 108 BCM.

Further, the Government of India also encourages repair, renovation and restoration of traditional water bodies and rainwater harvesting and artificial recharge of ground water for conservation of water.

[English]

NCLP in Maharashtra

1700. SHRIMATI KALPNA RAMESH NARHIRE :
SHRI DEVIDAS PINGLE :

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

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has proposed some more districts in the State to be covered under the National Child Labour Project Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the proposals which have been given clearance alongwith the proposals which are under consideration of the Government?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO) : (a) and (b) The State Govt. of Maharashtra submitted 15 proposals for inclusion of districts under the NCLP Scheme between 1999 to 2004. These are Jalna, Hingoli, Parbhani, Jalgaon, Ahmadnagar, Akola, Aurangabad, Nanded, Nasik, Yavatmal, Beed, Dhule, Osmanabad, Amravati and Chandrapur.

(c) The NCPLs are selected by the Government on the basis of the endemicity of child labour as per the census data. The scheme was being implemented in 100 districts till the 9th Plan. It has subsequently been expanded during the 10th Plan to cover 250 districts in the country, based on the census figures of 2001. Accordingly, Pune, Ahmadnagar, Sangli, Kolhapur, Jalgaon, Nandurbar, Nanded, Nasik, Yavatmal, Dhule and Beed have been identified from the State of Maharashtra for implementation of NCPL Scheme.

Subsidy on Single Super Phosphate

1701. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Single Super Phosphate (SSP) industry has urged the Union Government to double the subsidy on this fertilizer product; and

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

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

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Fertilizer Association of India and some of the SSP manufacturers urged the Government to increase the subsidy on Single Super Phosphate (SSP) as the production of SSP has become unviable due to sharp increase in the prices of raw materials in the international market. Government of India keeping in view the increase in prices of raw materials has decided to increase the ad-hoc subsidy on SSP from Rs. 650 per MT to Rs. 975 per MT w.e.f. 1.9.2005.

Beedi Workers

1702. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of beedi workers in the country at present, State-wise;

(b) the details of the annual collections of Beedi Workers Welfare Fund, State-wise particularly in Madhya Pradesh;

(c) whether the welfare measures undertaken so far since the constitution of the said fund are satisfactory;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether certain recommendations made by the Advisor for the development of Beedi Workers Welfare Organisation;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the assistance provided by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO) : (a) A statement showing the number of beedi workers in the country state-wise is enclosed.

(b) The data regarding collection of cess on manufactured beedis is not maintained State-wise. However, annual collection of cess on manufactured beedis for the last three years is given below :

Year	Collection (Rs. in crore)
2002-03	84.15
2003-04	85.83
2004-05	71.50

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Not applicable.

(e) and (f) Central Advisory Committee on Beedi Workers Welfare Fund emphasized on rationalization and simplification of welfare schemes in the field of Education, Health, liberalization of Housing Scheme, enhancement of rate of cess on manufactured beedis with a view to augment resources, as the expenditure would go up in the coming years due to the increase in existing benefits to be extended to the Beedi Workers.

(g) The financial assistance provided during the last two years and budget estimates (BE) for 2005-06 under the Beedi Workers Welfare Fund is given below :

Expenditure of Welfare Scheme (Rs. in crores)			
Scheme	2003-04	2004-05	BE 2005-06
Health	27.55	33.59	32.82
Education	39.11	40.52	41.86
Housing	9.55	11.50	17.64
Others	4.43	3.27	4.18
Total	80.64	88.88	96.50

Statement**State-wise details of the Total Number of Beedi Workers and Number of Identity Cards issued to them**

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Total No. of Beedi Workers Estimated	No. of Identity Cards issued till date
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7,35,000	7,15,711
2.	Assam	7,725	6,335
3.	Bihar	3,35,000	1,72,429
4.	Jharkhand	1,15,000	64,433
5.	Gujarat	50,075	45,874
6.	Karnataka	2,87,082	2,76,706
7.	Kerala	96,324	79,208
8.	Madhya Pradesh	8,27,194	8,25,150
9.	Chhattisgarh	26,110	20,481
10.	Maharashtra	2,56,000	2,17,663
11.	Orissa	2,65,000	1,89,008
12.	Rajasthan	31,736	31,736
13.	Tripura	9,946	6,349
14.	Tamil Nadu	6,25,000	6,05,079
15.	Uttar Pradesh	4,50,000	3,22,098
16.	West Bengal	7,52,225	7,42,050
Total		48,69,417	43,20,310

Loans given by NAFED

1703. SHRI UDAY SINGH :

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY :

SHRI SITA RAM YADAV :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that National Agricultural Marketing Federation of India (NAFED) has illegally disbursed loans and stood guarantee for over Rs.

3500 crore in favour of some blacklisted individuals and firms;

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

(c) the corrective steps Government proposes to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Krishi Vigyan Kendras

1704. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY :

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI :

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE :

SHRI CHADRAKANT KHAIRE :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria and norms fixed by the Government to set up Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) in the country;

(b) whether the Government proposes to set up more Krishi Vigyan Kendras during the current financial year;

(c) if so, the details thereof, location-wise;

(d) the details of Krishi Vigyan Kendras in the country as on date, State-wise;

(e) the details of the funds allocated by the Union Government for smooth running and setting up of such Kendras during the last three years, State-wise;

(f) the criteria fixed for allocation of such funds to States; and

(g) the achievements made by the these Kendras, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) The Government has approved for establishment of one Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) in each of the 578 rural districts (as per India 2002) of the country by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research during the X Plan. A Site Selection Team examines the logistics for establishment of a KVK based on the proposals received from a district.

(b) and (c) There is a proposal to set up 100 KVKs during the current financial year, of which 43 have already been sanctioned, the details of which are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(d) These KVKs are sanctioned to the State Agricultural Universities, ICAR institutes, Non Governmental Organizations, State Governments and other educational institutions. As on date, there are 494 KVKs in the country. The State-wise numbers of KVKs is given in the enclosed statement-II.

(e) The funds are released to the organizations implementing the KVK programme. During the last three years (2002-03 to 2004-05), an amount of Rs. 33386.25 lakh has been released. The details of fund released to these organizations in various States/UTs are given in the enclosed Statement-III.

(f) The criteria for release of funds to the KVKs include stage of development of infrastructure, staff in position, activities taken up, and submission of audit utilization certificate.

(g) The activities of the KVK are On-farm trial to identify the location specificity of technology under various farming systems, frontline demonstration to establish its production potentials on the farmers' fields, training of farmers to upgrade their knowledge and skills, and training of extension personnel to orient them in the frontier areas of technology development. During the last one year, the KVKs identified 1318 technologies for On-farm trials, conducted 33,942 frontline demonstrations, organized training programmes benefiting 9.28 lakh farmers and extension personnel. About 24.30 lakh farmers and extension personnel participated in the extension activities. The details of the achievements of the KVKs in the major states are given in the enclosed Statement-IV.

Statement-I

Locations of the KVKs sanctioned during 2005-06

State/UT	District
1	2
Assam	1. Dhubri
	2. Dhemaji
Chhattisgarh	3. Dantewara

1	2
Gujarat	4. Kheda
	5. Mehsana
	6. Panchmahal
Jammu and Kashmir	7. Surendranagar
	8. Baramula
	9. Kupwara
Karnataka	10. Anantnag
	11. Udhampur
	12. Bagalkot
Madhya Pradesh	13. Dewas
	14. Katni
	15. Latur
Maharashtra	16. Imphal East
	17. Thoubal
	18. Aizwal
Manipur	19. Saiha
	20. Lawngtlai
	21. Mamit
Mizoram	22. Serchhip
	23. Zebgeboto
	24. Kohima
Nagaland	25. Nawpara
	26. Boudh
	27. Mayurbhanj
Orissa	28. Sonepur
	29. West Sikkim
	30. South Sikkim
Sikkim	31. Karur
	32. Dhalai
	33. North Tripura
Tamil Nadu	
Tripura	

1	2
Uttar Pradesh	34. Jaunpur
	35. Chandauli
	36. Balrampur
	37. Kushinagar
	38. Gautam Budha Nagar
	39. Sitapur
	40. Hardoi
West Bengal	41. Howrah
	42. Hooghly
	43. North 24 Paraganas

Statement-II*State-wise details of Number of KVKs*

Sl.No.	States/UTs	Total
1	2	3
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1
2.	Andhra Pradesh	22
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	4
4.	Assam	16
5.	Bihar	26
6.	Chhattisgarh	10
7.	Delhi	1
8.	Goa	2
9.	Gujarat	21
10.	Haryana	18
11.	Himachal Pradesh	12
12.	Jammu & Kashmir	13
13.	Jharkhand	17
14.	Karnataka	25
15.	Kerala	14

1	2	3
16.	Lakshadweep	1
17.	Madhya Pradesh	37
18.	Maharashtra	33
19.	Manipur	5
20.	Meghalaya	5
21.	Mizoram	8
22.	Nagaland	5
23.	Orissa	25
24.	Pondicherry	2
25.	Punjab	15
26.	Rajasthan	32
27.	Sikkim	4
28.	Tamil Nadu	28
29.	Tripura	4
30.	Uttar Pradesh	60
31.	Uttaranchal	12
32.	West Bengal	16
Total		494

Statement-III*Details of State/UT-wise Funds released for KVKs during Last Three Years*

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Funds released during last three years (2002-03 to 2004-05)
1	2	3
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	118.87
2.	Andhra Pradesh	1948.95
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	183.10
4.	Assam	825.60

1	2	3	1	2	3
5. Bihar		1831.59	19. Manipur		385.40
6. Chhattisgarh		557.15	20. Meghalaya		290.45
7. Delhi		24.65	21. Mizoram		327.10
8. Goa		123.85	22. Nagaland		185.90
9. Gujarat		891.95	23. Orissa		1647.36
10. Haryana		1531.28	24. Pondicherry		208.53
11. Himachal Pradesh		1514.07	25. Punjab		1268.07
12. Jammu & Kashmir		678.11	26. Rajasthan		3108.77
13. Jharkhand		594.32	27. Sikkim		120.90
14. Karnataka		1417.19	28. Tamil Nadu		1694.73
15. Kerala		1135.33	29. Tripura		170.80
16. Lakshadweep		58.60	30. Uttar Pradesh		3743.89
17. Madhya Pradesh		2266.65	31. Uttaranchal		590.10
18. Maharashtra		2999.56	32. West Bengal		943.43
			Total		33386.25

Statement-IV*Achievements of KVks in the Major States*

Sl.No.	States/UTs	Farmers & Extension Personnel Trained	Technologies Identified for On-farm Trial	Frontline Demonstrations Conducted	Participant in Extension Activities
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	85245	97	1690	38052
2.	Bihar	62383	66	1634	80321
3.	Gujarat	23089	35	2142	39237
4.	Haryana	72074	67	1193	51119
5.	Himachal Pradesh	31965	73	2357	24188
6.	Jharkhand	36686	66	1295	33562
7.	Karnataka	95920	61	2057	1117413
8.	Kerala	38379	63	307	41835

1	2	3	4	5	6
9.	Madhya Pradesh	34376	69	2045	70204
10.	Maharashtra	90667	86	2496	69704
11.	Orissa	11216	96	2066	21768
12.	Punjab	21759	22	423	102260
13.	Rajasthan	58932	83	4215	75642
14.	Tamil Nadu	101215	76	1751	93278
15.	Uttar Pradesh	70406	80	4788	258254
16.	West Bengal	23929	156	1471	183005
17.	NE States	35079	55	195	21541

**Kerosene Distribution through
Public Distribution System**

1705. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether kerosene is being distributed through fair price outlets under the Public Distribution System (PDS) to domestic consumers;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of families covered and volume distributed during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether any special scheme has been introduced for the said purpose;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the amount of subsidy involved per litre of kerosene category-wise;

(f) whether complaints about the adulteration of kerosene meant for public distribution have been received; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and 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 (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and

(b) SKO allocation is made to the State Governments/UTs for further distribution under the Public Distribution System (PDS) network. Details of year-wise SKO allocations made to the States/UTs during the last three years are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d) The Jan Kerosene Pariyojana has been launched as a pilot project to revamp the PDS kerosene distribution network with a view to ensuring first, that this heavily subsidized product is actually made available in the required quantities at subsidized prices to the intended beneficiaries; and, secondly, to thus cap, reverse and eventually eliminate the diversion of PDS SKO for adulteration.

The principal features of the Scheme for strengthening the PDS Kerosene distribution network are under :

(i) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) will establish at least one Kerosene (SKO) dealership in each of the country's development blocks.

(ii) In consultation with the District Administration and the wholesale dealer, about 5-10 sub-wholesale points will be located in each block.

This idea is to do door-delivery of subsidized SKO at Fair Price Shop (FPS) level.

In consultation with State Governments, Panchayats and Gram Sabhas will be empowered to generally supervise the availability of PDS SKO at subsidized prices, and a reporting mechanism will be put in place for Panchayats/

Gram Sabhas to report any deficiencies to the State Administration and the Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) concerned.

The pilot project has been launched effective 2nd October, 2005. At present, the pilot project is being implemented in 417 blocks covering 23 States and one Union Territory.

(e) During 2005-06 (April-September, 2005) the Government has provided subsidy of Rs. 0.82 per litre, from fiscal budget on PDS kerosene. The OMCs have provided a subsidy of Rs. 11.28 per litre during the same period. The total subsidy provided to the customer by Govt./OMCs is Rs. 12.10 per litre on PDS kerosene.

(f) and (g) The possibility of adulteration of petrol/diesel by some unscrupulous elements cannot be ruled out due to huge price difference between petrol/diesel and various adulterants including SKO available in the market and the easy miscibility of these products with petrol/diesel. Whenever any such complaints received, the same is looked into by OMCs and they take necessary action against the defaulting dealers as per the provisions under Marketing Discipline Guidelines/Dealership agreements. The action taken includes termination of dealerships, imposition of fines, suspension of supplies, warning etc.

Statement

*Details of SKO Allocation made during the year
2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06*

(Figures in MTs)

Name of States/UTs	2005-06	2004-05	2003-04
1	2	3	4
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	5816	5725	5907
Andhra Pradesh	517158	505057	531838
Arunachal Pradesh	9257	9257	9447
Assam	258007	251714	254128
Bihar	647430	631639	637221
Chandigarh	13067	13067	13229
Chhattisgarh	146938	143354	145042

1	2	3	4
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	2782	2782	2853
Daman and Diu	2118	2118	2194
Delhi	168484	168484	178756
Goa	19212	19212	20469
Gujarat	743759	743759	760542
Haryana	145619	142068	146857
Himachal Pradesh	50537	50537	53134
Jammu & Kashmir	76044	75487	79526
Jharkhand	211175	211175	213399
Karnataka	461478	461478	480157
Kerala	216308	211033	224243
Lakshadweep	795	795	874
Madhya Pradesh	488609	476691	486619
Maharashtra	1276876	1253530	1300780
Manipur	19907	19907	20233
Meghalaya	20401	20401	20597
Mizoram	6217	6217	6457
Nagaland	13312	12712	12890
Orissa	314977	307295	311165
Pondicherry	12257	12058	12856
Punjab	237192	232813	250329
Rajasthan	398913	396500	406152
Sikkim	5582	5283	5881
Tamil Nadu	558929	545297	561660
Tripura	30832	30093	30621
Uttar Pradesh	1241772	1211485	1232633
Uttaranchal	89849	85959	93346
West Bengal	752103	748228	763727
Total	9163712	9013210	9275762

Productivity of Grains in Bihar

1706. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware that productivity of grains is lower in Bihar as compared to other parts of the country;

(b) if so, the reasons for the same;

(c) whether the Government has any plan for improvement in agriculture to increase the productivity of grains in Bihar; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) and (b) The productivity of foodgrains in major foodgrains producing states including Bihar for the years 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 are given in the enclosed Statement.

As may be seen from the Annexure, productivity of foodgrains in Bihar is higher as compared to the states of Assam, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa and Rajasthan and lower as compared to the states of Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

The productivity level of foodgrains in a state depends upon rainfall, weather conditions, irrigation facilities, supply of inputs, incidence of pest and diseases, availability of credit facility, etc.

(c) and (d) The programmes aimed at boosting production and productivity of foodgrains in different states, including Bihar, are given below :

(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 to the States according to the regionally differentiated needs of the states to boost agriculture sector and enhancing yields, improved crop production technologies are being popularized. Under this scheme assistance is provided for various inputs and training of farmers/extension workers as well as supply of critical inputs like seeds, sprayers and water saving devices like sprinklers and drip system etc.

A new Centrally Sponsored Scheme on 'On Farm Water Management for increasing Crop Production in Eastern India' was launched in 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.

Further, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has released a number of high yielding varieties of foodgrain crops in Bihar for increasing production and productivity.

Statement

Productivity of Grains in Bihar

Sl.No.	State	Productivity of Foodgrains (Tonnes/Hectare)		
		2002-03	2003-04	2004-05*
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1.7	2.0	2.1
2.	Assam	1.4	1.5	1.4
3.	Bihar	1.6	1.6	1.5
4.	Chhattisgarh	0.7	1.2	1.0
5.	Gujarat	1.1	1.6	1.5
6.	Haryana	3.1	3.1	3.1

1	2	3	4	5
7.	Jharkhand	1.1	1.5	1.2
8.	Karnataka	0.9	1.0	1.3
9.	Madhya Pradesh	0.9	1.3	1.1
10.	Maharashtra	0.8	0.9	0.9
11.	Orissa	0.7	1.3	1.3
12.	Punjab	3.8	3.9	4.1
13.	Rajasthan	0.9	1.3	1.0
14.	Tamil Nadu	1.6	1.5	1.9
15.	Uttar Pradesh	2.0	2.2	2.1
16.	West Bengal	2.4	2.4	2.5
	All India	1.5	1.7	1.7

*4th Advance Estimates

Mashelkar Report

1707. DR. SUJAN CHAKRABORTY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had constituted a Task Force under Dr. Mashelkar on approval drugs derived from generic material;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it has submitted its report;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action proposed/taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Environment and Forests had constituted a Task Force under Dr. R.A. Mashelkar Director General, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research with a view to streamline the regulatory process for recombinant pharma products.

(c) The Task Force has submitted its reports on 13th September 2005.

(d) and (e) Taking into consideration the risks involved

in the use of LMOs during the research and product development, manufacture and import from the environmental angle, the Task Force has rationalized the regulatory procedure and put it in five categories namely (a) for Indigenous product development, manufacture and marketing of pharmaceutical products; (b) for Indigenous product development, manufacture and marketing of pharmaceutical products where the end product is a LMO; (c) for Import and marketing of LMOs as Drugs/Pharmaceuticals in finished formulations; (d) for Import and marketing of LMOs as Drugs/Pharmaceuticals in bulk for making finished formulation and (e) for Import and marketing of products derived from LMOs as Drugs/Pharmaceuticals in bulk and/or finished formulations where the end product is not a LMO. An Inter-Ministerial meeting has been organised by this Ministry to discuss adoption of the report by the Government.

[Translation]

Sugarcane Procurement Price

1708. DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :

SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD :

SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT :

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

(a) whether the procurement price of sugarcane is fixed on the basis of cost of production;

(b) if so, the details of the procurement price of sugarcane in the country during the last three years and current year, State-wise;

(c) the likely impact of price differential in different States on rural economy;

(d) whether there has been a pressing demand from the SUGARFED and sugarcane growers of various States including Gujarat for enhancement of sugarcane procurement prices;

(e) if so, the extent of increase being demanded;

(f) whether the Union Government has fixed a minimum support price of sugarcane for the ensuing sugarcane procurement season; and

(g) if so, the extent to which this represents an increase in the existing procurement price, 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 (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) to (c) Central Government does not fix the procurement price of sugarcane. However, the Statutory Minimum Price (SMP) of sugarcane which is payable by the sugar factories to the sugarcane growers is fixed every year under the provisions of the Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966 on the basis of the recommendations of Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) which, inter alia, takes into consideration many factors including the cost of production of sugarcane.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. In the recent past no such demand has been received by the Government.

(f) and (g) The SMP of sugarcane for the sugar season 2005-06 has been fixed at Rs. 79.50 per quintal linked to 9% recovery rate as compared to Rs. 74.50 per quintal linked to 8.5% recovery rate for 2004-05 sugar season. The SMP fixed by the Government is uniformly applicable to all the States in the country.

Establishing of Gurukuls in Villages

1709. SHRI CHANDRABHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to establish Government Gurukuls in Villages of the country;

(b) if so, the main objectives of these gurukuls;

(c) the names of villages and States where these gurukuls are proposed to be started;

(d) whether there are various arts and artists in India which need to be promoted;

(e) if so, whether the Government will seek cooperation of those artists; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) It has been decided to establish Gurukul at the sites identified for development of Rural Tourism product with the assistance of Ministry of Tourism for spreading the attributes of Indian Art and Culture within and outside the country and thereby generating further tourist arrivals and in the process also strengthen rural livelihoods through the tourism process.

(c) and (d) The names of proposed gurukuls sites where various arts and artists to be promoted are as under :

– Pochampalli (Nalgonda District, Andhra Pradesh)

– Raghurajpur (Puri District, Orissa)

– Hodka (Kachchh District, Gujarat)

– Pranpur (Ashok Nagar District, Madhya Pradesh)

– Aranmula (Pathanamthitta District, Kerala)

(e) and (f) The Rural Tourism site focal points (District Collectors/District Magistrates) and Implementing Partners (NGOs/Panchayats) in consultation with local community at the identified places will be involved in identifying the skilled craft persons among other important components, which are essential for setting up and running of Gurukuls as envisaged.

Standards for Polythene Pouches for Packing Water

1710. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the companies manufacturing polythene pouches for packing water in the country;

(b) whether these are in conformity with the standards fixed by Bureau of Indian Standards;

(c) if not, whether the drinking water packed in poor quality pouches is likely to have adverse effect on health of the people; and

(d) if so, the measures being taken to maintain the quality of drinking water being distributed in polythene pouches?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN) : (a) The details of the companies manufacturing polythene pouches for packing water are not maintained.

(b) to (d) A new specification IS 15609:2005 for polythene flexible pouches for packing Packaged Drinking Water and Mineral Water has been prepared by Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) and will be implemented with effect from 1 February 2006 to maintain the quality of water. All

licensees of Packaged Drinking Water and Packaged Mineral Water filling their product in pouches have been advised to take appropriate action for implementation of specification from the above date.

Sand Mining

1711. SHRI DEVIDAS PINGLE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether illegal sand mining on a large scale is being carried out in the country particularly from the river-beds in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the effects thereof;

(c) the number of affected areas identified by the Government; and

(d) the action taken/likely to be taken in this regard?

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.

[English]

Cost Credit to Farmers

1712. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has evolved any policy to extend cost credit to farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has any proposal to set up value chains for retailing of the product of farmers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) and (b) Though there is no policy evolved by the Government for extending cost credit to farmers but in order to improve the flow of farm credit and for mitigating the distressing situation of farmers due to the problem of indebtedness, several policy measures have been initiated by the Government of India. Some of the

important policy measures initiated in this regard are enclosed as statement.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement

Cost Credit to Farmers

1. Announcement of farm credit package : In order to improve the flow of credit and mitigate the distressing situation of farmers due to the problem of indebtedness, the Government of India on 18.6.2004 announced a special farm credit package. The package envisages that credit to agriculture sector will double in next three years. Following are the highlights of this announcement :

- Credit flow to agriculture sector to increase @ 30% per year.
- the branches of Commercial Banks and Regional Rural Banks to be energized to enhance the flow of agricultural credit.
- Under special agricultural credit plan, at least 100 new farmers should be financed at each rural and semi urban branches during the current year, resulting in enrolling about 50 lakh new borrowers.
- Financing at least 2 to 3 new investment projects in Plantation and Horticulture, Fisheries, Organic farming etc.
- Finance at least 10 Agro Clinics in each district during the current year.
- Public sector banks to lend more to small and marginal farmers and progress in this behalf will be monitored.
- Provide credit to tenant farmers and oral lessees
- Debt restructuring as opposed to debt write off.
- Debt relief measures for
 - Farmers in distress
 - Farmers in arrears
 - One Time Settlement (OTS) of loans for small and marginal farmers

- Loans to farmers for Redemption of past debts from non-institutional lenders
- Refinements in Kisan Credit Card (KCC) Scheme and revisiting of Scales of Finance and realign the same to meet the realistic needs of the farmers especially capital-intensive agricultural operations.
- Special package to promote technological upgradation in agriculture, agro-processing and agri-biotech.
- Facilitate formation and financing of self-help groups of tenant farmers and oral lessees to provide credit to this category of farmers.

2. Reduction in rate of interest on agricultural loans :

Though in the deregulated interest regime, the banks have been given freedom by the Reserve Bank of India to fix interest rates to be charged from the beneficiaries, but as a special dispensation for the agriculture sector, the Government of India has advised all the Public Sector banks 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. The banks have also been advised to ensure that the volume of credit to the agriculture sector does not decline due to the reduction in interest rate. Further, in case of Commercial Banks, there is a stipulation that the rate of interest charged from the ultimate borrower should not exceed their Benchmark Prime Lending Rate (BPLR) in case of loan up to Rs. 2 lakh. As a special dispensation for the agriculture sector, the Government of India has advised all the Public Sector banks 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/-.

3. Waiver of margin/security requirements : Keeping in view the importance of flow of credit to agriculture, in particular to the smaller borrowers who may not have the necessary assets as collateral, the banks have been advised to waive margin/security requirements for agricultural loans up to Rs. 50,000/-.

4. Introduction of Kisan Credit Cards : Kisan Credit Card (KCC) is one of the key products developed by the Government and the banking system to improve farmers'

accessibility to bank credit for production purposes, simplify the credit delivery mechanism and provide more flexibility in the use of credit. KCC Scheme aims at providing adequate and timely credit support from the banking system to farmers for their cultivation needs in a flexible, hassle free and cost effective manner. The content of the scheme has been revised to include the investment and consumption credit needs of farmers. The progress in the issuance of KCC is quite impressive and banks have issued 532.66 lakh KCCs up to 30th September, 2005. There is coverage of risk of KCC holders against accidental death or permanent disability upto a maximum of Rs. 50,000 and Rs. 25,000 respectively.

[Translation]

Flood Control

1713. SHRI AJIT JOGI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether several States get affected from flood every year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the number of people getting affected every year alongwith the quantum of loss incurred to the country thereby;
- (c) the amount spent by the Government during each of the last three years to assist the flood affected people;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to take measures to permanently control the flood; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) On an average the population affected and quantum of loss incurred annually due to floods during 1953 to 2004 are given below :

Population affected in million	Damage to Crops (Area in m.ha.)	Damage to Houses (Nos.)	Cattle lost Nos.	Human lives lost Nos.
1.146	0.132	40697	3536	59

(c) Besides funds provided under Calamity Relief Fund, the amount provided by the Government of India under National Calamity Contingency Fund for flood relief during 2002-03, 2003-04, 2004-05 are given below :

Rs. in crore (Provisional)	
Year	National Calamity Contingency Fund
2002-03	36.26
2003-04	215.57
2004-05	589.59

(d) and (e) Flood cannot be fully controlled. It is to be managed to best of ability on technical merit of the problem from place to place. However, flood Management being within the purview of States, the schemes for flood control are planned, funded and executed by the State Governments. The role of Central Government is technical, catalytical and promotional in nature. UPA Government gave special emphasis on this issue in the National Common Minimum Programme.

Central Government, however, has also been initiating various measures for assisting the States in the management of floods. The Rashtriya Barh Ayog, and several other expert committees were constituted by the Government from time to time to study the problem relating to flood and its management, the recommendations of which were sent to the respective State Governments for implementation. Ganga Flood Control Commission for Ganga Basin States prepared Comprehensive Plans for Flood Management for all the 23 river systems of Ganga. Likewise, Brahmaputra Board prepared Master Plans for Flood Management for Brahmaputra, Barak and its major tributaries. These plans were forwarded to concerned State Governments for implementation.

In order to mitigate the damages from floods, a nationwide flood forecasting and warning system, as a non-structural measure, has been established by the Central Water Commission which issues flood forecasts at 173 stations.

As a long term measure for flood management, agreement has been reached with Nepal for survey and investigation and preparation of Detailed Project Report for Sapta Kosi High Dam Multipurpose Project and Sun Kosi

Storage Cum Diversion Scheme for which a Joint Project Office has already been opened in Nepal in August 2004. This project envisages flood control as one of the major benefits. The Government of India had also approved implementation of Pagladiya Multipurpose Project in Assam in 2001 at a cost of Rs. 542.90 crore (Revised tentative cost Rs. 1069.40 crore) which has flood control as a major benefit. In addition to the above, the Government of India has also been providing Central assistance to the State Governments to take up critical anti erosion/flood management works.

Beautification of Tourist Places in U.P.

1714. SHRI MITRASEN YADAV : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount provided to the Government of Uttar Pradesh during the last three years for the beautification of tourist places in the State;

(b) the names of historical/religious places on which this amount was spent;

(c) the amount of foreign exchange likely to be earned therefrom; and

(d) the names and the number of places selected for the purpose in future and the time by which this would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) The details of the financial assistance provided to the Government of Uttar Pradesh for development/beautification of various tourist/religious places during the last three years are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) There is no system to quantify the foreign exchange earning State-wise.

(d) Development and promotion of tourism is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/UT Administrations. Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, extends financial assistance to the State Governments/UTs for tourism-related projects which are identified in consultation with the State concerned every year for providing financial assistance under the schemes Integrated Development of Tourism Circuits, Product and Destination Development and Large Revenue Generating Projects.

Statement***Projects sanctioned to the State of Uttar Pradesh during the Last Three Years***

(Rs. in lakhs)		
Sl.No.	Name of the Project	Amount sanctioned
1	2	3
2002-03		
1.	Integrated Development of Vaishali-Nalanda-Rajgir-Bodhgaya-Varanasi Circuit :	196.00
	1. Development works at Dharmachakra Pravattan Udyan at Samath—Rs. 72.00 lakh	
	2. Development of Rajendra Ghat and Dashashmogh Ghat at Varanasi—Rs. 29.00 lakh	
	3. Landscaping around Chaukhandi Satupa at Samath, Varanasi—Rs. 90.00 lakh	
	4. Signages—Rs. 5.00 lakh	
2003-04		
1.	Construction of Interpretation Centre/Shopping Centre and related development works and services at Fatehpur Sikri	495.80
2.	Celebration of Ramayan Mela at Chitrakut In March, 2004	2.50
3.	Celebration of Ganga Festival at Varanasi, 2003	2.50
4.	Development/Beautification of Ram-ki-Paidi in Ayodhya (Distt. Faizabad)	98.18
5.	(i) Beautification of Pucca Talab at Etawah—Rs. 102.49 lakh	164.04
	(ii) Beautification/expansion of Tourist Complex near Sumer Singh Fort at Etawah—Rs. 61.55 lakh	
6.	Installation of Sound and Light Show at Sarnath	352.00
	Total	1115.02
2004-05		
1.	Development of (1) Ma Shkumbhari Devi Temple (2) Baba Haridas Mandir (3) Qutab-e-Alam Dargah at Gangoh in Shahrampur Distt. under scheme for Development of Rural Tourism under destination development	49.28
2.	Renovation of Radha Kund and Shyam Kund in Mathura Distt. under destination development	145.35
3.	Setting up of Modern Reception Centre at Gorakhpur under destination development	245.66
4.	Renovation/Beautification of Kusum Sarovar at Govardhan (Distt. Mathura) under destination development	100.77
5.	Extension and development of Assi Ghat at Varanasi under destination development	464.78
6.	Floodlighting of Mahatma Gandhi Statue at Hazrat Ganj and Vijay Stambh at La Martiniere College at Lucknow under destination development	11.84

1	2	3
7. Ganga Festival, 2004 at Varanasi		2.50
8. Holi Festival, 2005 at Barsana (Distt. Mathura)		5.00
9. GOI-UNDP Endogenous Tourism Project at Village Bhaguwala in Saharanpur Distt.		19.75
Total		1044.93

Complaints against Food Corporation of India

(b) Yes, Sir.

1715. SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA :

SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO :

(c) The following number of irregularities were detected on account of storage :

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

Year	No. of Irregularities detected
2003	1403
2004	1841
2005	1004

(a) the number of complaints received by the Government regarding irregularities in storage by Food Corporation of India during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether any enquiry was constituted on the basis of the said complaints;

(c) if so, the number of irregularities detected therein along with the nature of such irregularities;

(d) the action taken against the persons held responsible for the said irregularities; and

(e) the corrective measures taken by the Government?

(d) and (e) The following action was taken against the persons found responsible :

Year	Recovery from pay of the losses caused to FCI	Withholding of promotion	Censure
2003	964	12	427
2004	1346	6	489
2005 (upto Sept.)	749	5	250

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 following number of complaints were received on account of irregularities in storage during the last 3 year :

Name of State	No. of complaints received		
	2003	2004	2005 (upto Sept.)
Northern	497	368	649
Western	36	45	10
Eastern	148	65	84
North Eastern	82	25	6
Southern	103	80	12
Total	866	583	761

The following regular/surprise checks were also conducted by the Vigilance Squads of Zonal, Regional, Districts including Headquarters Squads.

Year	Regular Checks	Surprise Checks	Total
2003	3497	496	3993
2004	3093	1119	4212
2005 (upto Sept.)	2549	1602	4151

[English]

Funds to Uttar Pradesh for Security of Tourists

1716. SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh has requested for funds from the Union Government for stepping up security on places of tourists and religious interest in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the amount is likely to be released to the State Government by the Union Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) No proposal has been received in the Ministry of Tourism.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Water Disputes

1717. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of States which have water sharing disputes, as on date;

(b) whether the Government have taken any steps to resolve such disputes;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the results achieved so far in this regard; and

(d) the present status of the each dispute?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) The details of the inter-state water sharing disputes referred to the Union Government under Inter-State Disputes Act, 1956 are as follows :

Sl.No.	River/Rivers	States concerned
1.	Ravi and Beas	Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan
2.	Cauvery	Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Union Territory of Pondicherry
3.	Madei/Mandovi/Mahadayi	Goa, Karnataka and Maharashtra
4.	Krishna	Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra

(b) to (d) In accordance with the said Act, the Central Government is required to refer a dispute to a Tribunal after it is satisfied that the dispute cannot be settled by negotiations. Accordingly, the water disputes related to Cauvery and Krishna were referred to the Tribunals for adjudication in 1990 and 2004 respectively. The water dispute related to Ravi and Beas was referred to the Ravi and Beas Waters Tribunal in 1986 under Section 14 of the said Act. In respect of Madei/Mandovi water dispute, the Minister (WR) convened an inter-state meeting during December, 2002, during which it was decided that Government of Goa and Central Water Commission would make joint efforts to reconcile the discrepancies in the data and in yield figure.

Soil Testing in Jharkhand

1718. SHRI TEK LAL MAHTO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the places where soil testing work is going on in Jharkhand indicating the number of farmers benefited from it so far;

(b) whether the Government has made available the comprehensive details to the farmers of concerned district about the suitability of soils and plants according to the situation prevailing in such districts of Jharkhand; and

(c) if so, the complete details thereof and the details of expenditure incurred so far under this head, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) In Jharkhand, there are ten soil testing laboratories out of which seven are static and three are mobile situated at Ranchi (1 static, 1 mobile), Gumla (1 static, 1 mobile), Chakardharpur (1 static), Latehar (1 static), Giridih (1 static), Dumba (1 static, 1 mobile), Sahebganj (1 static). These soil testing laboratories analyzed 18525 soil samples during 2004-05.

(b) and (c) Birsa Agricultural University, Ranchi is imparting training to farmers on soil test based Integrated Nutrient Management and demonstrating its usefulness on their fields in Jharkhand. National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land Use Planning, Nagpur is conducting field soil survey work for efficient land use planning in different regions of the country including Jharkhand. So far nearly, 14,46,000 ha. of land in eight districts of Jharkhand has been completed. In addition, National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land Use Planning (NBSS) Kolkata has been entrusted to conduct soil

mapping of Jharkhand. An amount of Rs. 26.93 lakh has been allotted to NBSS Kolkata for this purpose during the year 2004-05.

Employment Opportunities in Unorganised Sector

1719. KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware of decreasing employment opportunities in the unorganised sector in the country, specially in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the name of the schemes initiated by the Union Government to increase the employment opportunities in the unorganised sector alongwith the details thereof; and

(d) the amount allocated for these schemes for the year 2005-06?

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 such survey for which results are available pertains to the year 1999-2000. As per these surveys employment in the unorganised sector in the country on usual status basis has gone up from around 34.7 crore in 1993-94 to 36.9 crore in 1999-2000. In Uttar Pradesh also, employment in unorganised sector has gone up from 5.16 crore in 1993-94 to 5.64 crore in 1999-2000.

(c) and (d) Government is implementing various employment generation and poverty alleviation programmes in the country. These include Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY), Swarna Jayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY), Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) etc. Amount allocated to these schemes during 2005-06 is given below :

Sl.No.	Scheme	Central allocation during 2005-06 (In crores)
1.	SGRY	5396.50
2.	SGSY	1000.00
3.	PMRY	218.50
4.	SJSRY	164.59

[English]

Indebted Farmers Households

1720. SHRIMATI MANORAMA MADHAVRAJ : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether according to farmer household survey conducted by the National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) out of the estimated 43.4 million indebted farmer households in the country, Karnataka accounts for 2.6 million;

(b) if so, whether the majority of the indebted farmer households in Karnataka belong to OBCs, SCs and STs, identified as small and marginal farmers; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken both by the Centre and State to liberate the small farmer from debt-trap?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) According to the Survey Report No. 498 on "Indebtedness of Farmer Households" released by National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) in May 2005 out of an estimated number of 43.4 million indebted farmer households in the country, Karnataka accounts for 2.5 million.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Details are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Indebted Farmers Households

To reduce the dependence of farmers on the private moneylenders for meeting their credit requirements and for providing relief to the indebted farmers, the Government has taken several measures and has advised the banks to :

(i) To increase the agricultural credit flow at the rate of 30% per year.

(ii) To restructure the outstanding debt of the farmers 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/re-structuring of the outstanding loan of the farmers 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 of doubtful shall be rescheduled as per the guidelines so that such farmers become eligible for fresh credit.

On restructuring as above, the farmers will become eligible for fresh loans.

- (iii) To grant a one-time settlement (OTS) including partial waiver of interest and penal interest or loan to the small and marginal farmers who have been declared as defaulters and 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.
- (iv) In some parts of the country, farmers face acute distress because of the heavy burden of debt from non-institutional lenders (e.g. private money-lenders). Banks have been permitted to advance loans to such farmers for redeeming their debt from private moneylenders and for providing them relief from indebtedness.
- (v) All the public sector banks have been advised to reduce their lending rate for agriculture to a single digit rate of not more than 90% 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.
- (vi) To waive margin/security requirements for agricultural loans upto Rs. 50,000 and agri-business and agri-clinics upto Rs. 5 lakh.

[Translation]

Agreement for Exchange of Intermediate Items

1721. MOHD. SHAHID :

SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT :

SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE :

SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHAWAHA :

PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR :

SHRI MUNSHI RAM :

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the domestic steel industries are facing the shortage of goods like Coke, Coking Coal and Silicon;

(b) if so, whether the Government has signed any agreement with some countries to receive Coke, Coking Coal and Silicon under mutual exchange of goods scheme to meet the shortage; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) and (b) Due to lack of domestic availability and adequate production within the country, steel plants perforce have to import some essential raw materials like coking coal and coke. The National Steel Policy emphasizes that in the interest of coking coal security, the Government would encourage joint ventures and equity participation abroad by steel and coal companies. The policy also states that exports of iron ore would be leveraged for import of coking coal or for investment in India. However, no agreements have been signed as yet for mutual exchange of goods.

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

[English]

Task Force Report on Bio-tech Industry

1722. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL :

SHRI SUGRIB SINGH :

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

(a) whether the Government had set up a task force on bio-tech industry;

- (b) if so, whether it has submitted its report;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the follow-up action taken thereon?

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

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Pending Irrigation Projects

1723. SHRI MUNSHI RAM : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government has assessed the total amount to be spent on the existing pending irrigation projects;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether the cost of irrigation per hectare has been assessed right from the first Five Year Plan to the Tenth Five Year Plan;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (e) whether the Government has assessed the percentage increase in the irrigational area following the completion of the pending irrigation projects; and

- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (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 total amount to be spent on the 388 ongoing major/medium irrigation projects is approx. Rs. 91,114 crore. The State-wise details of these projects are provided in the enclosed Statement-I.

(c) and (d) There is wide variation in per hectare cost of irrigation depending upon various factors. The average cost of irrigation per hectare Plan-wise for the country has been assessed and provided in the enclosed Statement-II.

(e) and (f) An irrigation potential of 38.74 million hectare has been created upto 2003-04 through major and medium irrigation projects. The balance irrigation potential of the ongoing irrigation projects is 12.1 million hectare. Thus giving 31.23 percent in the irrigation potential creation on their completion.

Statement-I

Ongoing Major and Medium Irrigation Projects in the Country (as on 1.4.2004)

(Amount in Rs. Cr./Pot. in th. ha.)

Sl.No.	Name of State/UT	Total ongoing projects for which information has been received			Latest Estimated cost	Expenditure upto IX Plan	Balance cost (Antd.)	Balance potential (Antd.)
		Major	Medium	Total				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Andhra Pradesh	15	9	24	18075.03	7708.66	8579.00	706.08
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Nil	Nil	Nil			0.00	
3.	Assam	5	5	10	1840.88	450.12	1344.75	136.95
4.	Bihar	9	3	12	4624.82	2026.66	2304.16	679.33
5.	Chhattisgarh	3	5	8	1932.33	1244.51	350.03	158.23

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
6. Goa		1	0	1	966.56	470.36	464.95	13.68
7. Gujarat		3	18	21	31961.79	13197.87	14706.13	1638.52
8. Haryana		4	0	4	962.13	747.40	191.31	86.00
9. Himachal Pradesh		1	2	3	288.57	64.53	195.55	32.04
10. Jammu & Kashmir		0	7	7	226.30	101.50	83.23	24.21
11. Jharkhand		5	19	24	5747.99	1579.72	3903.18	502.11
12. Karnataka		16	18	34	20538.85	11274.93	7562.18	804.69
13. Kerala		4	4	8	2608.80	1357.70	1088.55	134.64
14. Madhya Pradesh		16	5	21	17996.63	4643.31	11847.00	1624.46
15. Maharashtra		56	95	151	39695.56	16053.04	20887.83	2320.80
16. Manipur		2	1	3	702.32	360.19	267.58	51.94
17. Meghalaya		0	1	1	57.07	20.24	34.48	5.15
18. Mizoram		Nil	Nil	Nil			0.00	
19. Nagaland		Nil	Nil	Nil			0.00	
20. Orissa		10	10	20	7178.52	2594.39	3624.62	501.86
21. Punjab		1	0	1	1324.18	94.67	1196.09	0.00
22. Rajasthan		4	4	8	6863.95	3595.43	2366.72	398.66
23. Sikkim		Nil	Nil	Nil			0.00	0.00
24. Tamil Nadu		0	2	2	105.36	51.56	19.24	7.19
25. Tripura		0	3	3	178.00	129.49	40.39	23.42
26. Uttaraanchal		3	0	3	5334.11	253.08	5081.03	290.60
27. Uttar Pradesh		9	0	9	7534.32	3251.30	3286.93	1440.28
28. West Bengal		2	8	10	2728.42	978.34	1689.47	520.79
29. Union Territories		Nil	Nil	Nil			0.00	
Total		169	219	388	179472.49	72249.00	91114.40	12101.63

Statement-II*Plan-wise Cost of Irrigation per Hectare*

Sl.No.	Plan	Expenditure during the Plan (Rs. crore)	Cumulative Pot. Creation (Th. ha.)	Potential Creation during the Plan (Th. ha.)	Cost (Rs./hectare)
1.	Pre-Plan	—	9705		
2.	I	376.24	12191	2486	1513
3.	II	380	14334	2143	1773
4.	III	576	16565	2231	2582
5.	AP (1966-69)	429.81	18095	1530	2809
6.	IV	1242.3	20703	2608	4763
7.	V	2516.18	24717	4014	6269
8.	AP (1978-80)	2078.56	26612	1895	10969
9.	VI	7368.83	27695	1083	68041
10.	VII	11107.29	29920	2225	49920
11.	AP (1990-92)	5459.15	30724	804	67900
12.	VIII	21669.15	32954	2230	97171
13.	IX	49289.55	37046	4092	120453

**Wastage of Fruits and
Vegetables**

1724. SHRI M. SHIVANNA :

SHRI Y. G. MAHAJAN :

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES
be pleased to state :

(a) whether the vegetables and fruits worth Rs. 1100 crore dollars are wasted every year in India due to lack of storage and processing facilities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether only 2 per cent of vegetables and fruits are stored and protected scientifically; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY) : (a) to (c) As per the report of M/s Rabo India Finance Private Limited, wastage of the fruits and vegetables is estimated to be about Rs. 33,000 crore occurring at various stages of handling after harvesting like inadequate post-harvest infrastructure, lack of cold chain facilities, transportation, proper storage facilities etc. Level of processing of fruits and vegetables in the country is estimated to be 2.20%.

(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 research and development, human resource development besides other promotional measures to encourage development of food processing industries. Recently in 2004-05 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. Fruit and vegetable products are already exempted from payment of excise duty. A National Horticulture Mission has been launched with effect from 1st April 2005 with an objective to boost the horticulture sector.

Tourism Projects in Kerala

1725. SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the tourism projects in Kerala approved by the Union Government during the year 2004-05;

(b) the total amount sanctioned by the Union Government to the State Government for promoting these projects;

(c) the details of the amount released so far;

(d) whether the Government proposes to sanction more such projects during 2005-06; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) The following nine projects were sanctioned during the year 2004-05 for development of tourism in the State of Kerala :

Sl.No.	Name of the project
1.	India International Boat Show at Cochin.
2.	Development of Northern Regional Circuit.
3.	Integrated Development of High Range Tourism Circuit.
4.	Art and Craft Village Vizhinjam.
5.	IT Project for Tourism Department of Kerala.
6.	IT Schemes for Tourism Department of Kerala.
7.	Village Tourism Project at Aranmula, District Pathanamthitta.
8.	Village Tourism Project at Kumbalanghi, District Ernakulam.
9.	Development of Handloom Heritage Sector in Balaramapuram Village, Rural Tourism.

(b) An amount of Rs. 2233.63 lakhs was sanctioned for development of these projects.

(c) Funds to the tune of Rs. 1780.33 lakhs were released for execution of the projects sanctioned during 2004-05.

(d) Yes, Sir. The projects are sanctioned on the basis of project proposals prioritised in consultation with the State Government every year.

(e) The following projects have been sanctioned during 2005-06 (till date) for development of tourism in Kerala :

Sl.No.	Name of the project sanctioned	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Integrated Development of Alappuzha Heritage Town as a Tourism Circuit	800.00
2.	Beach Tourism Circuit in Kerala	798.00
3.	Integrated Development of Golf Course and Country Club at the Cochin International Airport under Large Revenue Generating Scheme	1000.00
4.	IT based marketing tools for Kerala	14.00

Drug Policy

1726. SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA :
SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO :
SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPA :
SHRI SUBODH MOHITE :
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :
SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK :
KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH :
SHRI ANIRUDH PRASAD ALIAS
SADHU YADAV :
MOHD. MUKEEM :

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to amend Drugs Pricing Policy of 2002 or announcing a new drug policy and refurbishing the regulatory institutions;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which a new policy is likely to be announced or amended?

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

(a) to (c) The Government announced the 'Pharmaceutical Policy 2002' in February 2002. However, a public interest litigation filed in the High Court of Karnataka at Bangalore resulted in an Order dated 12.11.2002, which prevented the Government from implementing the price control regime of the Pharmaceutical Policy 2002. This Department filed a Special Leave Petition (SLP) before the Supreme Court of India against the Order of the Karnataka High Court, which has been admitted as SLP (C) No. 3668/2003. The matter is sub-judice before the Supreme Court.

A Committee under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary (PI) was constituted 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. This Committee has submitted its interim report to the Government.

A Task Force under the Chairmanship of Dr. Pronab Sen, Principal Adviser, Planning Commission was constituted to explore options other than price control to make available life saving drugs at reasonable prices. The Task Force has submitted its report to the Government on the 20th September, 2005. The Task Force has recommended, inter-alia, for constitution of single regulator of prices of drugs.

The Government in consultation with various stakeholders is examining the recommendations of the Task Force. Based on this a new Pharmaceutical Policy is likely to be announced shortly.

[Translation]

New Inter-State Commission

1727. SHRI RAJNARAYAN BUDHOLIA :
SHRI Y. G. MAHAJAN :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government proposes to constitute a new Inter-State Commission;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the main objectives of the said commission and

the time by which the said commission is likely to be constituted; and

- (d) the details of selection procedure and functioning of the said commission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) No, Sir.

- (b) to (d) Do not arise.

[English]

Assessment of Outdated Laws of Weight and Measures

1728. SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

- (a) whether complaints have been received regarding contamination of vegetarian products with non-vegetarian ingredients;
- (b) if so, whether the Government proposes to amend the Weights and Measures Act, 1976 to fix accountability in this regard; 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 TASLIMUDDIN) : (a) Yes, Sir. Two complaints one from M/s. Patiala Consumer and Telephone Subscribes Forum, Patiala and other from National Human Right Commission, New Delhi forwarding the complaint from one Sh. Vijay Kumar Kochar of Delhi have been received in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare through Department of Consumer Affairs informing that the package of bread, cake, pastry, band, biscuit, kulcha, ice cream, chocolate, chewing gum, coca cola, allegedly contains ingredient of non-vegetarian but these products are labeled as vegetarian by symbol of vegetarian. All Food (Health) Authorities of States/UTs have been requested to investigate the matter and draw legal samples of these products for analysis.

- (b) and (c) All food articles including packaged food are covered under the provisions of Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 and Rules made thereunder. As per rule

32 of the PFA Rules, 1955 every package of food articles shall have a declaration on the label by specific symbol and colour code indicating that the ingredients used in the products are vegetarian/non-vegetarian origin. Violation of any provisions of the PFA Act and Rules attracts legal action. In view of the above there is no need to make similar provisions under Weights and Measures Act, 1976.

Guidelines on Counting of Tigers

1729. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any meeting of the top wildlife officials from all States was called by the Union Government regarding the method of counting tigers;

(b) if so, whether some guidelines have been laid down regarding the same;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the names of the tiger-inhabited States which participated in the said meeting; and

(e) the number of tigers at present in each tiger-inhabited State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARIAN MEENA) : (a) Yes, Sir. A workshop was held on 29.8.2005 in collaboration with the Wildlife Institute of India at New Delhi for sensitizing the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Chief Wildlife Wardens of States and Field Directors of Tiger Reserves and other officials from States involved in wildlife conservation, regarding the enhanced methodology adopted for All India Estimation of tigers, large carnivores, ungulates and habitat status, evaluation and monitoring.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. A bilingual field guide (in English and Hindi) containing datasheets for field data collection pertaining to tiger, leopard and other carnivores, sign encounter rate, data collection from line transects, sampling of vegetation, human disturbance and ungulate pellets, including identification of major ungulate species, tracks of

major carnivores and fecal pellets of wild animals was provided to participants.

(d) The names of tiger inhabited States from where officials participated in the workshop are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(e) The tiger estimation figures pertaining to the last All India Estimation, as received from States, are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

Statement-I

List of tiger inhabiting States wherefrom the participants attended the sensitizing workshop on 29.8.2005 at New Delhi

1. Maharashtra
2. Rajasthan
3. Chhattisgarh
4. Karnataka
5. Orissa
6. West Bengal
7. Andhra Pradesh
8. Uttar Pradesh
9. Madhya Pradesh
10. Assam
11. Bihar
12. Uttaranchal
13. Mizoram
14. Kerala
15. Jharkhand
16. Arunachal Pradesh
17. Tamil Nadu

Statement-II

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

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
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
10.	Himachal Pradesh					Nil	Nil	Nil
11.	Jammu & 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	349
Total		1827	3015	4005	4334	3750	3508	3642

NR—Not reported by State.

***Only for Namdapha Tiger Reserve.

*Tiger census was not carried out.

****Figures included in undivided State.

**Under compilation/vetting.

^Entire state not covered.

Creation of Inter-State Tiger Reserve

1730. DR. K.S. MANOJ : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has received any proposal to create an Inter-State tiger reserve covering Parambikulam and Chinnar sanctuaries, Eravikulam National Park and Indira Gandhi Wildlife Sanctuary of Tamil Nadu;

(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) to (c) Based on proposals received from States, in principle approval was accorded by the Steering Committee of Project Tiger for inclusion of Anamalai and Parambikulam Wildlife Sanctuaries, falling in Tamil Nadu and Kerala respectively, under Project Tiger. Action has been initiated on these proposals.

Development of Townships on Rivers

1731. SHRI TUKARAM GANGADHAR GADAKH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether project reports for development of townships on different rivers in Maharashtra have been submitted to Union Government for approval under the National River Action Plan under the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the cost of the different projects along with the time since when the same are pending;

(c) the cost escalation incurred as result thereof;

(d) the reasons for delay and the stage at which they are pending; and

(e) the time by which they are likely to be cleared for implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) No project reports for development of townships on different rivers in Maharashtra have been received in this Ministry. However, the Government of Maharashtra has submitted river pollution abatement project report for Kolhapur town along river Panchganga (costing

Rs. 49.74 crore) in the year 2002, and in the year 2004 for Wai town along river Krishna (costing Rs. 53.83 crore), Pandharpur town along river Bhima (costing Rs. 26.61 crore), Prakasha town along river Tapi (costing Rs. 4.62 crore), Paithan town along river Godavari (costing Rs. 12.80 crore) and Nawapur town along river Rangawali (costing Rs. 4.55 crore) for approval under the National River Conservation Plan during the Tenth Five Year Plan.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) These projects could not be considered for approval due to constraint of funds during the Tenth Five Year Plan. However, it was suggested that the State Government may undertake these projects out of the State Plan provisions by seeking necessary funds from the Planning Commission including exploring the possibility of initiating the projects with public-private partnership.

(e) Does not arise

[Translation]

Promotion of Herbal Agriculture

1732. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO :
SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has made any efforts to promote herbal agriculture;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the achievement made by the Government as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has set up National Medicinal Plants Board under the Chairmanship of Union Health and Family Welfare Minister with a view to protect sustain and develop medicinal plants sector. The Board is responsible for coordination of all matters relating to medicinal plants, including drawing up policies and strategies for their conservation, proper harvesting, cost-effective cultivation, research and development, processing and marketing of raw material.

(c) National Medicinal Plants Board has formulated

and implemented promotional, commercial and contractual farming schemes for providing financial assistance for development of medicinal plants sector. During the last three years (2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05), more than 2900 projects involving financial assistance of Rs. 75.00 crore have been sanctioned and 72,000 acre land has been covered under cultivation of various prioritized medicinal plants. Under the promotional scheme, 590 projects involving financial outlay of about Rs. 72.57 crore have been sanctioned and nearly 65,000 acres land has been covered under promotional schemes involving activities like in-situ/ex-situ conservation and raising of herbal gardens. So far 32 State Medicinal Plants Boards have been set up (27 States and 5 UTs) for concerted effort to promote herbal agriculture in the country.

Discontinue of Contract System

1733. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:

SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO :

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

(a) whether contract system is still prevailing in various departments of the country even after assurance given by the Government to discontinue the same;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO) : (a) to (c) The Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970 has been enacted with a view to regulate the employment of contract labour in certain establishments and to provide for its abolition in certain circumstances like the work being of perennial nature etc. It does not contemplate total abolition of contract labour system. Except where specifically prohibited in a particular job in an establishment, engagement of contract labour is permissible.

(d) Several notifications have been issued prohibiting employment of contract labour in various establishments including Government departments,

[English]

Seed Trial of Salinger Cotton

1734. SHRI ANNASAHAB M. K. PATIL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has given sanction for the seed trial of Salinger Cotton of Monsanto;

(b) if so, the number of applications pending for seed trials as on October 1, 2005;

(c) whether is the cotton only cash crop being looked at for genetically altered seeds;

(d) if so, whether any report has been prepared on Catch 22 cotton and B.T. cotton so far;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the area under cultivation for the same?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) and (b) The Government is not aware of the trials of Salinger Cotton seed of Monsanto. No application from M/s Monsanto for trial of Salinger Cotton seed is pending.

(c) In addition to Cotton, biotechnology research is being conducted on brinjal, cauliflower, mustard, potato, rice in the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)—State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) research system.

(d) to (f) The Government is not aware of Catch 22 cotton. Area under cultivation of Bt. Cotton is as under :

(Area in acres)

State	Kharif-2002	Kharif-2003	Kharif-2004
Andhra Pradesh	9,404	13,500	1,76,000
Madhya Pradesh	3,676	33,000	2,12,798
Gujarat	22,577	1,03,000	3,11,157
Maharashtra	30,699	54,000	3,99,000
Karnataka	5,401	7,500	84,764
Tamil Nadu	925	19,000	29,640
Total	72,682	2,30,000	12,13,359

[Translation]

Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970

1735. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has set up a high level committee of industrialists to discuss the issue related to the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the above committee has submitted its report;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government are aware of the judgement given by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in this regard wherein the apex court has directed that the safaiwalas/loaders working temporarily can be made permanent where there is regular work for them;

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

(g) the steps being taken by the Government in accordance with this judgement?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO) : (a) to (d) Government had appointed a Council on Trade and Industry comprising of prominent industrialists in the country in August 1998. On 11.12.1999 eight Special Subject Groups from among the members of the Council were constituted. One of the Subject Groups comprising S/Shri Nusli Wadia and Rattan Tata was set up for review of regulations and procedures to unshackle the Indian Industry/recommendation of measures for reviewing traditional industry. On the issue relating to contract labour, the report submitted by this Subject Group recommended that the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970 should be amended suitably to provide for regulation of contract labour in various industries to non-core activities of a company and not abolition. In other words, contract labour could not be utilized in the concerned company's continuous manufacturing processes.

(e) to (g) No, Sir. However two landmark judgements on contract labour were passed by the Hon'ble Supreme

Court in the years 1996 and 2001. In the matter of Air India Statutory Corporation Vs United Labour Union and Others, the Hon'ble Supreme Court ruled that on abolition of contract labour system by necessary implication, the principal employer is under statutory obligation to absorb the contract labour. This case arose out of the notification issued by the Government in 1976 prohibiting employment of contract labour in the jobs of sweeping, cleaning etc. in establishments coming under the Central Sphere.

A five judge Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court in the matter of Steel Authority of India Ltd. Vs Others Vs National Union of Waterfront Workers and Others in their judgement dated 30.8.2001, however, overruled the judgement in Air India case (Supra) prospectively. The court ruled that neither Section 10 of the Contract Labour Act nor any other provision in the Act, whether expressly or by necessary implication provides for automatic absorption of contract labour, on issuing a prohibition notification under Section 10 of the said Act. Consequently the Principal Employer cannot be required to order absorption of the contract labour working in the concerned establishment. If the contract is not genuine or a mere camouflage the so called contract labour will have to be treated as employees of the Principal Employer and the Industrial Adjudicator, in an industrial dispute raised before it, shall direct the principal employer to regularise the services of the contract labour in the concerned establishment.

If the contract is found to be genuine and prohibition notification has been issued by the appropriate government and the principal employer intends to employ regular workmen in the prohibited category, he shall give preference to erstwhile contract labour by relaxing the conditions as to age and qualifications other than technical qualifications. The aforesaid notification issued in 1976 was quashed. This judgement of the Supreme Court is the law of the land and wherever prohibition of employment of contract labour has been issued by the appropriate Government, the concerned establishment has to follow this ruling strictly.

[English]

Land Acquired by BSP

1736. SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large area of land acquired for Bokaro Steel Plant still remains un-used;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the un-used land is proposed to be returned to the State Government or the original land owners;
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the time likely to be taken in this regard; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (e) Bokaro Steel Plant has 8602.828 acres of vacant land which is reserved for modernization, expansion and addition to existing facilities for specific purposes like Ash pond, Slag dump yard and other effluent/waste treatment and disposal needs. Therefore, there is no proposal to surrender/return this land.

Plan Outlay

1737. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of plan outlay of the department during each of the last three years and its percentage allocated to North-Eastern States, State-wise;
- (b) whether any mention of the expenditure incurred has been reflected in the demand for grants;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, scheme-wise;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken to ensure that actual expenditure

is reflected against allocation for implementation of each scheme in the State?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) The Plan Outlay of the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (BOAC) during the last three years and percentage of the said outlay allocated for North-Eastern States and Sikkim is as follows :

(Rs. crore)

Year	Budget Estimates	% of total allocation for North-Eastern States and Sikkim
2002-03	2167.00	10%
2003-04	2167.00	10%
2004-05	2650.00	10%

The amount of funds allocated under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSSs) for the North-Eastern States and Sikkim, State-wise, during the period under reference are given in the attached statement.

(b) to (d) The actual expenditure, scheme-wise, is reflected in the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Agriculture.

(e) The steps taken to ensure full and proper utilization of funds include timely release of funds; regular, monitoring; and review of implementation of the schemes.

Statement

Allocation of Funds under Centrally Sponsored Schemes during 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 for the North Eastern States and Sikkim, State-wise

2002-03

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of the Scheme	Arunachal Pradesh	Assam	Manipur	Mizoram	Meghalaya	Nagaland	Sikkim	Tripura
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Macro Management of Agriculture Scheme	500.00	700.00	600.00	900.00	700.00	1000.00	500.00	800.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2.	Technology Mission on Integrated Development of Horticulture for North Eastern Region	1099.00	1424.08	687.36	1271.76	865.85	979.00	857.14	821.50
3.	Agriculture Census	17.00	55.00	9.00	9.00	8.00	17.00	12.00	13.00
4.	Technology Mission on Cotton	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	13.00
5.	Oilseed Production Programme (OPP)	15.00	110.00	72.00	79.00	24.00	90.00	50.00	60.00
6.	National Pulses Development Project (NPDP)	15.00	15.00	30.00	51.00	15.00	37.00	10.00	37.00
7.	Oil Palm Development Programme (OPDP)	0.00	4.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.00
8.	Accelerated Maize Development Programme (AMDP)	10.46	0.00	13.44	44.72	0.00	0.00	17.85	13.53
9.	Timely Reporting Scheme (TRS)	0.00	20.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10.	Improvement of Crop Statistics (ICS)	0.00	5.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
11.	Crop estimate Survey on Fruits and Vegetables	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
12.	Establishment of Agency for Reporting Statistics (EARAS)	13.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	2.00	3.00

2003-04

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of the Scheme	Arunachal Pradesh	Assam	Manipur	Mizoram	Meghalaya	Nagaland	Sikkim	Tripura
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Macro Management of Agriculture Scheme	400.00	700.00	600.00	800.00	600.00	800.00	500.00	800.00
2.	Technology Mission on Integrated Development of Horticulture for North Eastern Region	1220.00	1400.00	638.00	1089.00	937.00	1256.00	1000.00	900.00
3.	Agriculture Census	15.90	18.00	14.00	10.50	5.00	18.20	15.40	3.00
4.	Technology Mission on Cotton	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	15.00
5.	Oilseed Production Programme (OPP)	21.00	104.00	72.00	79.00	24.00	90.00	50.00	60.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
6.	National Pulses Development Project (NPDP)	15.00	50.00	20.00	25.00	15.00	35.00	10.00	30.00
7.	Oil Palm Development Programme (OPDP)	0.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.00
8.	Accelerated Maize Development Programme (AMDP)	15.95	4.44	22.30	29.89	4.30	4.30	3.00	15.82
9.	Timely Reporting Scheme (TRS)	0.00	24.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10.	Improvement of Crop Statistics (ICS)	0.00	5.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
11.	Crop estimate Survey on Fruits and Vegetables	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
12.	Establishment of Agency for Reporting Statistics (EARAS)	15.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.00	5.00	2.00

2004-05

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of the Scheme	Arunachal Pradesh	Assam	Manipur	Mizoram	Meghalaya	Nagaland	Sikkim	Tripura
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Macro Management of Agriculture Scheme	500.00	800.00	700.00	900.00	700.00	900.00	600.00	800.00
2.	Technology Mission on Integrated Development of Horticulture for North Eastern Region	1500.00	1425.00	1100.00	1632.20	1211.00	1875.00	1150.00	1012.80
3.	Agriculture Census	17.00	45.00	15.00	10.00	7.50	16.50	16.50	10.50
4.	Technology Mission on Cotton	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	25.00
5.	Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize (ISOPOM)#	0.00	8.00	0.00	107.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
6.	Improvement of Agricultural Statistics (IAS)®	19.00	32.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.00	8.00	3.00

Note : #Four erstwhile schemes of OPP, OPDP, NPDP and AMDP were merged in ISOPOM w.e.f. 2004-05.

®Four erstwhile schemes of TRS, ICS, Crop Estimate Survey on F and V and EARAS were merged in IAS w.e.f. 2004-05.

**Revival of Hindustan Fertilizer
Unit at Durgapur**

1738. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY :
SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA :

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

(a) whether the Government is considering and re-examining the proposal of revival of Hindustan Fertilizer Unit at Durgapur in the event of supply of methane gas which is alternative source of feedstock to the fertilizer unit and also cost effective; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) :
(a) Yes, Sir. A proposal from Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. for setting up a brown field gas based fertilizer plant at its Durgapur unit has been received.

(b) The revival of the unit will depend on the techno-economic viability of the proposal.

Silting of Sukhna Lake

1739. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the regular silting of Sukhna Lake in Chandigarh and wild growth therein have reduced the lake to almost half of the original water body; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to de-silt the lake effectively and restore it to its original position?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Due to siltation, the surface area of the Lake has reduced from 2.5 sq.km. to 1.5 sq.km. and area so silted up has been declared as Reserve Forest.

(b) The ingress of silt into the Lake has been effectively checked by construction of sedimentation tanks in front of Regulator gates and at the Confluence of Suketri and Kansal choes. Annual desilting by mechanical machinery during dry season is also being done.

**Remunerative Price to
Groundnut Growers**

1740. SHRI P. S. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Groundnut growers in Gujarat and some other States are not getting remunerative price for their produce;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the remedial action proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) and (b) The wholesale prices of groundnut with shell in Gujarat and UP have generally remained above the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of Rs. 1520/- per quintal during 2005-06. However, in the States like UP and Karnataka prices of groundnut for FAQ stocks were reported to have fallen below MSP and NAFED has started procurement. A quantity of 176 MTs in UP and 25 MTs in Karnataka has been purchased so far at the MSP of Rs. 1520/- per quintal in 2005-06. Purchases under the scheme in these states are still continuing.

(c) NAFED has already advised the State procuring agencies in groundnut growing States to remain in alertness and to commence procurement if the prices of groundnut tend to fall below MSP for FAQ stocks.

[Translation]

Construction of Hotels

1741. SHRI BHUPENDRASINH SOLANKI :
SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT :
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has directed the State Government to increase the number of hotels in view of increasing number of tourists;

(b) if so, the response of the State Governments thereto, State-wise;

(c) the amount of funds sanctioned for the purpose; and

(d) the names of States/cities where these hotels are proposed to be constructed and target fixed for their completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (d) Construction of hotels is primarily a Private Sector activity. During the State Tourism Ministers Conference held in March, 2005, the State Governments were advised to take appropriate steps to facilitate growth of hotels by allocating suitable land, redefining land-use, etc. in view of increasing number of tourists. Some States have responded positively.

[English]

Export and Import of Drugs

1742. MOHD. KUKHEEM : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of export and imports of bulk drugs and finished formulation during the last three years; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to promote the exports of finished formulations where value addition is high and to help the industry to establish the Indian Pharma brand name?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) Total Import-Export figures of Drugs, Pharmaceuticals and fine chemicals for the last three years are as under :

(Values in US \$ Millions)

	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
Export of Drugs, Pharmaceuticals and fine Chemicals	2650.28	3310.73	3712.57
Import of Medicinal and Pharmaceutical Products	592.02	643.73	679.14

(b) 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 exports.

6. Brand Promotion and Quality.

7. Modernization and up gradation of Test Houses.

[Translation]

National Rainfed Area Authority

1743. SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to constitute a National Rainfed Area Authority;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) to (c) There is a proposal to set up a National Rainfed Area Authority. However, the details and time frame have not been finalized.

[English]

Arrival of Foreign Tourists

1744. SHRI C. H. VIJAYASHANKAR : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the tourism sector in India is in upbeat and is likely to attract a record number of tourists;

(b) if so, which are the States that attract major chunk of tourists;

(c) whether the Government proposes any special package/programme for the Government of Karnataka; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) During the year 2004, States of Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Delhi recorded a large number of foreign tourist visits to their States, accounting for about 60% of the total foreign tourist visits in the country, during the year.

(c) and (d) Development and promotion of tourist spots/

places is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments concerned. Ministry of Tourism, however, provides funds to the State Governments for the projects, which are prioritized in consultation with them every year in various schemes. During the year 2004-05, 12 projects were sanctioned to the State of Karnataka and an amount of Rs. 1937.37 lakh was released to them.

[Translation]

Pending Development Projects

1745. SHRIMATI NEETA PATERIYA :
SHRI NAND KUMAR SINGH CHAUHAN :
SHRI KRISHNA MURARI MOGHE :

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

(a) the number of projects of Madhya Pradesh relating to environmental development pending with the Union Government for its approval; and

(b) the action being taken by the Government on these projects and the time by which the approval is likely to be accorded to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) There are 24 pending development projects from Madhya Pradesh with the Ministry of Environment and Forests for environmental clearance as per list enclosed as statement. These projects include one industrial project, two new construction projects and 21 mining projects.

(b) The above projects require appraisal for grant of environmental clearance, as per the prescribed procedure, within 120 days of receipt of all the required clarification/ documents.

Statement

List of Pending Projects

Sl.No.	Project Details
1	2

Industrial Projects

1. Project Name : Expansion of Bulk Drug Unit.

District : Raizen

Village : Madideep

Company : M/s Lupin Limited

1	2
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New Constructions Projects

2. Project Name : Sahara City Homes (3841 Flats), Gird Tehsil

District : Gwalior

Village : Oudpura

Company : Sahara India Commercial Corporation Ltd.

3. Project Name : Sahara City Homes (2546 Flats), Indore

District : Indore

Village : Bicholi Mardana and Musakhedi

Company : Sahara India Commercial Corporation Ltd.

Mining Projects

4. Project Name : Tamar Bauxite Mine, ML Area 21.0 Ha.Prod.Cap. 40,000 TPA

District : Satna

Company : M/s Madhya Pradesh State Mining Corp. Ltd.

5. Project Name : Sarni UG Mine of M/s WCL, Dist. Betul

District : Betul

6. Project Name : Gwali Rock Phosphate Mine of M/s Madhya Pradesh State Mining Corp. Ltd., Dt. Jhabua

District : Jhabua

7. Project Name : Meghnagar Rock Phosphate Mine of M/s Madhya Pradesh State Mining Corp. Ltd., Dt. Jhabua

District : Jhabua

8. Project Name : Jharna UG Mine of M/s WCL, Dist. Chhindwara

District : Chhindwara

9. Project Name : Satpura-II UG Mine of M/s WCL, Dist. Betul

District : Betul

10. Project Name : Jamuna UG of M/s SECL, Dist. Shahdol

District : Shahdol

1	2
11.	Project Name : Kotma OCP of M/s SECL, Dist. Shahdol District : Shahdol
12.	Project Name : Hindustan Lalpeth OCP, ML Area : 311.66 ha.Prod.Cap. 0.54 MTPA District : Chandrapur Company : M/s WCL
13.	Project Name : Bihuli Limestone Mine of M/s Birla Corp. Ltd., Dist. Satna District : Satna
14.	Project Name : Sangmania Limestone Mine of M/s Birla Corp. Ltd., Dist. Satna District : Satna
15.	Project Name : Malga UG Mine of SECL, Dist. Shahdol District : Shahdol
16.	Project Name : Amlai/New Amlai UG Mine of SECL, Dist. Shahdol District : Shahdol
17.	Project Name : Vishnupuri-I UG Mine of M/s WCL, Dist. Chhindwara District : Chhindwara
18.	Project Name : Vishnupuri-II UG Mine of M/s WCL, Dist. Chhindwara District : Chhindwara
19.	Project Name : Gajandoh UG Mine of M/s WCL, Dist. Chhindwara District : Chhindwara
20.	Project Name : Pipritola Ochre, White Clay and Laterite Mine of Shri Sarad Kumar Bansal, ML Area : 8.00 Ha.Prod.Cap. 3000 TPA (laterite), 10,000 (Ochre) District : Satna
21.	Project Name : Nandan UG Mine (Mine I and Mine II) of M/s WCL, ML Area : 543.50 Ha.Prod.Cap. 0.405 MTPA District : Chhindwara

1	2
22.	Project Name : Mohan (Maori) UG Mine of M/s WCL, ML Area : 800.00 Ha.Prod.Cap. 0.45 MTPA District : Chhindwara
23.	Project Name : Sobhapur UG Mine of M/s WCL District : Betul
24.	Project Name : Amlori OCP, ML Area : 2183 Ha.Prod.Cap. 4.17 MTPA District : Chandrapur Company : M/s WCL

Revision of Compensation Rates

1746. SHRI NAND KUMAR SINGH CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh has submitted any proposal for revision of the earlier displacement compensation rates under the Beneficiary Oriented Tribal Development Scheme;

(b) if so, the action taken/being taken in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) No such scheme is being implemented by the Ministry of Environment and Forests.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Proposal from M.P. under Integrated Dairy Development

1747. SHRI KRISHNA MURARI MOGHE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of proposals received by the Union Government from the Government of Madhya Pradesh under Integrated Dairy Development Scheme;

(b) the action being taken on these proposals; and

(c) the time by which the said proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN) : (a) Three proposals have been received from the Madhya Pradesh Government under the scheme 'Intensive Dairy Development Programme' since April, 2004 covering following districts :

- (i) Jhabua
- (ii) Chhindwara & Balaghat
- (iii) Harda, Badwani, Neemuch & Sheopur

(b) and (c) The Government of India has approved two proposals—one for the district of Jhabua at a total cost of Rs.228.89 lakh and another for the districts of Chhindwara and Balaghat at a cost of Rs.420.58 lakh during the current financial year. An amount of Rs. 117.74 lakh and Rs. 251.47 lakh has been released to the M.P. State Co-operative Dairy Federation Ltd. For implementation of these projects respectively.

The State Government has been requested to revise the third proposal vide letter dated 28.11.2005.

[English]

Vocational Training Programme for Women

1748. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from the Government of Gujarat regarding vocational training programme for women; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO) : (a) Ministry of Labour & Employment has not received any such proposal. In Gujarat the vocational training to women is primarily provided in ITIs functioning under the Directorate of Employment & Training. They have not sent any proposal to the Ministry of Labour & Employment.

(b) Not applicable

Packages To HMT

1749. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR :

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE :

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state;

(a) whether some units of Hindustan Machine Tools (HMTs) have fallen sick;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of staff affected thereby;

(d) whether any compensation packages have been announced for the staff of these sick units; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Yes, Sir. The following units of Hindustan Machine Tools have fallen sick :

(i) HMT Machine Tools Ltd.

(ii) HMT Bearings Ltd.

(iii) HMT Watches Ltd.

(iv) HMT Chinara Watches Ltd.

(v) Praga Tools Ltd.

(b) The principal reasons are : Low productivity due to obsolete plant and machinery and technology gaps, poor order book, shortage of working capital, surplus man power and increase in cost of input.

(c) The total number of staff in the above units are 8050 (approx.).

(d) and (e) Government has asked these companies to formulate revival plans. In case of Praga Tools Limited and HMT Bearings Limited, the Government has recently approved revival plan and provided a package of Rs. 214.71 crores, Rs. 51.37 crores respectively.

Unit Area of Crop Insurance Under NAIS

1750. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA :

SHRI KRISHNA MURARI MOGHE :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria laid down to determine the unit area of crop insurance under National Agricultural Insurance Scheme(NAIS);

(b) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh has submitted any proposal to the Union Government to consider Patwari circle/Halka as a unit of NAIS;

(c) if so, whether the Union Government has forwarded its approval to the Agriculture Insurance Company of India Limited which is the implementing agency; and

(d) if so, the time by which approval is likely to be accorded?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) As per provision of the Scheme each participating State/UT is allowed to notify any unit area of insurance i.e. block, tehsil, mandal, hobli, patwari circle, gram panchayat etc., if the implementing State has the capacity to undertake requisite number of Crop Cutting Experiments (CCEs) under single series of CCEs for making assessment of yield.

(b) Yes, Sir,

(c) The Agriculture Insurance Company of India Ltd.(AIC) which is the Implementing Agency(IA) of the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme(NAIS) has already apprised the State Government about the conditions viz. undertaking requisite number of CCEs, maintenance of single series of CCEs etc. for reducing the unit area of insurance to Patwari Halka.

(d) Does not arise.

New Dams for Utilization of Flood Water

1751. SHRI M. APPADURAI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to floods in many parts of the country lots of water flows waste into sea;

(b) if so, whether for utilization of said water the Government has any proposal to construct new dams and reservoirs, and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Floods are caused mainly as a result of intense rainfall in the catchment. About 75% of rainfall occurs during monsoon period (June to October) with a considerable part from a few spells of intense rainfall. Considerable part of the flood water flows down to sea.

(b) and (c) State Governments conceive, plan and implement major, medium & minor schemes for utilization of water resources. Storage capacity of about 213 Billion Cubic Metre(BCM) has been created so far. As per present assessment, the total estimated storage capacity of the various projects under construction is about 76 BCM and that for the projects under formulation is about 108 BCM.

Consumer Welfare Fund

1752. SHRI DHANUSKODI R. ATHITHAN : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the total corpus of Consumer Welfare Fund currently available as on June 30, 2005;

(b) the details regarding utilization of the Consumer Welfare Fund during the last three years, year-wise.

(c) whether the Government proposes to increase the ceiling on allocation of grants in consumer organizations;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government is considering any proposal to simplify the procedure for allocation of grant to consumer organizations from the said fund; 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 TASLIMUDDIN) : (a) as on June 30, 2005 an amount of Rs. 68.89 crores was available in the Consumer Welfare Fund.

(b) The required information is as under :

(Rs. in thousands)

Year	Funds utilized during the year
2002-03	3,52,85
2003-04	3,32,56
2004-05	17,55,60

(c) to (f) The Central CWF has been decentralized. The funds are now being given to the State/Union Territories. The State Governments/UTs have also been asked to set up their own State Consumer Welfare Fund for which seed money at the ratio of 50 :50 (Centre :State) is given. In the case of North Eastern States and other special category States/UTs, this ratio is 90 :10(Centre :State). The State Governments have also been asked to frame their CWF Rules for sanction of grants to consumer organizations.

Self-Sufficiency in Production of Chemicals and Fertilizers

1753. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR : Will the Minister of CHEMICAL AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :-

(a) whether the Government has achieved self-sufficiency in the production of chemicals and fertilizers at present;

(b) if not, whether the Government is still dependent upon imported fertilizers;

(c) if so, whether the Government has formulated any scheme in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) to (d) (i) **Chemicals**— The current turnover of the Indian Chemicals Industry is about US\$ 30 billion. The chemical industry accounts for 14% in value of the manufacturing sector & also 14% in the total exports of the country. During 1999-2005, there has been annual growth of 21.3% in export of all chemicals as against 17.8% in total exports. On the other hand, imports of all chemicals grew by 14.5% against 17.9% growth in the total imports of the country. The general index of industrial production grew by 8% while the growth of basic chemicals was 14.3% in 2004-05.

The chemical industry has been considerably de-

regulated. There is no control on the production, distribution and pricing of chemicals. A large number of organic/inorganic chemicals, dyes and pesticides are being manufactured in large, medium scale and the small-scale sector. This Department does not monitor the production data of these chemicals.

(ii) **Fertilizers**—The country is almost self sufficient in respect of urea with annual installed capacity of 205.12 lakh MT coupled with urea supplied by the Oman India Fertilizer Project(OMIFCO), which has production capacity of 16.52 lakhs MT per annum of urea.

In respect of phosphatic fertilizer including DAP, the installed capacity is 54.20 lakh MT in nutrient terms, which is adequate to meet the current level of requirement of 46-47 lakhs MT per annum. However, actual production is dependent upon availability of raw materials and intermediates like rock phosphate and phosphoric acid, which are substantially imported. Any gap between assessed demand and indigenous production is being met through imports.

In the absence of commercially exploitable potash(K) in the country, the entire demand of potassic fertilizer for direct application as well as for production of complex fertilizer is met through imports.

The Government has been pursuing policies which are conducive for encouragement of investment in fertilizer sector so as to achieve self-sufficiency in meeting the indigenous requirement of major fertilizers. In case of urea, the Government has recently announced the pricing policy for investment made in (a) new and expansion projects of urea and (b) existing non-gas based urea units converting to natural gas/LNG for feedstock/fuel. The government is also encouraging overseas joint ventures as in respect of OMIFCO which has equity participation by IFFCO (25%) and KIRBHCO (25%) and where the entire production of 16.52 lakh MT of urea is being procured on government account. Similarly, government is also encouraging Indian fertilizers units to explore possibilities of joint ventures or long term supply arrangements in respect of phosphatic fertilizer inputs.

[Translation]

Erosion of Himalayan Glaciers

1754. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware of the continuous erosion of glaciers of Himalayas;

(b) if so, whether the reasons for such an erosion have been ascertained;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to protect the Himalayan glaciers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (c) Studies carried out by Geological Survey of India have revealed that the Himalayan Glaciers are passing through a phase of recession, which is a world wide phenomenon and is a natural cyclic process characteristic of the interglacial period. These changes could be attributed to various reasons including global warming. The recession of Glaciers does not necessarily mean rapid melting of the glaciers. Even the reduction in the snowfall catchments may lead to recession of the glaciers without any appreciable change in the melting regime.

(d) As the recession of glaciers is a natural process, it is practically not possible to save the glaciers through artificial measures. However, in order to develop a proper understanding of the glacial changes and the impact of this natural phenomenon, the Government has commissioned a few studies including a comprehensive programme on the inventory of glaciers, fluctuations in their sizes and mass balance. In order to prevent climate change and global warming, the Kyoto Protocol stipulates Quantified Emission Limitation Reduction targets for greenhouse gases for a number of developed countries.

[English]

Water Harvesting and Storage Schemes of Gujarat

1755. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has made any studies on water harvesting and storage schemes in Gujarat during the last three years;

(b) if so, the number of such schemes approved as a result thereof; and

(c) the funds allocated/released to Gujarat for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b) The Government of Gujarat has informed that in June 2002, IIM, Ahmedabad submitted a study report –“independent evaluation of construction of Checkdams under Sardar Patel Participatory Water Conservation Scheme”. The study indicated positive results of water harvesting structures. After the above study, Government of Gujarat has constructed about 15000 nos. of checkdams.

(c) No funds have been allocated/released by the Central Government to Government of Gujarat for Sardar Patel Participatory Water Conservation Scheme.

Production of Rice

1756. SHRI E. G. SUGAVANAM : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the actual quantity of rice produced in the country during the last three years and thereafter, till date;

(b) the details of top ten rice producing countries in the world and India's ranking therein,

(c) the quantity of rice exported during the last three years and thereafter till date and the value thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to further improve the production of rice in the country?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) The total production of rice in the country for the years 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 and the estimated production during kharif 2005-06 is shown in the table below :

Production of rice (in million tones)				
	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
Rice	71.82	88.28	85.31*	73.83\$

*Fourth Advance Estimates

\$ Kharif Production only as per First Advance Estimates.

(b) As per Food & Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Production Year Book, 2003 after China, India is the second largest producer of paddy(rice) in the world. The other major paddy producing countries are Indonesia, Bangladesh, Vietnam, Thailand, Myanmar, Philippines, Japan and Brazil as per details shown in the enclosed Statement :

(c) The quantity of rice exported and the value thereof during 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 are shown in the table below :

Q—Quantity in Million Tonnes

V—Value Rupees in Crores

April 02 to March 03		April 03 to March 04		April 04 to March 05	
Q	V	Q	V	Q	V
Rice	4.97 5831.24	3.41 4167.99	4.78	6641.67	

(d) The Government is implementing a scheme to increase the production and productivity of rice viz, integrated Cereals Development Programme in Rice Based Cropping Systems Areas (ICDP-Rice).

From October 2000, this scheme has been subsumed under Macro Management Programme with a view to provide flexibility to the States according to the regionally differentiated needs of the states. To boost agriculture sector and enhancing yields, improved crop production technologies are being popularized. Under this scheme assistance is provided for various inputs and training of farmers/extension workers as well as supply of critical inputs like seeds, sprayers and water saving devices like sprinklers and drip systems etc.

A new Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'On Farm Water Management for increasing Crop Production in Eastern India' was launched in 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.

Statement

Country	Paddy Production (Million Tonnes)		
	2001	2002	2003
China	179.31	176.34	166.42
India	140.01	107.60	132.01
Indonesia	50.46	51.49	52.08
Bangladesh	36.27	37.85	38.06
Vietnam	32.11	34.44	34.52
Thailand	26.52	26.06	27.00
Myanmar	21.91	22.78	24.64
Philippines	12.96	13.27	14.03
Brazil	10.18	10.46	10.20
Japan	11.32	11.11	9.74
World	598.17	569.53	589.13

[Translation]

Diseases in Child Labourers

1757. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHAWAHA : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the various diseases which the child labourers working in hazardous industries have been found affected with;

(b) whether such child labourers are given medical facilities by the industries; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO) : (a) Ministry of Labour is concerned with the enforcement of Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 and rehabilitation of children withdrawn from work. Respiratory Diseases, Skin Diseases, Musculo-skeletal disorders, Eye disorders, Psychological disorders are some of the diseases which have been reported to effect child labour working in hazardous industries.

(b) and (c) The concerned authorities take all necessary

steps in the prevention and treatment of the diseases affecting working children which come to their notice.

[English]

Development of Ajanta and Ellora

1758. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the government is planning to develop Ajanta and Ellora under phase-II programme :

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the said plan is likely to be implemented alongwith funds proposed to be provided to the State government during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A loan Agreement between Government of India and Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) was signed on 31st March 2003 for a loan amount of Japanese Yen 7331 million to develop Ajanta Ellora under Phase-II programme. The locations to be covered under this project are Pithalkora, Aurangabad, Daulatabad, Patnadevi, Lonar, Nasik, Pune, Elephanta Caves, Bhaja and Bhedsa, Shivneri, Malshej and Kolvan besides Ajanta and Ellora. The project implementation has started and the project is scheduled to be completed by end of June, 2008.

Migration of Gir Lions

1759. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether lions from natural habitat in the Sasan Gir Sanctuary area are migrating to places including the coastal belt;

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

(c) the steps taken to protect the migrating Gir lions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As reported by Government of Gujarat, lions are migrating beyond the Gir National Park due to the tendency of expansion of their home zone, which is a

natural process for healthy growing populations. 12 lions were reported from coastal areas during the population estimation exercise in April, 2005.

(c) Protection is extended for lions in all the areas including coastal zones by the State Forest Department through regular patrolling and awareness campaigns.

To provide maximum protection to lions, the species has been included in Schedule-I of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

[Translation]

High Level Core Group

1760. SHRI RAGHUVEER SINGH KOSHAL : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has constituted a high level core group under the Chairmanship of Labour Secretary to fulfil its commitment under the Common Minimum Programme (CMP);

(b) if so, the details with regard to the labour related issues under the CMP;

(c) whether the high level core group has ever made any suggestions or recommendations to the Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO) : (a) to (d) A Core Group comprising of officials of the Ministry of Labour and Employment has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Labour and Employment) with a view to monitor the implementation of the policies/programmes contained in the National Common Minimum Programme concerning this Ministry, which include to enhance the welfare and well being of worker, particularly, those in the unorganized sector, to ensure fullest implementation of minimum wage laws for farm labour, to strive for elimination of child labour, to pursue a dialogue with industry and trade unions for review of labour laws with a view to harmonize and streamline procedures etc.

The Core Group monitors the progress made by the concerned Divisions in implementation of the above policy points in its meetings.

[English]

**Withdrawal of Taxes and Cess
from F.P.I.**

1761. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

((a) whether the Government has decided to withdraw all the taxes and cess from Food Processing Industries(FPI) for next 15 years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has formulated any plan to revive closed food processing units in the country especially in Maharashtra;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the financial assistance provided by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

[Translation]

CIPET Centres

1762. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to refer to the reply given to unstarred Question No. 173 dated July 25, 2005 regarding CIPET centres and state :

(a) whether the Government has taken final decision for setting up of Central Institute of Plastic Engineering and Technology (CIPET) Centres in Rajasthan and other States during 2005-06;

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

(c) the funds allocated for the purpose, State-wise; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be set up?

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

(a) The 'in-principle' approval of the Planning Commission for setting up three new Centres of CIPET in the States of Rajasthan, Haryana and Maharashtra was conveyed to the Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals in October, 2005. The Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals has initiated action for approval of the Expenditure Finance Committee(EFC) in consultation with the Ministry of Finance and Planning Commission for setting up these Centres.

(b) As conveyed by the respective State Governments, the CIPET Centre in Rajasthan would be set up at Jaipur, in Haryana at Panipat and at Aurangabad in Maharashtra.

(c) The Planning Commission has provided Rs. 15 crore in the Budget of Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals for setting up new Centres in Haryana, Rajasthan and Maharashtra during 2005-06 at a cost of Rs. 5 crore each. However, the EFC will decide the amount to be released.

(d) Normally, it takes three years for setting up a new Centre of CIPET, after the approval of the Government of India.

[English]

Construction of Sea Walls

1763. SHRI P. RAJENDRAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware that 580 Km long sea coast line of Kerala is under threat of sea erosion and that over 100 Km long area is severely affected by heavy erosion during the monsoon season endangering lives and causing destruction of crops and dwellings;

(b) if so, whether the Government has taken any steps for a permanent solution to this problem;

(c) if so, whether the Government of Kerala has submitted any fresh proposal to the Union Government regarding the construction of sea walls throughout the coastal area; and

(d) if so, the action the Government has taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Twelfth Finance Commission has awarded Rs. 175 crore for coastal zone management under State specific grant for the period 2005-2010 for construction of new sea wall and reformation of the already constructed sea wall. A proposal amounting to Rs. 216.96 crore was also submitted by the Government of Kerala for inclusion in the National Coastal Protection Project(NCPP). However, considering the severity of sea erosion problems in certain reaches, Government of India has taken up a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for anti-sea erosion works in critical areas in March 2004 on pilot basis with an estimated cost of Rs. 20.64 crore. This includes anti-sea erosion works of Kerala State also.

Essential Commodities for Tribal Areas

1764. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has identified the tribal areas in various States facing shortage of essential commodities;

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

(c) the steps taken to overcome the shortage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN) : (a) to (c) State Governments/UTs work out the requirements of foodgrains and other essential items on the basis of number of beneficiaries identified by them for distribution under the Public Distribution System(PDS) to the card holders including those in the tribal areas. Central Government is allocating food grains to the States/UTs @ 35 kgs. per family per month to Antodaya Anna Yojna(AAY), Below Poverty Line(BPL) and Above Poverty Line(APL) families on the basis of 1993-94 poverty estimates of Planning Commission as projected by Registrar General of India as on 01.03.2000 or on the basis of number of beneficiaries identified by State/UT Governments and ration cards issued, whichever is less. Kerosene(SKO) allocation is made to the State Governments/UTs for further distribution under the PDS network on a historical basis. In accordance with the policy adopted by the Central

Government in 2000, Kerosene(SKO) allocation for distribution under the PDS was reduced every year beginning 2001-02 till 2003-04, taking into account the number of LPG connections released in each State/Union Territory. While the initial allotment for 2004-05 was based on the criteria adopted hitherto, additional allocations were made during the year to meet emergent demand. For the year 2005-06, allocations have been maintained at the level of 2004-05, including additional allocation made during that year. Central Government have not been reported by the State/UT Governments about the shortages of allocation of foodgrains/ other Essential Commodities in the tribal areas.

Development of Nandan Kanan In Orissa

1765. SHRI JULAL ORAM : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has drawn up any master plan for the development of Nandan Kanan in Bhubaneswar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount earmarked under the plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (c) Development of places of tourist interest in the States is primarily the responsibility of State Governments. However, for development of infrastructure, Ministry of Tourism provides Central Financial Assistance for tourism related projects on the basis of projects identified every year in consultation with the State Governments.

Orissa Tourism has engaged ITDC to prepare a Master Plan for development of the Golden Triangle of Orissa comprising Bhubaneswar-Puri-Konark. The Master Plan will also cover Nandan Kanan, which is in close proximity to the city.

Visit of Experts from C.W.C. at Stamley Reservoir

1766. SHRI K.C. PALANISAMY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the technical experts from Central Water Commission (CWC) has visited Stamley Reservoir in Mettur recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the CWC is considering placing a computer simulated mathematical model mechanism to ensure uniform water of gauging between the Krishnarajasagar Dam in Karnataka and the Stanley Reservoir in Tamil Nadu; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) to (d) The standing Committee of Experts was constituted to reconcile the differences in flows measured at Billigundulu and inflows at Mettur reservoir of Tamil Nadu. The Standing Committee of Experts in its 7th meeting held in June, 2004 decided to constitute a Sub-committee consisting of officers of Cauvery basin States and Central Water Commission. One of the terms of the Sub-committee is to identify a software suitable for mathematical simulation from Kollegal to Billigundulu and from Billigundulu to Mettur to simulate inflows at Billigundulu and Mettur reservoir. The Sub-committee during its 1st and 2nd meeting held in 2005 discussed the issue of identification of suitable software for mathematical simulation. The Members of the Sub-committee also visited Stanley reservoir in Mettur on 5.10.2005 during its second meeting.

Objections by Neighbouring Countries on River-Linking Project

1767. SHRI RANEN BARMAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether objections against the river-linking project are being raised by neighbouring countries;

(b) if so, the names of the countries and the nature of objections raised;

(c) the forum(s) utilized by them to raise their objections;

(d) whether the basis of such objections have been examined; and

(e) if so, the outcome thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Bangladesh feels that inter-linking project would

deprive them of sufficient water for their needs in the context of rivers of Himalayan region.

(c) 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.

(d) and (e) 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 component only and therefore apprehension of Bangladesh is not relevant at this stage. The Government of India has also stated that it would not take any unilateral action, which would harm the interest of Bangladesh.

[Translation]

Assessment of Export of Drugs

1768. SHRI MUNSHI RAM : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Pharmaceuticals Export Promotion Cell (PEPC) set up by the Government has made any assessment about quantum of export by indigenous pharmaceutical industries and quality of drugs being manufactured by them;

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

(c) whether there is an increase in the export of drugs, pharmaceuticals and chemicals during 2004-05 as compared to 2003-04;

(d) if so, the percentage of increase recorded during the said period;

(e) whether the Government proposes to allocate funds for establishing the drug sector as a global producer of drugs;

(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) No Sir.

(b) In view of (a) above, does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir. The export of drugs, pharmaceuticals and fine chemicals during 2003-04 was 15213.24 crores whereas the export of drugs during 2004-05 is 16681.14 crores which is 1467.90 crores more as compared to 2003-04.

(d) The percentage of increase during the said period is 9.65% approx.

(e) to (g) The Government is providing various fiscal & non fiscal incentives and allocating funds for promotion of Pharmaceutical Industry. This has assisted Indian pharma Industry in emerging as a global drug producer over the years.

[English]

Lift Irrigation Projects of Karnataka

1769. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the lift irrigation projects of Karnataka have been languishing due to paucity of funds;

(b) if so, whether inspite of Government sanctioning funds, major irrigation and lift irrigation projects remain ignored;

(c) if so, the details of projects not completed due to paucity of funds in Karnataka;

(d) whether the Government proposes to provide required financial assistance to the State Government to implement the projects in the State; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The State Government has reported that major irrigation projects and lift irrigation projects in the State are in progress as per the programme drawn and allocation of funds for the current year.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The Central Government launched the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme(AIBP) in 1996-97 to provide Central Loan Assistance(CLA) with the objective to accelerate the implementation of such approved major/ medium irrigation projects which were in an advanced stage of completion and beyond the resources capability of the State Governments. Under the programme, CLA/grant of Rs.2403.92 crore has been provided upto November,2005 for 8 major/medium irrigation projects.

Announcement of MSP for Kharif Crops

1770. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has announced Minimum Support Prices for various Kharif Crops during 2005-06;

(b) if so, the comparative figures for the year 2004-05 and 2005-06, crop-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure adequate availability of Kharif Crops in the country?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has announced the Minimum Support Prices for various Kharif crops of 2005-06 season. A statement indicating the comparative figures for 2004-05 and 2005-06 is enclosed.

(c) The Government organizes purchase operations through public and cooperative agencies such as Food Corporation of India (FCI), Cotton Corporation of India (CCI), National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation (NAFED), besides other agencies designated by the State Governments. The designated central nodal agencies are required to intervene in the market for undertaking procurement operations with the objective that the market prices do not fall below the MSPs fixed by the Government and farmers continue to grow these crops.

Statement

Minimum Support Prices of Kharif Crops (According to Crop Year)

Sl. No.	Commodity	Variety	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4	5
1	Paddy	Common	560	570

1	2	3	4	5
	Paddy	Grade 'A'	590	600
2	Jowar		515	525
3	Bajra		515	525
4	Maize		525	540
5	Ragi		515	525
6	Arhar (Tur)		1390	1400
7	Moong		1410	1520
8	Urad		1410	1520
9	Cotton	F-414/H-777/J34	1760	1760
		H-4	1960	1980
10	Groundnut in shell		1500	1520
11	Sunflower seed		1340	1500
12	Soyabean	Black	900	900
		Yellow	1000	1010
13	Sesamum		1500	1550
14	Nigerseed		1180	1200

**Indo-US Collaboration in
Agriculture**

1771. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the farm pacts to provide fillip to bio-tech draught resistant seeds is being considered under the Indo-US collaboration in agriculture;

(b) if so, whether "magic seeds" distributed by International Agricultural Research Centres of the Rockefeller and Ford Foundations is focused for the purpose; and

(c) if so, the extent to which this Indo-US agriculture

collaboration has helped and likely to improve the agricultural production in the country?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, a Joint declaration has been signed on 12.11.2005 between India and US regarding support for India-US knowledge Initiative on agricultural education, research, service and commercial linkages. The initiative will focus on teaching, collaborative research, information, education, communication technologies, commercialization and compliance with international standards, SPS and related areas.

Investment by Overseas Auto Industries

1772. DR. M. JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether certain overseas auto industries have shown their interest to make investment in the State of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details of projects proposed to be set up by the various auto industries in the State, location-wise;

(c) whether the Government has cleared any proposal;

(d) if so, the details thereof; project-wise; and

(e) the estimated cost likely to be incurred on these projects, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) to (e) According to the information received from the Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion, three proposals for foreign direct investment in the Auto related activities in the State of Andhra Pradesh have been approved by the Government during January, 2002 to September, 2005. The details of these three proposals are as under :

Sl.No.	Indian Company	Foreign Collaborator	Foreign equity (Rs. in crore)	Location	Item	%age of Foreign Equity
1.	PATIL Vossloh Rail Systems Pvt Ltd.	Vossloh Werke GMBH, Germany	0.20	Hyderabad (Twin Cities)	Railway/Tramway Fixtures and Fitting	51.00
2.	Fisher Dynamics Automotive India Private Limited	Fisher India Investment One LLC, USA Fisher India Investment Two LLC, USA	0.01	Hyderabad (Twin Cities)	Engineering and manufacturing	100.00
3.	Delco Remy Electricals India Ltd.	Remy America Inc.	0.03	Andhra Pradesh	Auto Electricals	48.40

Assam Gas Cracker Project

1773. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL :
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO :
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA :
SHRI M. K. SUBBA :

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

(a) whether the Government has taken any decision to invest for implementation of the proposed Assam Gas Cracker Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any feasibility study has been conducted;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the time by which the project is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) :
(a) to (c) Based on a feasibility study got conducted by GAIL, the Public Investment Board has recently recommended setting up of the Assam Gas Cracker Project.

The note for the approval by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs will be submitted after obtaining comments from concerned Ministries/Departments.

(d) and (e) The draft Cabinet Note has been circulated to the concerned Ministries/Departments for comments. In

case the project is approved by CCEA it will take five years for the implementation.

Modernisation of HMT Units

1774. SHRI P. C. THOMAS :
SHRIMATI C. S. SUJATHA :

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any scheme for modernization of various units of Hindustan Machine Tools(HMT) particularly HMT Kalamassery Unit of Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is also any proposal to increase emoluments of employees working in HMT;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b) The case of HMT Machine Tools Limited for revival, restructuring and modernization(which includes Kalamassery Unit) has been recommended by the Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises(BRPSE) for consideration of Government.

(c) to (e) The issue of increase of emolument of employees can be taken up by the company only when its financial position improves.

**Involvement of I.I.T.s and I.I.M.'s in
Promoting Consumer Protection**

1775. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA :

SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO :

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL :

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

(a) whether the Government has decided to involve the Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT) and Indian Institutes of Management (IIM) to promote consumer protection in the country;

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

(c) whether the Government has chalked out measures to evolve a convergent approach in consumer protection by drawing up a responsive and proactive consumer protection regime in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the other steps taken by the Government for promoting consumer protection?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN) : (a) to (e) Consumer Protection has been identified as a thrust area for priority action by the Government. The Department has therefore decided to involve leading institutions in the country like IIT and IIMs, with a view to address major concerns of consumers in some critical areas which require technical expertise of high order. This Department has also requested all Ministries/ Departments/State Governments/Industry Associations etc. to place proper mechanisms in different sectors for settlement of consumer complaints.

[Translation]

**Assistance for Setting up of
Cold Storage by NHM**

1776. SHRI JIVABHAI A. PATEL :

SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any assistance has been provided for setting up of cold storage in the country by the National Horticulture mission (NHM) since its inception;

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

(c) whether several irregularities/discrepancies have been noticed in the matter of providing the said assistance; and

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

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) and (b) The centrally sponsored Scheme on "National Horticulture Mission(NHM)" was launched during the Tenth Plan with effect from May, 2005, under which, there is provision for setting up infrastructure for Post Harvest Management like pack houses, cold storage units and Controlled Atmosphere (CA) storage units. The National Horticulture Board (NHB) has been identified as a National level Agency for implementing the cold storage components of NHM during the current financial year and funds to the tune of Rs. 27.00 crores were released to NHB during October, 2005 for setting up cold storage units in the States covered under the Mission.

(c) and (d) The implementation of the programme is yet to be commence, therefore, the matter of irregularities/ discrepancies does not arise.

[English]

Losses Incurred by IISCO

1777. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Iron and Steel Company (IISCO) Burnpur has suffered heavy losses on account of short receipt of coal Chinakuri Colliery of the Eastern Coal Fields Limited;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the follow-up action taken thereon?

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

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Indian Iron and Steel Company (IISCO) suffered a loss of approximately Rs. 3.77 crore due to faulty weighbridge at Chinakuri No.1 Colliery of M/s Eastern Coal Fields Limited(ECL) which resulted in short loading. The details are as follow :

Period	Shortage	
	%	MT
2000-01	2	974
2001-02	6.3	3547
2002-03	9.3	5523
2003-04	11.9	3070
2004-05	12.16	5561

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Enquiry Committee concluded in its report that this was a case of system failure at the colliery end and recommended as follows :-

- (i) M/s ECL to arrange commissioning of a fully computerized and electronic weighing system with auto printing arrangement.
- (ii) To accept IISCO's weighment for billing purpose till such time as the electronic system is installed.
- (iii) To arrange for armed escorting of rakes.

(e) The follow up actions have been taken as given below :

- (i) M/s ECL has started weighment in Motion Electronic Weighing System since February, 2005 bringing down shortages within acceptable norms.
- (ii) Claims for refund of amount paid for the shortages have been filed with M/s ECL by IISCO.
- (iii) The job of escorting of rakes has been finalised.

Cleaning of Mahanadi and Brahmani Rivers

1778. SHRI B. MAHTAB : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the cleaning of polluted Mahanadi and Brahmani rivers has been completed;

(b) whether funds allocated for the purpose have not been utilized; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (c) To improve the water quality of rivers Mahanadi and Brahmani, three towns of Orissa namely; Cuttack, Talcher and Dharmshala have been included under the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP). The sanctioned cost for various pollution abatement works in these towns is Rs. 23 crore. So far, a central grant of Rs. 8.11 crore has been released for implementation of NRCP Schemes in Orissa. The State Government has spent an amount of Rs. 5.70 crore till September, 2005. These projects are at various stages of progress. The Central Government is regularly monitoring the progress of the project.

Pending Irrigation Projects

1779. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of irrigation projects of Andhra Pradesh are pending clearance with the Central Water Commission (CWC);

(b) if so, the details thereof including the period of their pendency; and

(c) the reasons therefor and the time by which the projects are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) to (c) Out of 32 irrigation/multipurpose project proposals received from Government of Andhra Pradesh 15 irrigation/multipurpose projects are under various stages of appraisal and 17 irrigation projects have been techno-economically accepted by the Advisory Committee of Ministry of Water Resources subject to compliance of few observations. The details of these 32 projects are in the statement enclosed.

The time taken for clearance of projects depends upon the promptness with which the State Government arrange compliance to the observations of Central appraising agencies.

Statement

Sl.No.	Name of projects	Major/ Medium	River/ Basin	District Benefited	Date of receipt	Benefits (Th.ha.)	Estt. Cost (Rs. Cr.)	Category
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Nettampadu Lift Irrigation Scheme	Major	Krishna	Mahaboob Nagar	11/2000	10.926	134.30	A
2.	Kalwa Kurthi Lift Irrigation Scheme	Major	Krishna	Mahaboob Nagar	11/2000	20.234	380.00	A
3.	Sriramsagar Stage-II	Major	Godavari	Warangal, Nalgonda, Khammam, Adilabad	2/2004 & 5/2004	178.07	1000.00	A
4.	Godavari Lift Irrigation Scheme (Devadula)	Major	Godavari	Warangal, Nalgonda, Karim Nagar & Medak	10/2004	285.724	5216.34	A
5.	Gollavagu Reservoir	Medium	Gollavagu/ Godavari	Adilabad	6/2001	3.945	39.58	A
6.	Rallivagu Reservoir	Medium	Rallivagu/ Godavari	Adilabad	9/2001	2.430	26.75	A
7.	Nilwai Reservoir	Medium	Peddavagu/ Godavari	Adilabad	9/2001	5.260	48.90	A
8.	Mathadivagu Reservoir Project	Medium	Mahadivagu/ Godavari	Adilabad	5/2002	3.440	26.44	A
9.	Janjhavathi Project	Medium	Janjhavathi/ Nagavali	Vizianagaram	1/2002	9.970	121.0	A
10.	Musurumilli Reservoir Project	Medium	Seethapalli- vagu/Godavari	East Godavari	8/2002	13.961	164.58	A
11.	Pushkara Lift Irrigation Scheme	Major	Godavari	East Godavari	8/2005	75.23	298.00	A
12.	Argula Rajaram Guthpa Lift Irrigation Scheme	Major	Godavari	Nizamabad	10/2005	15.699	211.45	A
13.	Tadipudi Lift Irrigation	Major	Godavari	West Godavari	10/2005	83.599	355.08	A
14.	Alisagar Lift Irrigation	Major	Godavari	Nizamabad	10/2005	21.770	223.56	A
15.	Indira Sagar (Polavaram) Multi-purpose Project	Major	Godavari	East Godavari, West Godavari, Krishna	10/2005	291.114	9071.82	A

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
16. Thotapally Barrage	Major	Nagavali/ Nagavali	Vizianagaram & Srikakulam	9/2001	48.563 (New) 25.90	462.00	B	
17. Pulichintala Irrigation Project	Major	Krishna	Guntur, Krishna, Prakasham, West Godavari	7/93	575	506.20	B	
18. Krishna Delta System Modernisa- tion	Major	Krishna	Guntur, Krishna, Prakasham, West Godavari	1/96	575	659.16	B	
19. Bhima Lift Irrigation	Major	Bhima/ Krishna	Mahaboob Nagar	1/96	83.78	744.00	B	
20. Flood Flow Canal from SRSP	Major	Godavari	Karim Nagar, Warangal, Nalgonda	12/93	102.00	1331.00	B	
21. Jurala	Major	Krishna	Mahaboob Nagar	9/80	47.84	545.92	B	
22. Vamsadhara Project Stage II (Neradi Barrage)	Major	Vamsadhara	Srikakulam	5/83	50.958	275.74	B	
23. Pedderu Reservior	Medium	E.Flowing/ Sarda	Vishakhapatnam	9/91	6.46	26.23	B	
24. Palemvagu	Medium	Pelevvagu/ Godavari	Khammam	5/88	6.23	29.13	B	
25. Valligallu Reservoir	Medium	Papagni/ Pennar	Cuddapah	02/2000	9.715	143.67	B	
26. Yerravagu	Medium	Yerravagu/ Godavari	Adilabad	3/99	4.46	31.28	B	
27. Suddavagu	Medium	Suddavagu/ Godavari	Adilabad	3/99	5.66	56.48	B	
28. Peddavagu	Medium	Peddavagu/ Godavari	Adilabad	8/99	9.915	202.60	B	
29. Surampalem Res. Scheme	Medium	Burdakalva/ Godavari	East Godavari	10/99	4.88	46.70	B	
30. Surampalem Phase-II	Medium	Burdakalva/ Godavari	East Godavari	7/2000	5.12	49.50	B	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
31. Bhupatipalem	Medium	Seethapalli/ Godavari	East Godavari		7/2000	5.419	47.23	B
32. Peddagedda Reservoir Project	Medium	Vegavati/ Nagavali	Vizianagaram		01/2002	4.858	32.11	B

A—Project under various stages of appraisal

B—Project accepted by the Advisory Committee of Ministry of Water Resources subject to certain observations.

Investment in Agriculture

1780. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether investment in agriculture has gone down and the land resources for agriculture have come under strain over the years;

(b) the extent to which investment in agriculture and credit facilities for the farmers, have fallen short of requirement during each of the last three years and how far the land for agriculture has squeezed in these years in the country, State-wise;

(c) the steps taken during 2004-05 and this year to make good these resources; and

(d) the further steps being taken to improve investment and credit facilities for agriculture?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) According to statistics of gross capital formation compiled by Central Statistical Organization(CSO), the total investment in agriculture including allied sector of forestry, logging and fishing, measured in terms of gross capital formation (GCF) increased in real terms (at 1993-94 prices) from Rs. 15249 crore in 1993-94 to 24,186 crore in 2003-04. The agriculture land which is a major component of land resources fluctuated around 183 million hectares from 1994-95 onwards.

(b) The position of total investment in terms of GCF in agriculture and credit facilities extended to farmers in the last three years is given below :

Trends in Investment (Gross Capital Formation) and Credit Facilities

Year	GCF at 1993-94 Prices (Rs. in crore)	Credit Disbursement (crore) (Apr.-Mar.)
2002-03	21500	69560
2003-04	24186	86981.00
2004-05	N.A	115242.81
2005-06	N.A	81679.58 (upto September, 2005)

Source : CSO and NABARD

The target of agricultural credit flow for the year 2004-05 was fixed at Rs. 1,05,000.00 crore against which the achievement made was Rs. 1,15,242.81 crore. For the year 2005-06, the target is fixed at Rs. 1,42,000.00 crore and the achievement made so far upto 30.9.2005 is Rs. 81,679.58 crore (57.52%).

As regards, the agricultural land in the country, it has remained more or less at the same level. The latest State-wise information available for last three years is given in Statement enclosed.

(c) The Government has taken number of initiatives which include multi-pronged strategy to address several issues in the agricultural sector. A series of policy initiatives has been taken in several vital areas like credit, irrigation facilities, crop diversification, marketing infrastructure, horticulture, etc. to enhance production and productivity. The Government has underscored the importance of efforts aimed at turning the focus of commercial banks, regional rural banks and cooperative banks towards providing credit, especially production credit, to farm households. The other areas for higher investment include micro irrigation technology

comprising drip and sprinkler irrigation. National Horticulture Mission has been taken up with focus on backward and forward linkages, and development/strengthening of agricultural marketing infrastructure, grading and standardization.

(d) To improve investment in agriculture, steps have been taken to raise public investment in irrigation projects by increasing the outlay on the Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme(AIBP) from Rs. 2800.00 crore in 2004-05 to Rs. 4800.00 crore in 2005-06. Similarly, a sum of Rs. 400.00 crore has been provided in the Union Budget 2005-06 for promoting micro irrigation.

A Comprehensive Credit Policy was announced by the Government on 18.06.2004 in order to double agriculture credit in next three years and to provide debt relief to the farmers affected by natural calamities. Several policy initiatives like broadening the scope of Kissan Credit Cards and revision in the norms of fixing scale of finance have been taken to meet realistic need of the farmers. A package providing for restructuring debts of farmers in distress and in arrears have been put in to operation that provide rescheduling of outstanding loans over a period of five years including moratorium of two years.

Statement

State-wise Agricultural Land/Cultivable Land for the years from 2000-01 to 2002-03

(000 Hectares)

State	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03(P)
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	15841	15816	15778
Assam	3224	3225	3225
Bihar	6651	6642	6641
Chhattisgarh	5608	5612	5600
Gujarat	12354	12357	12357
Haryana	3783	3776	3735
Himachal Pradesh	804	801	806
Jammu & Kashmir	1050	1050	1050
Jharkhand	4184	4184	4184

1	2	3	4
Karnataka	12916	12910	12908
Kerala	2393	2382	2381
Madhya Pradesh	17278	17336	17373
Maharashtra	21125	21196	21196
Orissa	7473	7473	7473
Punjab	4312	4312	4312
Rajasthan	25646	25649	25633
Tamil Nadu	8273	8265	8251
Uttaranchal	1416	1416	1416
Uttar Pradesh	19389	19334	19315
West Bengal	5899	5933	5854
Other States/UTs*	3453	3326	3356
All India	183072	182997	182845

Note : *Other States/UTs include Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura, A&N Islands, Chandigarh, D&N Haveli, Delhi, Daman & Diu, Lakshadweep and Pondicherry.

P—Provisional

Development of Tourism in Andaman and Nicobar

1781. DR. RAJESH MISHRA : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether tourism in the country has declined due to recent floods and earthquakes; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to improve the tourism?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) Foreign tourist arrivals to India have registered a positive growth of about 14.2% during January-October, 2005 compared to the same period of last year. In fact foreign tourist arrivals to India during October 2005 were about 22% more than September 2005.

The State and Central Government have taken a

number of steps like participation in various tourism promotion exhibitions, launching a major media campaign in the print and electronic media, etc., as a result tourist inflow has increased, resulting in introduction of additional flights by the airlines.

Bio-Piracy of Herbs

1782. SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the North-East Region which is a treasure box of herbs in the country is seriously hit by activities of bi-piracy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to check and prevent large scale theft rare seeds and herbs from the said region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) No, Madam. No such report has been received by Government of India.

(c) To prevent the acts of bio-piracy, the Government of India has enacted Biological Diversity Act, 2002. Under this Act, National Biodiversity Authority has been established which is mandated to regulate the access of biological resources in the country. Under the same Act, there is a provision of establishing State Biodiversity Board in every State.

[Translation]

Violation of Environmental Rules

1783. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH :
SHRI RASHEED MASOOD :
SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE :
SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE :
SHRI G.KARUNAKARA REDDY :

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

(a) whether the Union Government has instructed State Governments to identify polluting industries in their respective States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of the State Governments thereto;

(d) whether the Union Government provides any assistance to State Governments to control pollution;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Government proposes to set up environment courts to dispose of such cases;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to ensure compliance of the environment rules?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (c) A total 2655 polluting industries have been identified under 17 categories by the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/Pollution Control Committees (PCCs). Out of these, 2051 have provided adequate pollution control measures, 325 industries have been closed down and 279 are defaulting units. The SPCBs and PCCs are taking necessary action against the defaulting industries.

(d) and (e) Ministry of Environment & Forests and the Central Pollution Control Board provide technical and financial assistance to the State Pollution Control Boards/Pollution Control Committees for various schemes including water and air quality monitoring; setting up of continuous air quality monitoring stations; strengthening of Pollution Control Boards and upgradation of their laboratories.

(f) and (g) To consider the cases on environment, Special Courts/Designated Courts have been set up by some of the States like Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Gujarat and National Capital Territory of Delhi. A few States like West Bengal and Tamil Nadu have constituted Green Benches for this purpose.

(h) The steps taken for ensuring compliance of various environmental rules include :

- Notification environmental norms and guidelines.
- Strengthening of the monitoring network and institutional capabilities to facilitate and improve enforcement mechanism.
- Strengthening of State Pollution Control Boards/ Pollution Control Committees by providing technical and financial support.
- Regular monitoring for environmental compliance and action against defaulting units.

*[English]***Wages for Agricultural Labourers**

1784. SHRI MOHD. TAHIR : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has decided to increase the rate of wages for agricultural labourers;

(b) if so, whether the wages fixed for agricultural labourers have also been made applicable to contract labourers;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether different categories have been prescribed for the agricultural labourers; and

(e) if so, the details of the wages, category-wise?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO) : (a) and (b) Under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, the rates of minimum wages payable to workers in the scheduled occupation of agriculture in the Central Sphere have been revised and notified by Central Government on 20.10.2005. These rates are equally applicable to contract labourers engaged in agriculture occupation in the Central Sphere.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) A statement giving the minimum wages fixed by the Central Government for workers engaged in agriculture occupation—area/category-wise is annexed.

Statement

Daily rates fixed by the Central Government for Unskilled, Semi-skilled, Skilled and Highly Skilled Workers engaged in Agriculture Occupation under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 (As on 20.10.2005)

Area	Category-wise rates (Rupees)			
	Unskilled	Semi-skilled	Skilled	Highly Skilled
1	2	3	4	5
A	114.00	125.00	137.00	153.00
B	104.00	116.00	125.00	141.00
C	102.00	107.00	115.00	125.00

Area "A"

Ahmedabad (UA)

Bangalore (UA)

Calcutta (UA)

Delhi (UA)

Greater (UA)

Area "B"

Agra (UA)

Ajmer

Aligarh

Allahabad (UA)

Amravati

Aurangabad (UA)

Bareilly (UA)

Bhavnagar

Bikaner

Bhopal

Bhubaneshwer

Amritsar

Chandigarh (UA)

Coimbatore (UA)

Cuttack (UA)

Durgapur

Faridabad

Ghaziabad (UA)

Gorakhpur

Guwahati City

Guntur

Gwalior (UA)

Hyderabad (UA)

Kanpur (UA)

Lucknow (UA)

Madras (UA)

Nagpur (UA)

Jamshedpur (UA)

Jodhpur

Kochi (UA)

Kolhapur (UA)

Kozhikode (UA)

Kota

Ludhiana

Madurai (UA)

Meerut (UA)

Moradabad (UA)

Mysore (UA)

Nasik (UA)

Pune (UA)

Patna (UA)

Raipur (UA)

Rajkot

Ranchi (UA)

Sholapur (UA)

Srinagar (UA)

Surat (UA)

Thiruvananthapuram (UA)

Vadodara (UA)

Indore (UA)	Varanasi (UA)
Hubli	Vijayawada (UA)
Jabalpur (UA)	Vishakhapatnam (UA)
Jaipur (UA)	Warangal

the year 2005-06 to increase the coverage by 3 million hectares by the end of Tenth Five Year Plan.

Statement

State-wise position on Net Irrigated Area and Net Area Sown for the year 2002-03 (Provisional)

(Thousand Hectares)

State/Union Territory	Net area sown	Net irrigated area	Percentage
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	9614.5	3613.7	37.6
Arunachal Pradesh	164.2	42.1	25.7
Assam	2793.3	173.6	6.2
Bihar	5725.5	3462.1	60.5
Chhattisgarh	4754.1	1068.1	22.5
Goa	141.5	23.7	16.7
Gujarat	9621.7	2994.0	31.1
Haryana	3457.9	2965.6	85.8
Himachal Pradesh	544.6	102.1	18.7
Jammu & Kashmir	732.6	299.7	40.9
Jharkhand	1769.2	163.5	9.2
Karnataka	9837.6	2515.3	25.6
Kerala	2188.5	378.9	17.3
Madhya Pradesh	14517.7	4494.3	31.0
Maharashtra	17579.4	2971.1	16.9
Manipur	155.3	40.1	25.8
Meghalaya	230.1	59.5	25.8
Mizoram	89.5	15.7	17.6
Nagaland	324.4	64.7	19.9
Orissa	5680.0	1299.9	22.9
Punjab	4250.0	4037.9	95.0

Area 'C' will comprise all areas not mentioned in this list.

UA stands for Urban Agglomeration.

[Translation]

Irrigation Facilities on Cultivable Land

1785. SHRI CHHATTAR SINGH DARBAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether despite availability of adequate cultivable land in the country, agricultural production is not up to the expectations due to lack of irrigation facilities;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard; and

(c) the corrective measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) and (b) The details of irrigated area in the country are given in the enclosed statement. About 40 percent of the net sown area in the country is irrigated, remaining 60 percent being dependent on weather conditions.

(c) The Government have taken several policy initiatives to bring more and more area under irrigation. These are as follows :

- Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme :

It was launched in 1996-97 to encourage the States for completion of on-going irrigation projects through Central Loan Assistance (CLA). The focus has been given on completion of last mile projects. In keeping with this need, the outlay on this programme has been enhanced from Rs. 2800 crores in 2004-05 to Rs. 4800 crores in 2005-06.

- Similarly, the Scheme of micro-irrigation for promoting water use efficiency in Indian agriculture has been provided an outlay of Rs. 400 crores in

1	2	3	4
Rajasthan	10807.1	4371.6	40.5
Sikkim	107.8	9.0	8.4
Tamil Nadu	4590.3	2309.9	50.3
Tripura	280.0	40.0	14.3
Uttaranchal	793.2	346.8	43.7
Uttar Pradesh	16596.8	12232.1	73.7
West Bengal	5354.2	2980.0	55.7
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	17.0	0.0	0.0
Chandigarh	1.9	1.0	50.2
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	22.7	6.8	29.8
Daman and Diu	2.0	0.0	0.0
Delhi	29.1	28.9	99.3
Lakshadweep	2.7	0.8	28.9
Pondicherry	21.6	18.7	86.7
All India	132797.9	53131.1	40.0

[English]

Setting up of Steel Plant

1786. SHRIMATI MINATI SEN : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether an International Steel Group has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Government of Jharkhand to set up a Rs. 40,000 crore (\$ 9.3 billion) integrated steel plant;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the requirement of raw materials like iron ore and coal per M.T. of steel production?

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

(a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

Tourism Projects in Rural Areas

1787. SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN :

SHRI HEMMAL MURMU :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has appealed to MPs provide funds from MPLADS for upgradation of tourism projects in rural areas;

(b) if so, the number of proposals for upgradation of tourism projects in rural areas received by the Government from Members of Parliament, till date; and

(c) the number of proposals that have been approved, State-wise?

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

(b) No proposal has been received from the State Government/Union Territories.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Insurance against Transit Losses of Foodgrains

1788. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT :

SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE :

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

(a) whether the Government has made any assessment regarding transit losses of Foodgrains incurred by Food Corporation of India (FCI) during the last three years;

(b) if so, whether a grain insurance scheme has been initiated or proposed to be initiated to cover such losses;

(c) if so, whether the Government has made any agreement with the insurance companies to implement the said scheme;

(d) if so, whether an assessment regarding the benefits likely to be accrued from such 'insurance' has been made; 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 (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) As per the audited accounts, the rail transit losses sustained by the FCI in the years 2001-02 to 2003-04 has been assessed in terms of quantity and value as indicated below :

Year	Quantity of loss (in lakh MT)	Value (in Rs./Crores)	%age loss
2001-02	1.42	123.12	0.61
2002-03	1.70	148.52	0.57
2003-04	1.70	150.48	0.50

(b) Looking at the magnitude of the transit losses and the fact that majority of the losses are caused to the foodgrains moved by rail, a decision has been taken with the approval of the Board of Directors of the FCI to provide insurance coverage of the losses caused to the Corporation through movement of foodgrains (Rice and Wheat) by rail. The insurance coverage has commenced from 20th September, 2005.

(c) Yes, Sir. The FCI has engaged M/s. Oriental Insurance Company Ltd., New Delhi to provide insurance coverage to the movement of foodgrains (Rice and Wheat) ex-Punjab and Haryana Regions in the North Zone to other Zones of the FCI.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. While examining the proposals for reducing the transit losses caused to the FCI through movement of foodgrains by rail, it was felt that the transit losses would be reduced to a large extent. As per the terms of the Insurance Policy, 0.25% of the losses are to be considered as normal which are not to be paid by the insurer. The rate of premium approved is equal to the amount of 0.25% of the value of foodgrains in transit and under insurance coverage. Based on the figure of approximately Rs. 149 crores of transit losses for the entire FCI reported in the year 2002-03 and the premium outgo of approximately Rs. 50 crores per year, it was estimated that FCI would be able to effect saving of the order of Rs. 49 crores annually, which would mean a reduction by approximately 1/3rd in the losses.

Rivers Flowing at Indo-Nepal Border

1789. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN" :

DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the rivers flowing from Nepal to India especially to North Bihar generally cause floods and huge loss of life and property each year;

(b) if so, whether pressure is building on the land due to change in the flow of various rivers flowing at Indo-Nepal Border; and

(c) if so, whether the Government has conducted any study to assess the quantum of the extra water of these floods?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b) Most of the rivers coming from Nepal to North Bihar carry huge quantity of silt and have tendency to change there course where the river beds are aggrading. The process does cause pressure on land at times.

(c) Information on the quantum of extra water of these floods is not available. However, Central Water Commission operates flood forecasting stations in the country including rivers flowing from Nepal. Danger level for each of these stations has been fixed. When the flow in the river crosses the danger level, it is likely to result in damages in the area.

[English]

Coastal Zone Management Plan

1790. SHRIMATI KALPNA RAMESH NARHIRE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal for the Coastal Zone Management Plan for Navi Mumbai had been submitted for environmental clearance;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Sukthankar Committee was constituted to look into this matter;

(d) if so, the recommendations of this Committee in this regard; and

(e) the progress made regarding its implementation so far?

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

(b) The Central Government had received the proposal from the State Government of Maharashtra seeking approval of the revised Coastal Zone Management Plan (CZMP) of Navi Mumbai on 25th November, 1998 under the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ), Notification, 1991. The proposal sought reclassification of certain stretches of Navi Mumbai from CRZ-III to CRZ-II.

(c) Sukthankar Committee was constituted to examine the issues relating to Coastal Zone Management in the Mumbai Urban Area. The Committee also examined the revised CZMP of Navi Mumbai.

(d) The Committee *inter-alia* observed that the revised CZMP for Navi Mumbai did not conform to the provisions of the CRZ, Notification, 1991 and recommended amendment to the Notification in this regard.

(e) The recommendation was not accepted.

Exploitation of Children

1791. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Second Child World Congress on child labour and education was held in New Delhi in September, 2005;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the children from World over voiced horrific tales of exploitation in pornography, prostitution and terrorism;

(d) if so, the detailed strategy chalked out to curb exploitation of children in these fields;

(e) whether the Government proposes to bring

forwarded a legislation for harsh punishment to those who push children in these fields; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO) : (a) The Ministry is not aware of the Second Child World Congress on Child Labour and education held in New Delhi in September, 2005.

(b) to (f) Do not arise.

Funds for Environment Conservation

1792. SHRI JOACHIM BAXLA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any allocation of funds has been made by the Government to States for environment consevation and plantations during the Tenth Five Year Plan;

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

(c) the extent of funds utilized as on date and the funds yet to be utilized alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(d) the directions issued to the State in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO RARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Segregation of Bio-Waste

1793. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has instructed all State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) to make the segregation of mercury contaminated bio-waste a condition for granting authorization to the health care centres;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is considering to set up any institute for reduction of dioxins and mercury; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO RARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) The Central Pollution Control Board has requested all the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) and Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) of Union Territories to give proper attention to mercury spillages in healthcare facilities in respect of collection of the spilled mercury, its storage and sending the same back to the manufacturers and also for taking all other necessary measures to ensure that the spilled mercury does not become part of bio-medical or other solid waste generated from the healthcare facilities. Further, as indicated in Schedule II to the Hazardous Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 1989 as amended, any waste containing equal to or greater than 50 mg/kg of mercury is a hazardous waste and the concerned generators of such wastes including healthcare facilities, are required to dispose of the same as per the provisions of the said Rules. the SPCBs/PCCs have also been requested to bring this requirement to the notice of the healthcare facilities and also ensure incorporation of an appropriate condition to this effect in the authorization to be granted to them under the Bio-medical Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 1998.

(c) There is proposal of setting up of an institute for reduction of dioxins and mercury.

(d) Does not arise.

Prices of Pulses

1794. SHRI UDAY SINGH :
SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware that prices of pulses during the last few months have gone up alarmingly;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is fall in production of pulses;

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

(e) whether the Government has taken any steps to increase the production of pulses and to check price; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

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

prices of pulses, as measured by Wholesale Price Index (WPI) have been fluctuating during the last one year as shown in the enclosed statement. The position in recent months is that the WPI increased from 172.4 in April, 2005 to 189.2 in August, 2005. It declined to 188.8 in September, 2005 and again increased to 191.1 in October, 2005. The price rise is due to decline in production and heavy buying pressure from millers.

(c) and (d) The production of pulses declined from 14.94 million tonnes in 2003-04 to 13.38 (Provisional) million tonnes in 2004-05. The production of pulses during rabi season of 2004-05 were damaged at the time of harvesting due to unfavourable weather. However, the first advance estimate of production of pulses for kharif 2005-06 has shown some marginal increase over the kharif of 2004-05.

(e) and (f) With the objective to increase the production, productivity and achieve self sufficiency, pulses were brought into the ambit of the Technology Mission in 1990. An integrated approach has been adopted under the Mission right from research and development in production technology to crop production, post harvest and processing, price support and marketing. The technology Mission on Oilseeds implemented the National pulses Development Project (NPDP), which was implemented till 2003-04. Currently the Government of India are implementing a Centrally Sponsored "Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize (ISOPOM) in 14 major pulses growing States with a view to increase the production and productivity of pulses in the country. The prices were kept under check through import of pulses. During 2003-04 and 2004-05, the import was 1.7 million tonnes and 1.30 million tonnes respectively.

Statement

*Index numbers of Wholesale Prices for Pulses during
October 2004 to October 2005*

Wholesale Prices Index for Pulses (Base : 1993-94=100)

Months	WP Index	% Change over preceding Months
1	2	3
October-04	179.9	—
November-04	177.9	-1.11
December-04	176.5	-0.79
January-05	173.9	-1.47

1	2	3
Februray-05	170.6	-1.90
March-05	168.8	-1.06
April-05	172.4	2.13
May-05	177.0	2.67
June-05	180.4	1.92
July-05	187.5	3.94
August-05	189.2	0.91
September-05	188.8	-0.21
October-05	191.1	1.22

Note : The Wholesale Prices Indices for the Month of September and October, 2005 are Provisional.

Source : Economic Adviser, Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, New Delhi

Production of Maize

1795. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to increase the production of maize cultivation during the current Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details of the targets fixed and plan of action prepared to increase the area under maize cultivation, State-wise;

(c) whether the Union Government proposes to provide assistance to States for implementation of maize development programme;

(d) if so, the details of the assistance provided to various States in the current plan period so far; and

(e) the production of maize recorded so far as against the targets fixed by the Government, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a), (b) and (e) Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize (ISOPOM), a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, is under implementation in 15 major maize growing states. The scheme incorporates among others, erstwhile Accelerated Maize Development Programme. Objective of ISOPOM is to raise the production of maize. Under ISOPOM, targets for area coverage are not fixed. However, the State-wise and Year-wise targets for maize production during the current Five Year Plan have been fixed and production of 146.50 lakh tonnes by the year 2006-07 has been targeted. The State-wise and Year-wise details of maize production targets and achievements (2002-03 to 2005-06—Kharif-2005) and maize production targets for the year 2006-07 approved under ISOPOM are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(c) and (d) The details of assistance provided to States under Accelerated Maize Development Programme (AMDP) during 2002-03 and 2003-04 and under ISOPOM for various crops including maize during 2004-06 are given in the enclosed Statement-II and III respectively.

Statement-I

The Year-wise (for 10th Plan) and State-wise details of maize production targets and achievements (2002-03 to 2005-06—Kharif-2005) and maize production targets for 2006-07 approved under ISOPOM

(Production in lakh tonnes)

Sl.No.	Name of the States	Maize production								
		2002-03		2003-04		2004-05		2005-06		2006-07
		Targ.	Achiev.*	Targ.	Achiev.	Targ.	Achiev. 4th advance estimates	Targ.	Achiev. @ 1st advance estimates	Targets
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	14.30	14.86	16.45	24.77	16.85	19.16	17.37	16.93	17.85

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
2. Bihar		14.48	13.50	16.80	14.40	17.30	14.29	17.90	4.36	18.10
3. Chhattisgarh		0.73	1.23	0.40	1.47	0.45	1.32	0.50	1.02	0.52
4. Gujarat		6.20	7.93	5.25	8.32	5.55	6.70	5.85	5.39	6.15
5. Haryana		0.35	0.29	0.37	0.38	0.40	0.40	0.46	0.57	0.51
6. Himachal Pradesh		6.85	4.83	7.30	7.30	7.60	7.36	7.90	7.30	8.50
7. Jammu & Kashmir		5.25	4.65	5.45	5.33	5.60	5.74	6.00	5.07	6.32
8. Jharkhand		1.52	2.41	0.32	3.00	0.35	2.86	0.40	2.79	0.47
9. Karnataka		22.00	13.43	21.80	12.44	22.20	23.83	22.80	22.09	23.50
10. Madhya Pradesh		12.00	14.94	14.40	18.53	15.10	12.53	15.60	8.95	16.00
11. Maharashtra		3.00	7.44	3.92	7.57	4.50	6.84	4.80	9.44	5.37
12. Orissa		0.61	0.42	0.70	0.79	0.75	1.06	0.85	2.40	0.90
13. Punjab		4.58	3.10	4.40	4.59	4.55	4.22	4.85	4.69	5.09
14. Rajasthan		10.24	8.71	11.10	20.69	12.35	12.62	12.75	12.82	13.06
15. Tamil Nadu		1.98	1.92	1.50	2.51	1.60	3.28	1.80	0.93	1.93
16. Uttar Pradesh		17.50	8.36	16.90	13.19	17.25	14.94	17.60	11.74	18.20
17. Uttaranchal		0.50	0.38	0.17	0.68	0.18	0.44	0.20	0.75	0.25
18. West Bengal		0.80	0.55	0.80	0.97	0.85	1.51	1.05	1.00	1.15
19. Sub Total		122.89	108.95	128.03	146.93	133.43	139.10	138.68	118.24	143.87
20. North Eastern States										
21. Arunachal Pradesh		0.48	0.56	0.49	0.55	0.50	NA	0.55	NA	0.60
22. Assam		0.15	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.15	NA	0.16	NA	0.18
23. Manipur		0.12	0.09	0.10	0.10	0.10	NA	0.12	NA	0.13
24. Meghalaya		0.24	0.26	0.19	0.26	0.20	NA	0.25	NA	0.30
25. Mizoram		0.18	0.15	0.14	0.20	0.15	NA	0.17	NA	0.19
26. Nagaland		0.34	0.80	0.43	0.53	0.45	NA	0.50	NA	0.54
27. Sikkim		0.58	0.53	0.46	0.57	0.50	NA	0.55	NA	0.67
28. Tripura		0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	NA	0.02	NA	0.02
29. Sub Total		2.11	2.55	1.97	2.37	2.07	2.27	2.32	3.49	2.63
30. Grand Total		125.00	111.50	130.00	149.30	135.50	141.37	141.00	121.73	146.50

*Less Production due to severe drought in the country during the year 2002-03.

NA : Not available

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Statement-II

State-wise and Year-wise details of funds released during 2002-03 and 2003-04 for development of maize under Accelerated Maize Development Programme (AMDP)

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of State/Agency	2002-03 Funds Released	2003-04 Funds Released
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	33.75	5.00
2.	Bihar	0.00	0.00
3.	Chhattisgarh	6.36	10.07
4.	Gujarat	0.00	2.00
5.	Haryana	0.00	0.00
6.	Himachal Pradesh	47.57	47.27
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.00	5.00
8.	Jharkhand	3.00	0.00
9.	Karnataka	42.62	4.00
10.	Madhya Pradesh	3.00	20.62
11.	Maharashtra	80.77	15.13
12.	Orissa	0.00	0.00
13.	Punjab	0.00	0.00
14.	Rajasthan	20.88	50.31
15.	Tamil Nadu	11.48	15.75
16.	Uttar Pradesh	38.92	51.20
17.	Uttaranchal	10.35	10.65
18.	West Bengal	1.30	0.00
19.	Sub Total	300.00	237.00
20.	North Eastern States		
21.	Arunachal Pradesh	10.46	15.95
22.	Assam	0.00	4.44
23.	Manipur	13.44	22.30

1	2	3	4
24.	Meghalaya	0.00	4.30
25.	Mizoram	44.72	29.89
26.	Nagaland	0.00	4.30
27.	Sikkim	17.85	3.00
28.	Tripura	13.53	15.82
29.	Sub Total	100.00	100.00
30.	Grand Total	400.00	337.00

Statement-III

State-wise and Year-wise details of funds released during 2004-05 and 2005-06 to various maize growing states under Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize (ISOPOM)

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of State/Agency	2004-05 Funds Released	2005-06* Funds Released
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3559.97	2120.00
2.	Bihar	145.00	245.00
3.	Chhattisgarh	625.00	300.00
4.	Gujarat	1883.00	925.00
5.	Himachal Pradesh	40.00	50.25
6.	Jammu & Kashmir	85.00	142.50
7.	Karnataka	2155.00	900.00
8.	Madhya Pradesh	2925.00	1800.00
9.	Maharashtra	1040.00	1312.50
10.	Orissa	455.00	375.00
11.	Punjab	52.5	87.5
12.	Rajasthan	2000.00	1762.50
13.	Tamil Nadu	990.00	933.75
14.	Uttar Pradesh	785.00	532.50
15.	West Bengal	260.00	225.00
	Total	17000.47	11711.50

*Upto 30.11.2005.

Micro-Irrigation Facilities of Small Farmers to Promote Horticulture

1796. SHRI K. S. RAO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government has provided micro-irrigation facilities to small farmers to promote horticulture;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of small farmers having other irrigation facilities in the country like drip and sprinkler irrigation to produce horticulture products;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to encourage and provide micro-irrigation facilities to these farmers; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has been implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Macro Management in Agriculture—Supplementation/Complementation of States Efforts through Work Plan to promote various agricultural and horticultural crops under which assistance for micro irrigation involving drip and sprinkler irrigation was one of the component. Assistance under the Scheme is available to all category of farmers. Besides, assistance for taking up drip irrigation by the farmers in the North Eastern States in being provided under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Technology Mission on Integrated Development of Horticulture in the North Eastern States (TMNE) including Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir and Uttaranchal.

(c) Till March 2004, an area of six lakh hectares have been covered under drip irrigation and another 14 lakh hectares have been covered under sprinkler irrigation. However, no survey has been conducted to ascertain the number of small farmers having such irrigation facilities.

(d) and (e) Assistance for encouraging micro-irrigation is being continued under TMNE. Besides, an amount of Rs. 400.00 crore has been earmarked during 2005-06 for promoting micro irrigation under the new scheme on Micro Irrigation.

Use of Pesticides by Prawn Mafia

1797. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the use of pesticides by prawn mafia in coastal areas of the country; and
- (b) 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 (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN) : (a) There are no reports on the use of pesticides in shrimp/prawn farming in the coastal areas of the country.

- (b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Visit of Foreign Tourists

1798. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA :

SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of foreign tourists who visited India through our tourism offices abroad during the last three years tourism office-wise;
- (b) the expenditure being incurred on the tourism offices;
- (c) whether the Government have undertaken any review of these tourism offices; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) Details of tourist arrival from different regions covered under the jurisdiction of the Indiatourism Offices overseas, during the last three years, are given below :

Region	Tourist Arrivals		
	2002	2003	2004
1	2	3	4
North, South and Central America (Covered by offices in New York, Los Angeles and Toronto)	459452	540128	685129

	1	2	3	4
Europe & UK (Covered by offices in Frankfurt, Paris, London, Milan and Amsterdam)		767411	903218	1117087
West Asia & Africa (Covered by offices in Dubai & Johannesburg)		176019	196949	236626
Australasia (Covered by offices in Sydney and Singapore)		212552	242775	302339
East Asia (Covered by office in Tokyo)		115424	150506	203856

(b) The expenditure incurred by Indiatourism offices overseas, both for promotional/marketing activities and for establishment expenses, during the last three years is as given below :

	(Rs. In lakhs)		
	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
Plan Budget (for promotional and marketing activities)	5189.05	4311.09	5912.19
Non-Plan Budget (for establishment expenses)	1725.92	1030.99	1140.35

(c) and (d) In view of the changing market scenario and requirements, review of the Indiatourism offices overseas is undertaken from time to time.

[English]

Noise Pollution

1799. SHRI SURENDRA PRAKASH GOYAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has received several complaints against night flights at metro airports causing noise pollution and demanded imposition of ban thereon;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Supreme Court has issued some guidelines on night flights;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure compliance thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) As per the information made available by Ministry of Civil Aviation, a complaint from local people staying in Sahar Village, Mumbai have demanded through Police Authorities that night operation of aircraft between 10.00 p.m. and 6.00 a.m. be suspended as they create noise pollution.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Code for Building Construction

1800. SHRI HARIBHAU RATHOD :

SHRI Y. G. MAHAJAN :

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

(a) whether the National Building Construction Code-2005 for the country has been formulated;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the main objectives behind the formulation of the said code; and

(d) the time by which the said code is likely to be implemented by the Government?

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

(b) The National Building Code of India 2005 has been formulated by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS). The Code lays down a set of minimum provisions for buildings

designed to protect the safety of public with regard to structural sufficiency, fire hazard and health (lighting and ventilation) aspects. It mainly contains administrative requirements, development control rules and general building requirements; fire safety requirements; stipulations regarding materials, structural design and construction (including safety); and building plumbing services.

(c) The main objective behind formulation of National Building Code of India 2005 is basically to ensure safety of buildings constructed against natural disasters and fire hazards.

(d) The provisions contained in the National Building Code are not mandatory in nature at present. However, the concerned Central Ministries/Developments as well as State Governments have been requested to make necessary efforts for implementation of the provisions contained in the Code by suitably amending the relevant Acts as Building bye laws.

Saline Water

1801. DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether ground water is getting saline and the terrain is turning into barren land in the country due to lack of water harvesting and excessive exploitation of ground water;

(b) if so, the names of the affected States;

(c) the quantity of water in terms of percentage available in such States vis-a-vis their requirement;

(d) whether the Government has taken any steps to improve the situation; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Excessive exploitation of ground water in parts of coastal States of Gujarat, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Union Territory of Pondicherry has led to sea water ingress resulting in salinisation of ground water. Instances of upcoming of saline water due to over-exploitation of ground water from

the fresh ground water bearing aquifer overlying the saline aquifer have also been reported from the inland salinity affected area of South-West Delhi. However, land has not been converted into barren except for some parts of Gujarat. Lack of water harvesting is not the cause for salinity in ground water. But, adoption of rain water harvesting and artificial recharge in the affected areas may help in improving the quality of ground water. The State-wise position of ground water available and annual ground water draft is given in the enclosed Statement.

(d) and (e) "Water" being the State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments/UTs to take remedial measures to improve the situation. Step taken by the Governments in the respective States are listed below :

State/UTs	Steps Taken
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	<p>➤ Government of Andhra Pradesh has also introduced Water, Land and Trees Act, 2002 to protect and conserve both surface and ground water for their sustainability.</p> <p>➤ Aquaculture activities are also being monitored by a High Level Technical Committee.</p>
Gujarat	<p>➤ A High Level Committee was appointed by the State Government to Study the salinity problem of Saurashtra and Kachchh region to suggest remedial measures thereof. The committee has recommended various remedial measures like constructing tidal regulators, bandhara, recharge trench, recharge well, recharge reservoirs, spreading channels etc. The construction of following works as suggested by the committee has been taken up by the Government of Gujarat :</p> <p>➤ Check dams across nalas, gullies small tributaries, etc., and deepening of percolation tanks under Sardar Patel Sahbhagi Jal Sanchay Yojna and Sujalam Sufalam Yojna.</p>

1	2
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A 280 km long Sujalam Sufalam Recharge Canal extending from Kadana dam to Banas river is under construction. ➤ Excess surface water from Narmada river basin is being diverted to dry barren land of North Gujarat by uplifting Narmada water from Narmada Main canal through pipe lines. ➤ Constructed nos. of recharge tubewells in areas of excessive development of ground water under various schemes in North Gujarat.
Maharashtra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ State Government has banned construction of tubewells in the affected areas in order to prevent excessive exploitation of ground water. It has also imposed condition of irrigating only 2 acres per well in the affected areas.
Tamil Nadu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Withdrawal of ground water from Minjur well field has been stopped by the State Government. ➤ Obtaining a licence for sinking of wells and energizing them with pumps (>1 HP) has been made mandatory in the area falling under the jurisdiction of Chennai Metropolitan Development Area. ➤ Installation of rainwater harvesting has been made mandatory for all buildings in Tamil Nadu, which is likely to augment the ground water resources in coastal aquifers over the years.
UT of Pondicherry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ground water extraction from wells within 6 km of the coastline, for all purposes other than drinking, without the permission of the competent authority, has been banned by laws promulgated by the Government of U.T. of Pondicherry.

1	2
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Installation of rainwater harvesting has been made mandatory for all buildings.
Delhi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Central Ground Water Authority has notified Southwest district, where construction of new wells is banned without prior approval of the Authority. ➤ Adoption of roof top rain water harvesting has been made mandatory in all new buildings on plot size above 100 sq.m. in NCT, Delhi by the Govt. of Delhi through amendment of Building Bye-laws.

Statement

Position of Ground Water Resources available and Annual Ground Water Draft in the States in Parts of which Excessive Exploitation of Ground Water Resulting in Salination of Ground Water has taken place

Sl. No.	States/Union Territories	Net Annual Ground Water Availability (BCM/Yr.)	Total Annual Ground Water Draft (BCM/Yr.)	Stage of Ground Water Development (%) (BCM/Yr.)
1.	Dehli	0.28	0.48	170
2.	Gujarat	15.02	11.49	76
3.	Maharashtra	31.21	15.09	48
4.	Tamil Nadu	20.76	17.65	85
5.	Pondicherry	0.144	0.151	105

BCM/Yr.—Billion Cubic Metre/Year

Promotion of Tourism Industry

1802. SHRI CHANDRABHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is considering to promote tourism industry in cooperation with State Governments;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has proposed to invest 359 crores in the tourism industry of different States during 2005-06; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (d) Ministry of Tourism provides funds for development and promotion of tourism every year on the basis of project proposals received from the State Governments/UT Administrations in consultation with them under various schemes. Rs. 359 crore has been earmarked during the year 2005-06 for development of tourism infrastructure throughout the country. The projects sanctioned so far during the current year, state-wise are as per the enclosed Statement.

Statement

State-wise Tourism Projects sanctioned and Funds Released during the year 2005-06 of the Tenth Plan

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	State/UT	2005-06 (as on 21.10.2005)		
		No. of Project Sancd.	Amount Sancd.	Amount Released
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0	0.00	0.00
2.	Assam	0	48.97	39.17
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0.00	0.00
4.	Bihar	0	0.00	0.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	2	518.41	415.00
6.	Goa	0	0.00	0.00
7.	Gujarat	2	1253.31	562.64
8.	Haryana	0	0.00	0.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1	30.00	24.00
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	5	3515.37	2808.41
11.	Jharkhand	0	0.00	0.00
12.	Karnataka	0	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5
13.	Kerala	1	2598.00	2078.40
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1	1024.25	450.19
15.	Maharashtra	1	1104.91	880.91
16.	Manipur	0	0.00	0.00
17.	Meghalaya	0	0.00	0.00
18.	Mizoram	0	0.00	0.00
19.	Nagaland	0	0.00	0.00
20.	Orissa	0	0.00	0.00
21.	Punjab	0	0.00	0.00
22.	Rajasthan	1	129.26	116.33
23.	Sikkim	0	0.00	0.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	8	2193.47	1415.57
25.	Tripura	0	0.00	0.00
26.	Uttaranchal	3	1039.77	831.72
27.	Uttar Pradesh	7	845.15	675.38
28.	West Bengal	2	2443.54	1850.65
29.	A & N Islands	0	0.00	0.00
30.	Chandigarh	0	0.00	0.00
31.	D & N Haveli	0	0.00	0.00
32.	Delhi	0	0.00	0.00
33.	Daman & Diu	2	138.58	109.66
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0.00	0.00
35.	Pondicherry	0	0.00	0.00
Total		36	17012.84	12362.65

Note : This includes the projects relating to Circuits, Destinations, Large Revenue Generating Projects, Rural Tourism (Software and Hardware) Projects, IT, Event, Fair & Festivals Projects.

Cruise Tourism

1803. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is formulating any comprehensive policy for cruise tourism;

(b) if so, whether a high power committee of Ministers of Tourism and Shipping has been constituted to consider the draft of the said policy;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the names of sea-shore where cruise centers are to be established;

(d) whether foreign cruiser Super Star Libra has started its business in Indian Maritime Region; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) Yes sir. A High Power Steering Group has been constituted to formulate Cruise Shipping Policy for the country.

(c) The recommendations of this Steering group include formation of Working Groups to look into issues like—Immigration; Customs Clearances; Quarantine Restrictions; Identification of Ports; Infrastructural Facilities; Connectivity; Taxation Issues; Tourism Related Issues; and Cabotage to develop cruise shipping policy for India. A Working Group has been constituted by Department of Shipping for identification of Ports having cruise tourism facilities along the East and West Coast of India.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. M/s. Star Cruises have started operating its foreign cruiser Super Star Libra from Mumbai and Goa to Lakshadweep from September 2005.

Migration of Birds to India

1804. SHRI DEVIDAS PINGLE :

SHRI S. K. KHARVENTHAN :

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

(a) the locations in India where the migratory birds generally frequent;

(b) whether there is a decrease in the number of migratory birds to the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof during the last three years and thereafter so far, State-wise; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the

Government to check hunting and facilitate the migratory birds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) The major locations in India, generally frequented by migratory birds, include the Brahmaputra Valley, Pong Dam (H.P.), Bharatpur (Rajasthan), Kashmir Valley Lakes, Chilka (Orissa), wetlands in Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, high altitude lakes in Ladakh, Gangetic Plain, etc.

(b) and (c) There are no reports on overall decrease in the number of migratory birds to the country. However, there are reports of Siberian Cranes not being sighted at Keoladeo National Park during the last three years.

(d) Directions have been issued to all Chief Wildlife Wardens of States/UTs to step up surveillance of habitats for migratory birds both within and outside Protected Areas. The State Forest Departments are taking measures to increase patrolling in the areas and generate awareness among the people so that hunting of these birds does not take place. Necessary technical and financial assistance under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme is provided to the Protected Areas for habitat development.

[English]

Schemes for Wet Land Farming

1805. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the existing schemes related to wet land farming in the country;

(b) whether wet lands are drying up in about 14 States;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) to (d) There is no separate scheme on wet farming as such. However, the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation is implementing Integrated Cereal Development Programme on Rice Based

Cropping System Areas (ICDP-Rice) and Sustainable Jute Development Programme (SJDP) under Macro Management Schemes to promote Rice and Jute in different farming conditions including wet land conditions.

[Translation]

**Welfare Scheme for Workers of
Unorganised Sector**

1806. SHRI AJIT JOGI : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of unorganised workers in the country at present, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government has formulated any schemes to provide facilities related to health and hygiene, housing, water supply and education to the workers of the unorganised sector; and

(c) if so, the details of funds allocated under each scheme during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO) : (a) According to the survey conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) during the year 1999-2000, there are about 37 crore workers in the unorganised sector in the country. State-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) and (c) The Government has set up five welfare funds to provide social security to some specified groups of the workers in the unorganised sector such as beedi workers, cine workers and certain non-coal mine workers to provide health care, housing, educational assistance for children,

drinking water etc. The state-wise allocation of funds is not made. The details of allocation of funds (region-wise) during last three years are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

Statement-I

Sl.No.	Name of the State	No. of the Unorganised Sector Workers
1.	Andhra Pradesh	34076.4
2.	Assam	8272.5
3.	Bihar	34823.1
4.	Gujarat	21240.7
5.	Haryana	6507.4
6.	Karnataka	21735.7
7.	Kerala	11234.2
8.	Madhya Pradesh	32830.3
9.	Maharashtra	37481.2
10.	Orissa	14183.1
11.	Punjab	9039.2
12.	Rajasthan	21936.3
13.	Tamil Nadu	26370.5
14.	Uttar Pradesh	56371.3
15.	West Bengal	25884.7
All Major States		362062.6
All India		369140.3

Statement-II

Allocation of Funds under Welfare Funds Act

(Rs. in thousand)

Year	Funds*	Region (Welfare Commissioner)**								
		Ajmer	Allahabad	Bangalore	Bhubaneswar	Hyderabad	Jabalpur	Karma	Kolkata	Nagpur
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
2003-04	BWWF	26789	32267	143903	64063	223029	82881	39912	73972	108231
	LSDM	19728	3761	3339	6362	9956	15950	5854	1088	2186
	IOMC	—	—	14863	36025	2607	15148	12986	—	14508

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	MICA	1602	—	—	—	5629	—	5542	—	—
	CINE	97	—	723	191	4025	—	—	860	1980
2004-05	BWWF	28759	44662	172393	76687	226490	89164	61552	90025	111300
	LSDM	31808	4728	3653	8974	11003	17262	5410	1478	2456
	IOMC	—	—	15867	36520	3151	17014	16480	—	19593
	MICA	2080	—	—	—	5712	—	5003	—	—
	CINE	75	—	1563	291	3758	—	—	1050	2363
2005-06	BWWF	34516	48695	175737	87270	223645	93208	62689	98914	138710
	LSDM	24552	5669	4320	8630	11026	18698	6833	1491	2426
	IOMC	—	—	15400	38261	3594	16347	25390	—	17738
	MICA	2563	—	—	—	5275	—	5962	—	—
	CINE	78	—	815	345	3448	—	—	1288	2086

*BWWF—Beedi Workers' Welfare Fund

LSDM—Limestone and Dolomite Mines Welfare Fund

IOMC—Iron Ore, Manganese Ore and Chrome Ore Mines Welfare Fund

MICA—Mica Mines Labour Welfare Fund

CINE—Cine Workers' Welfare Fund

**Region-States covered

Ajmer—Gujarat, Rajasthan and Haryana

Allahabad—Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Jammu and Kashmir and Uttaranchal

Bangalore—Karnataka and Kerala

Bhubaneswar—Orissa

Hyderabad—Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh

Jabalpur—Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh

Karma—Bihar and Jharkhand

Kolkata—West Bengal, Assam, Tripura and Meghalaya

Nagpur—Maharashtra and Goa

Pharmaceutical Companies Selling High Price Products

1807. SHRI MITRASEN YADAV :

SHRI BHUVANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA :

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

(a) whether some of the big pharmaceutical
companies are selling their products at higher price in
the domestic market and at cheaper rates in the foreign
countries.

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

(c) the details of such pharmaceutical companies

identified by the Government during the last three years and
thereafter; and

(d) the action taken against the said pharmaceu-
tical companies in this regard?

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

(a) to (d) The prices of Indian Drug Products in the overseas
market are dictated by commercial considerations and also
other factors like market strength of a company in a particular
therapeutic group, competitors present etc. The prices of
Scheduled drugs and formulations based thereon, as fixed
by the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority under the
provisions of the Drugs (Price Control) Order, 1995 are
applicable within the country. Exporters of such bulk drugs/
formulations are not bound to follow these prices.

*[English]***Sale of Coal by NCCF**

1808. SHRI HEMMAL MURMU : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Cooperative Consumers Federation of India Limited (NCCF) has been allocated quota for onward distribution and sale of coal by the Ministry of Coal;

(b) if so, the details regarding quantity, period of allocation, price and the norms for distribution of the said coal;

(c) the profit margin likely to accrue to NCCF as a result thereof during the current financial year;

(d) the norms being followed by NCCF in appointing the sole indenting agent to oversee this operation; and

(e) the reasons for not living competitive bids for the said purpose?

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

(b) A quantity of 2 Million MTs per annum has been allocated under non-core sector with effect from 23.1.2004 for onward distribution to Small Scale Industry units and small/tiny consumers. The basic price of coal varies from Rs. 600/- to Rs. 2400/- per MT depending upon the grade/variety of coal.

(c) The profit likely to accrue to NCCF is Rs. 150 lakhs approximately taking into consideration the projected lifting of coal till March, 2006.

(d) NCCF does not appoint any indenting agents for the purpose of distribution of coal within the States. This is done by the State Governments concerned.

(e) Does not arise.

**Re-introduction of Old Molecule
with a New Ones**

1809. SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH :
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE :

SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD :

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

(a) whether the Government has come across cases where the Pharma companies have re-introduced/replaced old molecule with a new ones and sold under the same brand name;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has constituted any committee/task force in this regard;

(d) if so, the suggestion made by the committee/task force; and

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

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

(a) and (b) Approval of drug formulations alongwith their brand name is granted by the concerned State Licensing Authorities. Manufacturers may sometime modify the composition of their formulation in order to improve it or to substitute an obsolete active ingredient while retaining the same brand name and indications.

(c) No such committee/task force has been constituted specifically for this purpose.

(d) and (e) In view reply to (c) above, do not arise.

[Translation]

**Land Allotted to AIIMS from
CAZRI Premises**

1810. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has been decided to allot 10 acres of land to AIIMS from the CAZRI premises situated in Jodhpur district of Rajasthan; and

(b) if so, the stage at which the matter stands as on date?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It has been decided to surrender 100 acres of land at the site of the State Government for making available to the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India. State Government of Rajasthan has been informed accordingly.

Security at Tourist and Religious Places

1811. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR :

SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT :

SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has accorded approval to the scheme of providing state-of-the-art security facilities to the States for famous places or religious and tourism importance;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such places have been identified;

(d) if so, the total estimated amount to be spent in this regard;

(e) whether this scheme is likely to be implemented during the current year; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (f) Ministry of Tourism has no scheme at present for providing state-of-the-art security facilities to the States for famous places or religious and tourism importance.

Opening of Tourism Offices Abroad

1812. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA :

SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN :

(a) whether the Government have opened offices abroad and appointed staff for promotion of tourism;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent by which tourism registered growth during the last three years; and

(d) the expenditure incurred per month on these officials and offices during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Tourism has 13 offices overseas, for promoting India as a preferred destination in the important tourist generating markets.

These offices are located in New York, Los Angeles, Toronto, Frankfurt, Paris, Amsterdam, Milan, London, Dubai, Johannesburg, Tokyo, Sydney and Singapore.

(c) Details of tourist arrivals to the country during the last three years are as given below :

	2002	2003	2004
Foreign Tourist Arrivals	2.38 million (-6.0%)	2.73 million (+14.3%)	3.37 million (+23.5%)

(d) The Plan expenditure incurred by India tourism offices overseas, for promotional/marketing activities during the years 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 was Rs. 5189.05 lakh, Rs. 4311.09 lakh and Rs. 5912.19 lakh respectively, i.e. an average expenditure of Rs. 428.12 lakh per month.

The Non-Plan expenditure incurred by India tourism offices overseas, on establishment expenses during the years 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 were Rs. 1725.92 lakh, Rs. 1030.99 lakh and Rs. 1140.35 lakh respectively, i.e. an average expenditure of Rs. 108.26 lakh per month.

Annapurna Yojana

1813. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI :

SHRI KIREN RIJU :

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

(a) the details regarding allocation and off-take of foodgrains under Annapurna Yojana during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the reasons for lower off-take in Bihar under the said scheme;

(c) the details regarding quantity of foodgrains allocated to each family under the said scheme, State-wise;

(d) whether this quantity is proposed to be enhanced;

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

(f) the number of people being benefited under the said scheme;

(g) whether the number of beneficiaries is proposed to be enhanced; and

(h) 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) Statements showing State-wise allocation and off-take of foodgrains for implementing Annapurna Yojana for the last three years is enclosed.

(b) In the State of Bihar, during 2003-04, a quantity of 15,480 tonnes of foodgrains was lifted against an allocation of 19,990 tonnes. During 2004-05 the total off-take of foodgrains was 15,180 tonnes against an allocation of 20,000 tonnes. In 2005-06 the Government of Bihar has lifted 8090

tonnes (upto October, 2005) of foodgrains against an allocation of 20,000 tonnes. Implementation of the scheme & off-take of foodgrains is the responsibility of the State Government under the State Plan.

(c) Under the Annapurna Scheme 10 kg. of foodgrains per person per month are supplied free of cost to indigent senior citizen of 65 years of age or above.

(d) to (h) The Annapurna Scheme was launched by Ministry of Rural Development in 2000-01. From 2002-03, it has been transferred to State Plan alongwith the National Social Assistance Programme comprising the National Old Age Pension Scheme & National Family Benefit Scheme. The funds for the transferred scheme are being released by Ministry of Finance as Additional Central Assistance (ACA) to the State Plan. They have the requisite flexibility in the choice of beneficiaries. The State can also increase the number of beneficiaries but the additional funds needed for such enhancement are to be supplemented by the State Government. The number of people being benefited under the schemes is approximately 12 lakh in the country.

Statement

Allocation and Offtake of Foodgrains under Annapurna Scheme during the year 2005-06

(Fig. in '000 tonnes)

Sl.No.	State/UT	Allocation			Offtake (upto Oct., 2005)		
		Rice	Wheat	Total	Rice	Wheat	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11.18	0.00	11.18	6.51	0.00	6.51
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.57	0.00	0.57	0.11	0.00	0.11
3.	Assam	8.27	0.00	8.27	0.66	0.00	0.66
4.	Bihar	8.00	12.00	20.00	3.15	4.94	8.09
5.	Chhattisgarh	3.20	0.00	3.20	0.00	0.00	0.00
6.	Delhi	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00
7.	Goa	0.09	0.00	0.09	0.00	0.00	0.00
8.	Gujarat	0.00	1.00	1.00	0.05	0.51	0.56
9.	Haryana	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
10.	Himachal Pradesh	0.77	0.00	0.77	0.21	0.00	0.21
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	1.23	0.00	1.23	0.00	0.00	0.00
12.	Jharkhand	6.59	0.00	6.59	2.30	0.00	2.30
13.	Karnataka	8.16	0.00	8.16	0.00	0.00	0.00
14.	Kerala	3.72	0.00	3.72	2.04	0.00	2.04
15.	Madhya Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
16.	Maharashtra	5.40	9.00	14.40	3.33	5.44	8.77
17.	Manipur	1.03	0.00	1.03	0.86	0.00	0.86
18.	Meghalaya	1.11	0.00	1.11	0.56	0.00	0.56
19.	Mizoram	0.31	0.00	0.31	0.31	0.00	0.31
20.	Nagaland	0.81	0.00	0.81	0.00	0.00	0.00
21.	Orissa	7.78	0.00	7.78	4.50	0.00	4.50
22.	Punjab	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
23.	Rajasthan	0.00	12.64	12.64	0.00	6.91	6.91
24.	Sikkim	0.30	0.00	0.30	0.21	0.00	0.21
25.	Tamil Nadu	8.64	0.00	8.64	3.68	0.00	3.68
26.	Tripura	1.78	0.00	1.78	0.90	0.00	0.90
27.	Uttar Pradesh	0.00	42.00	42.00	0.00	25.48	25.48
28.	Uttaranchal	1.26	0.00	1.26	0.00	0.00	0.00
29.	West Bengal	9.60	0.00	9.60	4.90	0.00	4.90
30.	A & N Islands	0.06	0.00	0.06	0.06	0.00	0.06
31.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.06	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.00
32.	D & N Haveli	0.05	0.00	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00
33.	Daman & Diu	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
34.	Lakshadweep	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
35.	Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total		89.93	76.72	166.65	34.34	43.28	77.62

Note : Annual Allotment.

Allocation and Offtake of Foodgrains under Annapurna Scheme during the year 2004-05

(Fig. in '000 tonnes)

Sl.No.	State/UT	Annual Allocation			Offtake		
		Rice	Wheat	Total	Rice	Wheat	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11.18	0.00	11.18	10.14	0.00	10.14
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.57	0.00	0.57	0.45	0.00	0.45
3.	Assam	8.27	0.00	8.27	3.28	0.00	3.28
4.	Bihar	8.00	12.00	20.00	6.29	8.89	15.18
5.	Chhattisgarh	3.20	0.00	3.20	0.00	0.00	0.00
6.	Delhi	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00
7.	Goa	0.09	0.00	0.09	0.00	0.00	0.00
8.	Gujarat	0.00	1.00	1.00	0.08	0.53	0.61
9.	Haryana	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10.	Himachal Pradesh	0.76	0.00	0.76	0.52	0.00	0.52
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	1.23	0.00	1.23	0.00	0.00	0.00
12.	Jharkhand	6.59	0.00	6.59	6.43	0.14	6.57
13.	Karnataka	8.16	0.00	8.16	0.00	0.00	0.00
14.	Kerala	3.71	0.00	3.71	2.72	0.00	2.72
15.	Madhya Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
16.	Maharashtra	5.40	9.00	14.40	6.27	6.43	12.70
17.	Manipur	1.03	0.00	1.03	0.15	0.00	0.15
18.	Meghalaya	1.11	0.00	1.11	1.67	0.00	1.67
19.	Mizoram	0.31	0.00	0.31	0.49	0.00	0.49
20.	Nagaland	0.80	0.00	0.80	0.81	0.00	0.81
21.	Orissa	7.78	0.00	7.78	7.62	0.00	7.62
22.	Punjab	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.28	0.28
23.	Rajasthan	0.00	12.64	12.64	0.00	12.26	12.26
24.	Sikkim	0.30	0.00	0.30	0.15	0.00	0.15
25.	Tamil Nadu	8.64	0.00	8.64	8.64	0.00	8.64

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
26.	Tripura	1.78	0.00	1.78	1.78	0.00	1.78
27.	Uttar Pradesh	0.00	42.00	42.00	0.00	39.62	39.62
28.	Uttaranchal	1.26	0.00	1.26	1.02	0.00	1.02
29.	West Bengal	9.60	0.00	9.60	5.71	0.00	5.71
30.	A & N Islands	0.06	0.00	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.00
31.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.06	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.00
32.	D & N Haveli	0.04	0.00	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.00
33.	Daman & Diu	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
34.	Lakshadweep	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
35.	Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total		89.89	76.72	166.61	64.22	68.15	132.37

Note :Based on information received from FCI on 5.5.2005.

Allocation and Offtake of Foodgrains under Annapurna Scheme during the year 2003-04

(Fig. in '000 tonnes)

Sl.No.	State/UT	Annual Allocation			Offtake		
		Rice	Wheat	Total	Rice	Wheat	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11.18	0.00	11.18	9.46	0.00	9.46
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.57	0.00	0.57	0.12	0.00	0.12
3.	Assam	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4.	Bihar	8.00	11.99	19.99	6.18	9.30	15.48
5.	Chhattisgarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6.	Delhi	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00
7.	Goa	0.09	0.00	0.09	0.06	0.00	0.06
8.	Gujarat	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9.	Haryana	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.99	1.99
10.	Himachal Pradesh	0.77	0.00	0.77	0.72	0.00	0.72
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	1.22	0.00	1.22	0.00	0.00	0.00
12.	Jharkhand	6.59	0.00	6.59	7.19	0.00	7.19

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
13.	Karnataka	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
14.	Kerala	3.72	0.00	3.72	3.72	0.00	3.72
15.	Madhya Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.93	0.00	0.93
16.	Maharashtra	3.60	0.00	3.60	4.52	0.00	4.52
17.	Manipur	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
18.	Meghalaya	1.11	0.00	1.11	0.00	0.00	0.00
19.	Mizoram	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
20.	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
21.	Orissa	7.78	0.00	7.78	6.24	0.00	6.24
22.	Punjab	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.86	1.86
23.	Rajasthan	0.00	12.64	12.64	0.00	12.35	12.35
24.	Sikkim	0.00	0.30	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.02
25.	Tamil Nadu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
26.	Tripura	1.78	0.00	1.78	1.79	0.00	1.79
27.	Uttar Pradesh	0.00	42.00	42.00	0.00	38.26	38.26
28.	Uttaranchal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
29.	West Bengal	9.60	0.00	9.60	4.07	0.00	4.07
30.	A & N Islands	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
31.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
32.	D & N Haveli	0.05	0.00	0.05	0.04	0.00	0.04
33.	Daman & Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
34.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
35.	Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total		56.06	66.95	123.01	45.06	63.76	108.82

*[English]***Expansion and Growth of FPI**

1814. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any time bound programme has been

implemented by the Government for expansion and growth of food processing industry in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the tax rates have been increased during the last two years to this industry for its expansion; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to give tax relief to this industry for the expansion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY) : (a) to (d) Expansion and growth of FPI is an ongoing process. However, Government has implemented a scheme for technology upgradation/modernization/expansion/establishment of food processing industries. Under the scheme financial assistance @ 25% of the project cost in general areas and @ 33.33% in difficult areas subject to a maximum of Rs. 50 lakh and Rs. 75 lakh respectively is provided for modernization/establishment of the food processing industries. Fruits and Vegetable products are already exempted from payment of excise duty. Recently in 2004-05, for giving boost to the FPI sector, the Government has allowed under Income Tax Act, a deduction of 100% of profit 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. In the budget of 2005-06, excise duty of Re 1.00 per kg on refined edible oil and Rs. 1.25 per kg on Vanaspati was abolished and custom duty on refrigerated vans was reduced from 20% to 10%.

Private Employment Agencies

1815. SHRIMATI MANORAMA MADHAVRAJ : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to privatization of Public Sector Undertakings and direct recruitment system of major employers like Railways and Banks etc. the role of Employment Exchanges has become redundant;

(b) if so, whether the Government has any proposal to wind up employment exchanges and assign the role to private placement/employment agencies;

(c) if so, whether the Government has initiated move to form a panel of such private agencies/placement firms and to regulate their functioning; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO) : (a) No, Sir. On an average, around 1.5 lakh placements are made by Employment Exchanges in a year. Besides, registration and placement, the Employment Exchanges are to :

(i) collect, compile and analyse the Employment Market Information; and

(ii) Provide career counselling and vocational guidance to job-seekers registered.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Promotion of F.P.I.

1816. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL :

SHRI SUGRIB SINGH :

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to heavy tax on packed processed food and existing Mandi Laws in the country food processing industry has failed to achieve its targets;

(b) if so, whether the Government proposes to amend the related existing system for promotion of Food Processing Industry;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which such changes are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY) : (a) to (d) Taxation and the existing Mandi laws have created some constraints in proper development of food processing industries in the country. Government has already initiated necessary measures and waived excise duty on fruit and vegetable products. Recently in the year 2004-05, Government has allowed under Income Tax Act, a deduction of 100% of profit for five years and 25% of profit for the next five years in case of new agro processing industries setup 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 of meat, poultry and fish products has been reduced from 16% to 8%. In the Budget 2005-06, excise duty of Re 1.00 per kg on refined edible oil and Rs. 1.25 per kg on Vanaspati was abolished and custom duty on refrigerated vans was reduced from 20% to 10%. As regards the Mandi Laws the matter falls within purview of State Governments and accordingly they have been advised to take necessary action in this regard.

Allocation of Agriculture Sector

1817. SHRI HITEN BARMAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware that there is a sharp decrease/increase in the allocation of some sectors of agriculture in comparison to the year 2004-05; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWR) : (a) and (b) The Plan outlays of the three Departments of the Ministry of Agriculture for the year 2005-06 were increased as compared with the Plan outlays for the year 2004-05 as indicated below :

(Rs. in crore)

Department*	2004-05	2005-06
DOAC	2650.00	4179.32
DARE	1042.00	1150.00
DAHD&F	500.00	669.00
MOA	4192.00	5998.32

*Note : DOAC—Department of Agriculture & Cooperation
DARE—Department of Agricultural Research & Education
DAHD&F—Department of Animal Husbandry Dairying & Fisheries
MOA—Ministry of Agriculture

[Translation]

Constitution of Integrated Flood Management Commission

1818. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to constitute an Integrated Flood Management Commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the objectives behind constitution of the said commission; and

(d) the time by which the commission is likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

[English]

Leasing out of Forest Land to Plantation Owners

1819. SHRIMATI C. S. SUJATHA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether 10000 hectares of reserved forest in the Cardamom Hill Reserve in Kerala have been leased out to plantation owners;

(b) if so, whether leasing out of the reserved forest was in conformity with the existing Union/State Forest Acts;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, whether the Government proposes to cancel the lease agreements; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected from the State Government of Kerala. After receipt of the information, a statement shall be laid on the table of the House.

Upper Bhadra Irrigation Project

1820. SHRI M. SHIVANNA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to allocate more funds during 2005-06 for completing the long pending Upper Bhadra irrigation Project; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) No, Sir.

However, Karnataka Neeravari Nigam Limited which is handling this project has made an allocation of Rs. 15.00 lakh for the year 2005-06.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

**Development of Agriculture
Marketing Infrastructure**

1821. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has chalked out any scheme for the development of agriculture marketing infrastructure grading and standardization;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this scheme is implemented in all the States;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) and (b) Ministry of Agriculture is implementing a Central Sector scheme for "Development/Strengthening of Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure, Grading and Standardization" with effect from 20.10.2004. Under the scheme, investment subsidy is provided @ 25% on the capital cost of the marketing infrastructure development project subject to a maximum of Rs. 50 lakh for each project in general and @ 33.3% of capital cost subject to a maximum of Rs. 60 lakh for each project in case of North Eastern States, hilly areas and to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes entrepreneurs. In respect of infrastructure projects of State Governments/State Agencies, there is no upper ceiling on subsidy to be provided under the scheme. The assistance is available to individuals, Group of farmers/growers/consumers, Partnership/Proprietary firms, Non-Government Organizations (NGOs), Self Help Groups (SHGs), Companies, Corporations, Cooperatives, Gooperative Marketing Federations, Local Bodies, Agricultural Produce Market Committees and Marketing Boards in the

entire country. Assistance is provided for the development of infrastructure projects in agriculture and allied sectors, and for creating user facilities like market yards, weighing etc., functional infrastructure like assembling, grading, labeling etc., and infrastructure for direct marketing, e-trading etc.

(c) and (d) The scheme has been approved for implementation in those States/Union Territories that amend the law dealing with Agricultural Produce Marketing Regulation (APMC) Act to allow setting up of competitive markets in private and cooperative sectors, direct marketing and contract farming. The States of Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Manipur, Himachal Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Nagaland, Sikkim, Punjab and Andaman and Nicobar Islands have been notified as eligible for grant of Central assistance under the scheme.

(e) The remaining States have not amended the law dealing with Agriculture markets as required under the Scheme.

[English]

**Assistance from Japan for
Irrigation System**

1822. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Japan has provided loan/assistance to various States/Union Territories for improving the present irrigation system of farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the details of disbursement of loan/assistance to States alongwith names of schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government of Japan through its funding agency the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) is providing loan assistance to various States/Union Territories for improving the present irrigation system in the country. A statement showing details of Schemes alongwith disbursement made upto 31.10.2005 is enclosed.

Statement

(In Million Yen)

Sl.No.	Name of State/UT	Name of Scheme	Amount of loan assistance	Cumulative disbursement till 31.10.2005	Status of scheme
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Kurnool Kuddapah Canal Modernization Project	20822	1745	On-going
2.	Madhya Pradesh	Rajghat Canal Irrigation Project	13222	9903	On-going
3.	Orissa	1. Rengali Irrigation Project	13186	7419	On-going
		2. Upper Indravati Irrigation Project	3744	3599	Completed
		3. Upper Kolab Irrigation Project	3769	3114	Completed
4.	Rajasthan	Rajasthan Minor Irrigation Improvement Project	11555		On-going

*Loan agreement has been signed on 31.3.2005 and effectuated on 28.7.2005. No disbursement has taken place so far.

[Translation]

Minor and Major Irrigation Projects

1823. SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE :
SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has accorded approval for the recommissioning or completion of the minor and major irrigation projects started during the Fifth Plan or earlier to it;

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

(c) the percentage of cost escalation of such projects so far, project-wise;

(d) whether the above projects would be completed within the current year; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) to (e) There are 72 (28 Pre-Fifth Plan and 44 Fifth Plan) major irrigation projects and 49 (5 Pre-Fifth Plan and 44 Fifth Plan) medium irrigation projects which have spilled over from Pre-Fifth and Fifth Plan to Tenth Five Year Plan. State-wise and project-wise detailed status of the projects including percentage cost escalation and scheduled completion are given in the enclosed Statement I to IV. Minor irrigation schemes are having short gestation period and are planned, approved and executed by the State Governments.

Statement-I

Status of incomplete Major Irrigation Projects of Pre-Fifth Plan (as on 1.4.2004)

(Rs. crore/Pot. th. Ha.)

Sl.No.	Name of State/ Project	Plan of start	Estimated cost		Likely expenditure upto March 04	Ultimate potential	Likely potential created upto Mar. 04	Anticipated year of completion	% of increase in cost
			Original	Latest					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Andhra Pradesh								
1.	Nagarjunasagar	II	91.12	1184.00	1130.86	895.00	809.44	X Plan	1199.385

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2.	Sriram Sagar*	III	40.10	2663.39	2497.75	392.00	406.84	X Plan	6541.870
3.	Vamsadhara Stage I	IV	8.78	109.00	108.41	59.99	57.16	X Plan	1141.458
4.	Puivendula Br. Canal	IV	2.98	93.87	74.99	24.28	16.79	X Plan	3050.000
	Sub Total		142.98	4050.26	3812.01	1371.27	1290.23		2732.746
	Bihar								
5.	Western Kosi Canal	III	13.49	904.01	592.60	203.00	39.48	X Plan	6601.334
	Sub Total		13.49	904.01	592.60	203.00	39.48		6601.334
	Goa								
6.	Salauli Irrg. Project	IV	9.61	160.00	157.18	14.33	12.13	X Plan	1564.932
	Sub Total		9.61	160.00	157.18	14.33	12.13		1564.932
	Haryana								
	(A) Major Projects								
7.	Rewari Lift Stage II	III	0.62	39.60	43.25	8.00	0.00	X Plan	6287.097
8.	Loharu Lift	IV	4.13	75.53	45.58	82.00	73.00	X Plan	1728.814
	Sub Total		4.75	115.13	88.83	90.00	73.00		2323.789
	Karnataka								
	(A) Major Projects								
9.	Kabini	II	24.80	1233.00	388.99	94.43	41.09	X Plan	4871.774
10.	Tungabhadra HLC(IS)	III	2.57	111.80	76.26	74.47	72.44	X Plan	4250.195
11.	Malaprabha	III	19.91	816.00	727.88	220.03	188.69	X Plan	3998.443
12.	Harangi	III	122.00	400.00	332.20	54.59	41.77	X Plan	227.869
13.	Hemavathy	AP 66-68	588.00	3710.00	1523.80	283.60	175.90	X Plan	530.952
14.	UKP Stage I	IV	58.20	5613.83	5192.06	458.89	400.09	X Plan	9545.756
	Sub Total		815.48	11884.63	8241.19	1186.01	919.98		1357.378
	Kerala								
15.	Kallada	III	13.28	760.80	668.81	92.10	53.61	X Plan	5628.916
	Sub Total		13.28	760.80	668.81	92.10	53.61		5628.916
	Madhya Pradesh								
16.	Kolar	IV	25.75	195.60	185.20	60.90	38.00	X Plan	659.612

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
17.	Sindh Phase-I	IV	4.95	74.00	72.97	44.90	30.30	Beyond X Plan	1394.949
	Sub Total		30.70	269.60	258.17	105.80	68.30		778.176
	Chhattisgarh								
18.	Mahanadi Res. Project	IV	566.88	644.77	487.10	304.20	252.46	X Plan	13.740
19.	Jonk Diversion	IV	4.13	53.51	46.04	14.57	11.40	X Plan	1195.642
	Sub Total		571.01	698.28	533.14	318.77	263.86		22.289
	Maharashtra								
	(A) Major Projects								
20.	Bhima	III	42.58	1405.67	1115.39	259.54	214.89	X Plan	3201.245
21.	Krishna	III	27.66	559.01	397.42	113.25	87.96	X Plan	1921.005
22.	Kukadi	AP 66-69	17.90	1430.78	1097.75	156.28	132.30	X Plan	7893.184
23.	Khadakwasla	II	11.62	343.87	283.60	62.15	61.52	X Plan	2859.294
24.	Upper Tapi	IV	12.09	230.76	140.48	55.14	51.86	X Plan	1808.685
25.	Warna	AP 66-69		1150.98	365.17	148.96	2.05	Beyond X Plan	
26.	Upper Godavari	AP 66-69	14.20	189.99	159.99	67.29	63.43	X Plan	1237.958
	Sub Total		126.05	5311.06	3559.80	862.61	614.01		4113.455
	Orissa								
27.	Potteru	IV	14.81	198.07	201.72	109.88	64.59	X Plan	1237.407
	Sub Total		14.81	198.07	201.72	109.88	64.59		1237.407
	Rajasthan								
	Gurgaon Canal	III	2.88	35.40	27.10	28.20	22.77	Beyond X Plan	1129.167
28.	Mahi Bajaj Sagar (IS)	IV	31.36	834.88	744.89	71.20	66.65	X Plan	2562.245
	Sub Total		34.24	870.28	771.99	99.40	89.42		
	Grand Total		1776.40	25222.12	18885.44	4453.17	3488.61		

*Ultimate Potential needs review by State Government.

AP—Annual Plan

IS—Inter-state

Statement-II*Status of incomplete Major Irrigation Projects of Fifth Plan (as on 1.4.2004)*

(Amount in Rs. crore/Pot. th. Ha.)

Sl.No.	Name of State/ Project	Estimated cost		Likely expenditure upto March 04	Ultimate potential	Likely potential created upto Mar. 04	Anticipated year of completion	% of increase in cost
		Original	Latest					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Andhra Pradesh								
1.	Singur	104.36	180.00	167.63	16.19	0.00	X Plan	72.480
2.	Somasila	17.20	500.00	488.38	167.54	133.96	X Plan	2806.977
	Sub Total	121.56	680.00	656.01	183.73	133.96		459.395
Assam								
3.	Dhansiri	15.83	355.00	179.42	83.37	35.63	X Plan	2142.577
4.	Bordikarai*	3.56	49.94	43.17	34.00	34.62	Beyond X Plan	1302.809
5.	Integrated Kellong	4.57	113.93	57.90	34.40	30.40	Beyond X Plan	2392.998
	Sub Total	23.96	518.87	280.49	151.77	100.65		2065.568
Bihaar								
6.	Bateshwarsthan Pump Canal Ph. I	13.88	180.00	52.63	24.4	0.00	X Plan	1196.830
	Bansagar Dam	22.83	263.00	142.45	0.00	0.00	X Plan	1051.993
7.	Barnar	8.03	308.00	134.47	24.94	5.00	Beyond X Plan	3735.616
8.	Durgawati Res Scheme	25.30	379.04	246.56	51.83	0.00	X Plan	1398.182
9.	North Koel Res Project	8.07	1118.00	585.41	105.9	52.00	X Plan	13753.779
10.	Tilaiya Dhadhar Diversion	301.79	398.81	78.37	48.60	0.00	X Plan	32.148
11.	Upper Kiul Res Project	8.07	159.16	143.45	27.67	18.50	X Plan	1872.243
	Sub Total	387.97	28.06	1383.34	283.34	75.5		623.254
Jharkhand								
12.	Ajoy Barrage	115.00	351.85	203.44	40.13	0.00	Beyond X Plan	205.957
13.	Konar	348.38	348.38	115.81	62.80	0.00	Beyond X Plan	0.000

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
14.	Subernarekha	2869.76	2869.76	985.67	236.85	0.61	Beyond X Plan	0.000
	Sub Total	3333.14	3569.99	1304.92	339.78	0.60		7.106
	Goa							
	(A) Major Projects							
	Tillari (IS) (Goa Share)	159.22	806.56	344.43	12.56	1.08	X Plan	406.570
	Sub Total	159.22	806.56	344.43	12.56	1.08		406.570
	Haryana							
15.	JLN Lift Irrigation	40.00	245.75	190.27	164.00	95.00	X Plan	514.375
	Sub Total	40.00	245.75	190.27	164.00	95.00		514.375
	Karnataka							
16.	Bennithora	73.25	267.24	222.12	20.23	8.50	X Plan	264.833
17.	Hipparagi	168.70	901.00	57.15	74.74	0.00	X Plan	434.084
18.	Karnaja	98.00	415.00	366.90	35.61	22.09	X Plan	323.469
	Sub Total	266.70	1316.00	424.05	110.35	22.09		393.438
	Kerala							
19.	Muvattupuzha	48.08	515.00	451.07	34.74	22.74	X Plan	971.131
	Sub Total	48.08	515.00	451.07	34.74	22.74		971.131
	Madhya Pradesh							
	(A) Major Projects							
20.	Bansagar Dam (MP Share)	45.65	880.72	815.86		0.00	X Plan	1829.288
21.	Bansagar Canal	344.66	742.50	269.12	249.36	0.00	Beyond X Plan	115.430
22.	Bariarpur LBC	18.40	191.34	118.86	43.85	0.00	Beyond X Plan	939.891
	Rajghat Dam	NA	150.00	135.88		0.00	X Plan	
23.	Rajghat Canal	62.20	645.66	568.04	121.45	42.20	Beyond X Plan	941.387
24.	Rani Avanti Bai Sagar (NVDA)	NA	1478.64	890.06	219.80	62.90	Beyond X Plan	
	Sub Total	470.71	4088.86	2797.82	634.46	105.10		768.658

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Maharashtra								
25.	Dudhganga (IS)	NA	1173.26	343.72	74.17	71.50	X Plan	
26.	Chaskaman	22.48	388.13	224.42	44.17	23.14	X Plan	1626.557
27.	Bhatsa	358.25	358.25	279.97	42.55	11.08	X Plan	0.00
28.	Jayakwadi St II	88.90	792.20	626.86	126.53	95.67	X Plan	791.114
29.	Nandur Madhmeshwar	72.66	606.00	354.44	45.58	0.00	Beyond X Plan	734.021
30.	Upper Penganga	84.48	867.46	633.19	134.28	69.65	X Plan	926.823
31.	Upper Parvara	15.87	721.39	135.28	64.26	0.00	X Plan	4445.621
32.	Upper Wardhra	39.88	754.26	669.10	80.25	67.63	X Plan	1791.324
33.	Waghur	12.28	189.32	142.58	26.66	0.00	X Plan	1441.694
	Sub Total	694.80	4677.01	3065.84	564.28	267.17		573.145
Orissa								
34.	Rengali Irrigation	233.64	2621.16	1050.83	214.30	10.56	Beyond X Plan	1021.880
35.	Upper Kolab	24.05	337.96	374.27	88.70	53.69	Beyond X Plan	1305.239
	Sub Total	24.05	337.96	374.27	88.70	53.69		1305.239
Rajasthan								
36.	IGNP II	89.12	3522.00	2231.60	964.00	669.00	Beyond X Plan	3851.975
	Sub Total	89.12	3522.00	2231.60	964.00	669.00		3851.975
Uttar Pradesh								
37.	Eastern Ganga	48.46	579.00	415.61	105.00	61.72	Beyond X Plan	1094.800
38.	Kanhar Irrigation	27.75	475.19	64.53	33.13	0.00	X Plan	1612.396
39.	Rajghat Dam	61.61	150.00	133.08	0.00	0.00	X Plan	143.467
40.	Rajghat Canal (UP)	126.43	457.13	357.00	138.66	113.75	X Plan	261.568
41.	Saryu Nahar	78.68	3453.00	1529.16	1404.00	526.16	Beyond X Plan	4288.663
	Sub Total	342.93	5114.32	2499.38	1680.79	701.63		1391.360

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Uttaranchal								
42.	Jamrani Dam	61.25	433.00	25.87	60.60	61.00	Beyond X Plan	606.939
43.	Lakhwar Vyasi	140.97	1446.00	219.11	40.00		Beyond X Plan	925.750
	Sub Total	202.22	1879.00	244.98	100.60	21.00		829.186
West Bengal								
44.	Teesta Barrage St I Ph I	69.72	2068.00	958.21	533.52	130.96	Beyond X Plan	2866.150
	Sub Total	69.72	2068.00	958.21	533.52	130.96		
	Grand Total	6274.18	32145.33	17206.68	5846.62	2400.18		

*Ultimate Potential needs review by State Government.

TAC—Technical Advisory Committee

Statement-III*Status of ongoing Medium Irrigation Projects of Pre-Fifth Plan (as on 1.4.2004)*

(Rs. crore/Pot. th. Ha.)

Sl.No.	Name of State/ Project	Plan of start	Estimated cost		Likely expenditure upto March 04	Ultimate potential	Likely potential created upto Mar. 04	Anticipated year of completion	% of increase in cost
1	2	3	Original	Latest	6	7	8	9	10
Andhra Pradesh									
1.	Kanupur	III	0.70	1.70	20.07	25.45	7.09	Beyond X Plan	142.857
	Sub Total		0.70	1.70	20.07	25.45	7.09		142.857
Jammu and Kashmir									
1.	Lethpora Lift	IV	0.95	10.04	8.85	3.20	2.46	X Plan	956.842
2.	Marwal Lift	IV	2.41	25.16	21.82	11.42	3.56	X Plan	943.983
3.	Niv-Karewa	IV	0.94	4.50	3.12	4.20	0.00	Project Deferred	378.723
	Sub Total		4.30	39.70	33.79	18.82	6.02		823.256
Karnataka									
1.	Manchanabele	IV	2.37	74.65	71.61	2.43	1.31	X Plan	3049.789
	Sub Total	IV	2.37	74.65	71.61	2.43	1.31		
	Grand Total		7.37	116.05	125.47	46.70	14.42		

Statement-IV*Status of ongoing Medium Irrigation Projects of Fifth Plan (as on 1.4.2004)*

		(Rs. crore/Pot. th. Ha.)						
Sl.No.	Name of State/ Project	Estimated cost		Likely expenditure upto March 04	Ultimate potential	Likely potential created upto Mar. 04	Anticipated year of completion	% of increase in cost
		Original	Latest					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Andhra Pradesh								
1.	Gundalavagu	1.16	15.85	10.88	1.05	0.00	X Plan	1266.379
2.	Jhanjhavati	NA	103.62	30.71	9.57	0.00	X Plan	
3.	Madigedda	1.55	10.90	7.59	2.43	1.11	X Plan	603.226
4.	Madduvalasa	8.46	115.23	122.34	10.00	9.39	X Plan	1262.057
5.	Yerrakalva	46.52	81.20	68.66	10.00	3.84	X Plan	74.549
	Sub Total	57.69	326.80	240.18	33.05	14.34		466.476
Assam								
1.	Kallonga	051	5.54	3.71	2.69	0.50	X Plan	986.275
	Sub Total	051	5.54	3.71	2.69	0.50		986.275
Bihaar								
1.	Batane	4.01	57.00	43.72	9.87	7.38	X Plan	1321.446
2.	Orni Res. Project	2.96	74.89	59.45	9.60	9.50	Beyond X Plan	2430.068
	Sub Total	6.97	131.89	103.17	19.47	16.88		1792.253
Jharkhand								
1.	Gumani	3.84	125.00	70.22	12.75	0.00	X Plan	3155.208
2.	Jharjhara	4.47	49.87	1.97	4.05	0.00	X Plan	1015.660
3.	Torai	2.96	62.57	24.60	8.00	0.00	X Plan	2013.851
4.	Kans	1.37	44.18	18.79	3.73	0.00	Beyond X Plan	3124.818
	Sub Total	12.64	281.62	115.58	28.53	0.00		2128.006
Karnataka								
1.	Amarja	5.70	109.43	100.11	8.90	7.80	X Plan	1819.825
2.	Arkavathi	NA	110.00	80.55	6.23	0.00	X Plan	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
3.	Lower Mullamari	8.37	134.06	123.79	9.71	7.67	X Plan	1501.673
4.	Chulkinala	3.80	70.00	64.46	4.05	4.05	X Plan	1742.105
5.	Votehole	2.05	52.50	47.69	7.49	7.49	X Plan	2460.976
6.	Hirehalla	6.35	175.00	169.59	8.33	2.81	X Plan	2655.906
	Sub Total	26.27	650.99	586.19	44.71	29.82		2378.074
Kerala								
1.	Attapady	NA	161.00	10.96	8.38	0.00	X Plan	
2.	Karapuzha	7.60	253.00	202.24	8.72	1.74	X Plan	3228.947
	Sub Total	7.60	414.00	213.20	17.10	1.74		5347.368
Maharashtra								
1.	Anjanapalsi (Palsi)	3.19	50.81	43.95	2.03	2.03	X Plan	1492.790
2.	Aran (Pimpari)	2.89	71.28	61.53	10.07	10.06	X Plan	2366.436
3.	Bahula	5.92	44.04	29.55	4.05	0.37	X Plan	643.919
4.	Chenna Nadi	NA	17.40	3.00	2.56	0.00	X Plan	
5.	Chikotra	NA	137.94	111.17	5.63	4.56	X Plan	
6.	Erdha	NA	31.90	0.97	3.40	0.00	X Plan	
7.	Hivra	3.44	16.29	11.00	3.49	2.57	X Plan	373.547
8.	Jangamhatti		32.00	18.27	4.74	3.76	X Plan	
9.	Jawalgaon	2.38	26.75	25.65	5.34	5.31	X Plan	1023.950
10.	Kadvi	3.47	69.74	59.13	10.97	10.97	X Plan	1909.798
11.	Kasari	6.15	28.95	25.38	9.46	9.46	X Plan	370.732
12.	Kumbhi	5.16	48.63	50.14	8.71	6.88	X Plan	842.442
13.	Mangrul	NA	24.20	10.50	1.93	0.26	X Plan	
14.	Mor	0.91	40.15	30.90	2.16	0.00	X Plan	4312.088
15.	Pendhari Nalla	0.83	11.70	0.20	1.84	0.00	X Plan	1309.639
16.	Purna Neopur	1.89	16.61	14.71	1.47	1.47	X Plan	778.836
17.	Morna (Shirala)		22.80	12.30	2.91	1.60	Beyond X Plan	
	Sub Total	36.23	691.19	508.35	80.76	59.30		1807.784

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Rajasthan								
1. Panchana		1.03	125.00	119.79	10.61	10.61	X Plan	12035.922
Sub Total		1.03	125.00	119.79	10.61	10.61		12035.922
Tripura								
1. Gumti		5.88	47.00	43.39	9.80	2.75	X Plan	699.320
Sub Total		5.88	47.00	43.39	9.80	2.75		699.320
West Bengal								
1. Golamarjore		0.52	3.92	3.24	1.00	0.26	X Plan	654.231
2. Mouterjore		0.40	1.90	0.69	1.08	0.51	X Plan	375.000
3. Beko		0.64	5.90	4.39	1.59	1.01	X Plan	821.875
4. Patloi		0.90	10.80	5.72	2.16	1.87	X Plan	1100.000
5. Tatko		0.98	12.57	8.06	2.48	1.90	X Plan	1182.653
Sub Total		3.44	35.09	22.10	8.31	5.55		
Grand Total		158.26	2709.12	1955.65	255.03	141.49		

*[English]***Eco-Development of Sundarbans**

1824. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Eco-Development of Sundarbans in West Bengal is being protected under National Park and Sanctuary Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the funds sanctioned for the purpose during the last three years;

(c) whether any assistance from the World Bank has been extended/being extended for the development of the forest infrastructure and adjoining villages of the Sundarbans; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme

of Project Tiger, funding support is provided to States, including Sundarbans Tiger Reserve, for eco-developmental activities.

(b) The details of funds sanctioned under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger during the last three years for Sundarbans Tiger Reserve are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

Statement

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

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of Tiger Reserve	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
1.	Sunderban	138.33	172.72	274.74

Rebate on HSD Oil

1825. DR. K. S. MANOJ : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has given rebate on High Speed Diesel (HSD) oil used by mechanized fishing vessels;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government of Kerala has submitted any project proposal under the scheme;

(d) if so, whether the Union Government has accorded its approval to the proposal;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the amount released for the purpose; and

(f) if not, the time by which it is likely to be approved?

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

(b) As per enclosed statement.

(c) to (e) The proposal submitted by Government of Kerala for Fishermen Development Rebate on HSD oil has been considered by the Government and sanctioned an amount of Rs. 200 lakhs.

(f) Does not arise.

Statement

Funds released for Fishermen Development Rebate on High Speed Diesel (HSD) Oil

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	State/UT Government	Funds Released	
		2004-05	2005-06 (upto 30.11.2005)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	90.00	60.00
2.	Goa	64.34	60.00
3.	Gujarat	815.00	500.00

1	2	3	4
4.	Karnataka	728.00	400.00
5.	Maharashtra	858.42	200.00
6.	Orissa	300.00	0.00
7.	Tamil Nadu	366.24	0.00
8.	West Bengal	0.00	100.00
9.	Kerala	0.00	200.00
10.	Pondicherry	50.00	0.00
11.	A & N Islands	0.00	0.00
12.	Lakshadweep	14.00	0.00
13.	Daman & Diu	125.00	50.00
14.	NCDC	0.00	0.00
15.	FSI	0.00	0.00
Total		3411.00	1570.00

Incentives to Drug Makers

1826. SHRI N. S. V. CHITTHAN : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has decided to give incentives to drug makers which in turn will lead to reduction in the Maximum Retail Price (MRP) of medicines;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the drugs that get reduction through this gesture?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (c) The Government is examining proposals for various fiscal and non-fiscal incentives to make available quality drugs at reasonable prices. Some of these proposals as and when accepted by the Government, might result in reduction of the Maximum Retail Price (MRP) of medicines.

[Translation]

Hoarding and Black-Marketing of Essential Commodities

1827. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware that the incidents of adulteration, hoarding and black marketing of essential commodities are increasing in the country;

(b) if so, the number of such cases detected during the last three years and thereafter till date, State-wise and year-wise; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government against the persons found involved in such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN) : (a) to (c) The Prevention of Blackmarketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980 empowers Government to detain persons whose activities are found to be prejudicial to the maintenance of supplies of commodities essential to the community. The Act is being implemented by the State Governments/UT Administrations for the prevention of unethical trade practices like hoarding and blackmarketing etc. of such commodities. As per the records available in the Central Government, the detention orders made by the various State Governments during the last three years and upto 30.11.2005 are as under :

States/UTs	During the year 2002	During the year 2003	During the year 2004	From 1.1.2005 to 30.11.2005
Gujarat	80	101	63	90
Tamil Nadu	17	5	1	2
Orissa	1	Nil	Nil	2
Uttar Pradesh	Nil	1	Nil	Nil
Assam	1	Nil	11	Nil
Maharashtra	Nil	Nil	Nil	1
Total	99	107	75	95

Other States/UTs have not reported any detention under the Act during the above period.

Agreement with China to Promote Tourism

1828. SHRI ANNASHEB M. K. PATIL :
SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to make an agreement with China for promotion of tourism in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of foreign tourists visited the country during the last three years and current year; and

(d) the foreign exchange earned as a result thereof during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) A tourism cooperation agreement was signed between China and India on 14th January, 2002. In pursuance of the tourism agreement signed, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed on 8th December, 2002 between India and China on the implementation plan for organised group travel by Chinese citizens to India. The agreement provides for expanding cooperation in the field of tourism between the two countries.

(c) The number of foreign tourists that visited India in the last three years and current year are as follows :

2002	2.38 Million
2003	2.73 Million
2004	3.37 Million
2005 (January to October)	2.96 Million (Provisional)

(d) The foreign exchange earned during the said period is as follows :

Year	(Rs. in crore)
2002	14195
2003	16429
2004	21828
2005 (January to October)	20512.68 (Provisional)

Filling up of Vacant Reserved Posts in F & V Plants of Mother Dairy

1829. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details and location of Fruit and Vegetable (F&V) Plants of Mother Dairy functioning in Delhi;

(b) the number of employees belonging to SC/ST/OBC and other employees working in the said plants;

(c) the extent of compliance of prescribed reservation norms by the Government in these plants; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to fill up the vacant reserved posts in the said 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 TASLIMUDDIN) : (a) The Fruit and Vegetable Unit of Mother Dairy, Delhi is located in Mangolpuri.

(b) Category-wise details of employees belonging to the SC/ST/OBC categories are as under :

1. SC	47
2. ST	4
3. OBC	15
4. Others	412

(c) and (d) The guidelines issued by the Government of India with regard to the reservation policy are being followed and all efforts are made to fill up the reserved posts.

[English]

Solid Waste Management

1830. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether municipal solid waste causes environmental pollution; and

(b) if so, the measures being taken by the Government to promote various technologies available for processing of the municipal solid waste?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO RARAIN MEENA) : (a) Improper disposal of Municipal Solid Waste has the potential to cause environmental pollution.

(b) The Ministry of Environment and Forests notified the Municipal Solid Wastes (Management and Handling)

Rules, 2000 vide S.O. 908(E) the 25th September, 2000 for the sound management of Municipal Solid Wastes. These rules provide detailed compliance criteria for the collection, storage, segregation, transportation, processing and disposal of municipal solid wastes. As per these rules the local bodies are required to comply with prescribed waste processing and disposal technologies viz. Composting, Vermi-composting, incineration, anaerobic waste digestion.

The Ministry of Environment and Forests along with Central Pollution Control Board facilitates the setting up of demonstration projects on the management of Municipal Solid Waste on cost sharing basis. The Ministry of Non-conventional Energy Sources is also implementing a National Programme for Energy Recovery from Urban and Industrial Wastes to promote new technologies such as biomethanation pyrolysis/gasification and combustion for processing and disposal of wastes.

Subsidy to Chemical Fertilizer Units

1831. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of private fertilizer plants recognised by the Government, State-wise;

(b) whether chemical fertilizer fall in the category of de-licensed items and no license for its manufacturing is required; and

(c) if so, the amount of subsidy paid to private chemical fertilizer manufacturing units during the last two years, unit-wise?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) The information regarding number of private fertilizer plants recognized by the Government, State-wise is given in enclosed Statement-I.

(b) 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/expand fertilizer projects anywhere in the country subject to environmental clearance. If fertilizer manufacturing companies intend to avail of benefits of concession/subsidy on fertilizers, then they are required to comply with the conditions laid down under the schemes regulating grant of subsidy/concession on fertilizers.

(c) The amount of subsidy paid to private urea manufacturing units during the last two years is given in enclosed Statement-II. The amount of concession paid in respect of Indigenous DAP, Complexes and SSP during the last two years is given in enclosed Statement-III.

Statement-I*Number of Private Urea Manufacturing Units recognized by the Government, State-wise*

Sl.No.	Name of State	Number of urea units
1.	Uttar Pradesh	4
2.	Rajasthan	3
3.	Karnataka	1
4.	Andhra Pradesh	2
5.	Tamil Nadu	1
6.	Goa	1
Total		12

Number of SSP Manufacturing Units in the Country (State-wise) as on 1.11.2005

Sl.No.	Name of State	Number of SSP units
1.	Rajasthan	15
2.	Madhya Pradesh	11
3.	Maharashtra	9
4.	Andhra Pradesh	7
5.	Uttar Pradesh	7
6.	Gujarat	6
7.	West Bengal	5
8.	Tamil Nadu	2
9.	Chhattisgarh	2
10.	Karnataka	1
11.	Bihar	1
Total		66

State-wise list of private companies manufacturing DAP/NPK (Complexes) and are eligible for payment of concession under the Concession Scheme for Decontrolled Fertilizers as on 1.11.2005

Sl.No.	Name of State	Number of units
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2
2.	Orissa	2
3.	Gujarat	2
4.	Maharashtra	1
5.	Tamil Nadu	1
6.	Karnataka	1
7.	West Bengal	1
8.	Goa	1
Total		11

Statement-II*Details of Subsidy Paid on Urea to Private Urea Manufacturing Units*

Sl.No.	Unit	Amount of subsidy paid (Rs. in crore)	
		2003-04	2004-05
1	2	3	4
Uttar Pradesh			
1.	DIL-Kanpur	0	0
2.	INDOGULF-Jagdishpur	106.28	215.97
3.	OCFL-Shahjahanpur	201.43	361.76
4.	TATA-Babrara	175.88	382.66
Rajasthan			
5.	CFCL-I Kota	199.56	386.49
6.	CFCL-II Kota	617.47	821.19
7.	SFC-Kota	299.37	310.48
Karnataka			
8.	MCFL-Mangalore	226.21	384.63

1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh			
9.	NFCL-I Kakinada	120.12	253.55
10.	NFCL-II Kakinada	207.81	298.05
Tamil Nadu			
11.	SPIC-Tuticorin	520.03	668.13
Goa			
12.	ZACL-Goa	381.41	484.61
Total		3055.57	4567.52

Statement-III

Subsidy paid in respect of indigenous DAP, Complexes and SSP for the last two years

Sl.No.	Name of Company	Amount of concession paid (In Rs. lakh)	
		2003-04	2004-05
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Sugar	267.59	279.06
2.	Aravali	167.12	156.85
3.	Arihant	208.33	128.48
4.	Arihant Fert.	0.00	0.00
5.	Asha Phosp	0.35	17.42
6.	Asian Fert.	386.43	377.61
7.	Balaji	30.46	86.25
8.	Basant	345.77	348.64
9.	BEC (P)	328.35	451.77
10.	BEC Fert.	716.55	583.11
11.	Bharat Fert.	84.02	34.74
12.	BMFP	74.24	59.38
13.	BOHRA	405.63	300.82
14.	CFL	15513.11	30151.92

1	2	3	4
15.	Chemtech Fert.	105.01	127.95
16.	Coimbatore	305.54	276.19
17.	Deepak	1756.87	1407.46
18.	DMCC	1269.92	735.13
19.	EID (PARRY)	2233.91	0.00
20.	Gayatri	78.18	83.43
21.	GFCL	18210.43	32896.61
22.	GFCL (IFFCO)	868.50	0.00
23.	Hindalco	5821.22	11473.44
24.	HLL	16603.68	0.00
25.	IFFCO	64742.91	97170.77
26.	IFFCO (GFCL)	3411.70	2398.56
27.	IGCL	1798.43	0.00
28.	Jai Ram	311.35	253.99
29.	Jai Shree (I)	332.57	228.81
30.	Jai Shree (II)	363.02	273.53
31.	Jai Shree (III)	2.68	0.00
32.	Jubilant	689.93	33.36
33.	Kashi Urvarak	2.72	1.40
34.	Khaitan Chem. (I)	1169.67	1152.75
35.	Khaitan Chem. (II)	416.75	306.51
36.	Khaitan Fert.	0.00	7.43
37.	Kothari	3.45	0.00
38.	Krishna Ind.	165.70	147.29
39.	Liberty	1461.12	1200.05
40.	Mahadeo	31.24	18.57
41.	Mangalam	26.95	34.28
42.	Mardia	29.38	0.00

1	2	3	4
43. MB (Pvt.)	4.92	28.04	
44. MBAPL	16.14	41.83	
45. MCFL	3013.48	7251.41	
46. MEDIC	0.08	0.00	
47. Mexican Phos.	44.87	0.00	
48. MPOL	3.18	3.59	
49. Mukteswar	10.81	11.18	
50. MUNAK	8.59	0.00	
51. Narmada Agro	16.13	6.78	
52. Natraj ORG	63.84	9.05	
53. Nirma	615.09	615.39	
54. OCFL	8510.45	26444.59	
55. Oriental	0.51	0.00	
56. Phosphate Co.	562.00	526.30	
57. PPL	20404.70	31031.64	
58. Pragati	126.65	122.33	
59. Prathysha	153.29	27.85	
60. Premsakhi	224.85	153.10	
61. Priyanka	72.97	66.72	
62. Rajlaxmi	1.97	0.00	
63. Rama Phos (I)	622.84	643.30	
64. Rama Phos (U)	766.23	290.02	
65. Rashi Fert.	2.82	0.00	
66. Revati Minirals	0.79	1.07	
67. RKRL	578.37	0.00	
68. Sadhna	100.14	33.58	
69. Sarada Fert.	0.00	0.00	
70. Shaw Wallace	0.00	0.00	
71. Shiva	397.66	399.90	

1	2	3	4
72. Shree Acids	0.00	0.00	
73. Shree Ganpati	0.33	34.16	
74. Shree GI Phos	0.00	0.00	
75. Shree Ji Fert.	0.00	0.00	
76. Shree Krishna	0.00	43.16	
77. Shree Niwas Fert.	25.84	0.00	
78. Sona Phos.	1.77	0.85	
79. SPIC	9152.58	15722.58	
80. Subodaya	71.24	80.93	
81. Survi	32.02	31.60	
82. Swastik	142.30	120.05	
83. TEDCO	157.99	337.94	
84. Teesta	626.26	742.14	
85. Tungbhadra	151.50	170.51	
86. VAM	147.81	0.00	
87. ZIL	13969.86	24398.79	
88. Jubilant (VAM)	0.00	813.13	
89. Khaitan Chem. (III)	0.00	104.51	
90. Liberty Urvarak	0.00	362.97	
91. OCCL	0.00	0.00	
92. Rama Krishi	0.00	448.20	
93. TJ Agro	0.00	122.57	
94. Tata Chem. (HLL)	0.00	23395.57	
95. Agro Phosp.	0.00	1.27	
Total	201543.69	317842.16	
Subsidy amount on the sale prior to October 2000	2346.00	1375.89	
Subsidy on Special Freight	258.00	846.15	
Gross Total	204147.69	320064.20	

BT Cotton Seeds

1832. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether after Andhra Pradesh and some other States BT Cotton seeds failed to germinate in large scale in Tamil Nadu resulting in great loss to cotton-growers;

(b) if so, whether the cotton seeds of other varieties, the cost of which is substantially less than BT Cotton seeds, did germinate 100 percent;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government proposes to do away with the BT Cotton seeds; and

(e) if so, the efforts being made to compensate the cotton growers who suffered heavy losses and are on the verge of total ruin?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) to (c) As per the information provided by the Government of Tamil Nadu, there is no report of failure of BT Cotton crop in the State.

(d) and (e) Question does not arise.

Non-Release of Water from Almatti Dam

1833. SHRI SHRINIWAS DADASAHEB PATIL : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to non-release of water from Almatti dam, Sangli city in Maharashtra was partially submerged thereby causing tremendous loss to life and prosperity;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the storage capacity of Almatti dam and the remedial steps proposed in this regard; and

(d) the expenditure incurred for construction of Almatti dam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b) Due to heavy rainfall there was flood situation in Sangli city in

Maharashtra Government of Maharashtra reported that this flood was caused by non-release of water from Almatti dam. Government of Karnataka reported that flood situation in Sangli city was not due to storage of water at Almatti dam. Ministry of Water Resources arranged an inter-State meeting of Karnataka and Maharashtra on 22nd August, 2005 to discuss the flood situation in Krishna. It was decided in the meeting that both the State Government would exchange relevant data and studies carried out, Central Water Commission would convene a meeting of technical officers of both the States to review the studies and would chalk out a work plan to complete the studies in the shortest possible time.

(c) The Gross storage of Almatti dam is 132.08 thousand million cubic feet.

(d) An expenditure of Rs. 211.75 crore has been incurred for construction of Almatti dam.

Development of Chandigarh as Tourist Destination

1834. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Chandigarh holds great potential for development as a sought for popular tourist place;

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed in this regard;

(c) whether the Government had considered the desirability of setting up a special body/corporation with the task of developing Chandigarh as a tourist attraction;

(d) if so, the role of private sector stipulated for the purpose;

(e) whether souvenirs with the "open hand" symbol of Chandigarh are intended to be brought out to promote tourism in the city; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) to (d) Development and improvement of tourism infrastructure is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/UTs. Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, extends financial assistance to the State Governments/UTs

for tourism related projects which are identified in consultation with the State concerned every year under the following schemes :

1. Integrated Development of Tourist Circuits.
2. Product/Infrastructure and Destination Development
3. Assistance for Large Revenue Generating Projects.

(e) and (f) Open hand souvenirs are being prepared by Chandigarh Administration and will be made available through CITCO and other channels.

Fund for Tiger Preservation

1835. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has set up a new fund for preservation of tigers;

(b) if so, the details thereof and since when this fund has been set up;

(c) the total amount spent for this purpose till date;

(d) whether this amount has been utilized properly;

(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) No, Sir. The States are provided funding support under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of "Project Tiger" and "Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries" for conservation of tigers and other wild animals. No new fund has been set up in this regard.

(b) to (f) Questions do not arise.

Eco-Development of Forests

1836. SHRI P. S. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has received proposals from various States including Gujarat regarding eco-restoration of degraded forests through Joint Forest Management;

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

(c) the progress made so far in respect of each of the proposal; and

(d) the fund allocation made for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) National Afforestation and Eco-development Board, Ministry of Environment and Forests has received a total of 729 proposals under its scheme—National Afforestation Programme (NAP). In accordance with guidelines of NAP, the proposals are to be implemented through the decentralized two-tier mechanism of Forest Development Agencies at district and Joint Forest Management Committees at village levels.

(b) to (d) State-wise details of the proposals received, sanctioned and amount released thereof are given in the enclose Statement. Out of the proposals received, 650 proposals have already been approved by National Afforestation and Eco-development Board. An amount of Rs. 799.21 crores has been released in respect of the approved projects.

Statement

(As on 30.11.2005)

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	No. of FDA project proposals received	No. of FDA project proposals received	Amount released (Rs. in crores)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	33	29	37.54
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	17	13	11.69
3.	Assam	29	29	17.00
4.	Bihar	9	7	6.44
5.	Chhattisgarh	31	30	42.94
6.	Goa	3	3	0.64
7.	Gujarat	22	19	25.34
8.	Haryana	17	16	37.25

1	2	3	4	5
9.	Himachal Pradesh	29	27	25.47
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	31	31	20.00
11.	Jharkhand	27	27	24.51
12.	Karnataka	45	43	70.60
13.	Kerala	25	14	8.63
14.	Madhya Pradesh	47	47	62.43
15.	Maharashtra	45	44	41.52
16.	Manipur	14	13	19.21
17.	Meghalaya	7	7	7.63
18.	Mizoram	30	19	45.97
19.	Nagaland	18	16	30.39
20.	Orissa	40	34	34.38
21.	Punjab	16	7	5.17
22.	Rajasthan	25	19	19.12
23.	Sikkim	7	7	20.42
24.	Tamil Nadu	32	31	50.84
25.	Tripura	13	12	16.31
26.	Uttar Pradesh	61	58	77.66
27.	Uttaranchal	36	32	21.71
28.	West Bengal	20	16	18.40
Total		729	650	799.21

[Translation]

Committee on Social Forestry Programme

1837. SHRIMATI NEETA PATERIYA :

SHRI KRISHNA MURARI MOGHE :

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

(a) whether any proposal regarding constituting a committee for simplification of the process of according approval to the management schemes having more than 10

hectare forest area under the social forestry programme has been received from the Government of Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Union Government on the said proposal and the time by which the said committee is likely to be constituted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) No such proposal for constitution of a committee for simplification of the process of according approval to the Management Schemes for plantation raised under the social forestry programme has been received from the Government of Madhya Pradesh.

(b) In view of the above, question does not arise.

Plantation of Medicinal Plants in M.P.

1838. SHRI NAND KUMAR SINGH CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the proposals sent by the Government of Madhya Pradesh to the Union Government in regard to plantation of medicinal plants;

(b) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

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

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) to (c) National Medicinal Plants Board is implementing Contractual Farming Scheme under which subsidy is provided to farmers for cultivation of identified medicinal plants. 714 projects involving financial outlay of Rs. 1724.33 lakh covering 4040.26 acres land have been sanctioned so far in the State of Madhya Pradesh. The main species of plants covered Safed Musli, Ashwagandha, Guggai, Amla, Sarpagandha, Aloe Vera, Kalihar, Gurmar, Satavari, Isabgol, Senna and Kalmegh.

**Assistance for Poultry Centres
in M.P.**

1839. SHRI KRISHNA MURARI MOGHE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from the Government of Madhya Pradesh for

assistance under Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Poultry Centres in the State;

(b) if so, the latest position thereof; and

(c) the time by which approval is likely to be accorded?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN) : (a) to (c) The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Government of India has not received any proposal from the State Government of Madhya Pradesh under the Centrally sponsored scheme "Assistance to State Poultry Farms" during 2005-06.

[English]

Task Force on Sariska Tiger Reserves

1840. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Task Force was set up to find out the causes behind the disappearance of the tigers in the Sariska Tiger Reserve;

(b) if so, the details of the findings thereof alongwith its recommendations; and

(c) the steps the Government has taken keeping in view the recommendations of the Tiger Task Force Report?

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

(b) Based on the recommendations made in the meeting of the National Board for Wildlife on 17.3.2005 under the Chairmanship of Prime Minister, a Task Force was constituted to review the management of Tiger Reserves in the country. The key recommendations of the Tiger Task Force Report are as below :

- (i) Reinvigorate the institutions of governance.
- (ii) Strengthen efforts geared towards protection of the tiger, checking poaching, convicting wildlife criminals and breaking the international trade network.

(iii) Expand the inviolate spaces for the tiger by minimising human pressure in these areas.

(iv) Repair the relationships with the people who share the tiger's habitat by building strategies for coexistence.

(v) Regenerate the forest habitats in the fringes of the tiger's protective enclaves by investing in forest, water and grassland economies of the people.

(c) The urgent actions (including long-term) recommended by Tiger Task Force which have been accepted for implementation are at Statement enclosed.

Statement

Action has been taken on the following urgent recommendations of the Task Force which were accepted for implementation :

1. Request the Prime Minister to head the Steering Committee of Project Tiger for a period of 2-3 years.
2. The Project Tiger Directorate to be converted into a statutory authority under the Ministry of Environment and Forests. This will give it greater autonomy and ability to coordinate with state governments.
3. The Wildlife Crime Bureau to be created immediately under the Ministry of Environment and Forests.
4. The next census (planned for November) of tigers and habitat to be done using the new methodology, suggested by Ministry of Environment and Forests and endorsed by the Tiger Task Force. Independent audit report also to be presented to Parliament in 6 months, which will rate state performance on different criteria.
5. The plan for relocation of villages from key tiger habitats to be finalized within one year, with its financial and logistical implications and completed with 2-3 years.
6. The plan for coexistence to be prepared by each tiger reserve within one year so that benefits of conservation can be shared with local communities.

7. The benefits of tourism to be shared with local communities using the recommendations of the Task Force.

Package for Cotton Production

1841. SHRI DHANUSKODI R. ATHITHAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government has taken any decision to provide special package to cotton producers with a view to boost the production of cotton in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (c) the measures taken by the Government to dissuade cotton producing farmers from taking the extreme step of suicide?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) and (b) In order to improve production, productivity and quality of cotton in the country, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Mini Mission-II of Technology Mission on Cotton is under implementation in 13 States viz., Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

Under the scheme, assistance is provided to above mentioned States/other implementing agencies for the production and supply of certified seeds of varieties/hybrids not older than 15 years, transfer to technology through frontline demonstrations, training of farmers through Farmers Field School (FFS) and extension workers, insecticide resistance management, maintenance of nucleus and breeder seeds, plant protection measures including Integrated Pest Management (IPM) demonstrations, supply of sprayers, pheromone traps, bio-agents as well as water saving devices like sprinklers and drip irrigation system.

- (c) Government have taken several steps to provide relief to the farmers. The banks have been advised to rescheduled/restructure the debt of farmers in distress, grant one time settlement facility for settling overdue loans of small and marginal farmers and to advance loans to the farmers for repaying the loans taken from non-institutional sources. The farmers are also protected against natural calamities through National Agricultural Insurance Scheme. Further, to protect the interest of the cotton growers, Government of

India announces Minimum Support Price (MSP) of cotton every year and whenever the market prices of Kapas touch the Minimum Support Price level, the Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) in the Ministry of Textiles undertakes support price operation and purchases Kapas without any quantitative limit. In addition, Government of India have also authorized the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED) in 2004-05 to procure cotton at Minimum Support Price.

Vacancies of Scientists and Technicians

1842. PROF. M. RAMADASS : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of vacancies of scientists and other technicians in Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) as on date;
- (b) the reasons for such vacancies;
- (c) the measures taken to fill up these vacancies in view of their crucial role in promoting food security of the country;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to remove all restrictions imposed on the recruitment of scientists and other technical staff; and
- (e) if so, the time by which these vacancies are likely to be filled?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) Presently there are 1127 and 193 vacancies in the Scientific and Technical Cadre respectively at the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

- (b) The primary cause for these vacancies is due to superannuation and restrictions imposed on filling up of vacancies on direct recruitment.

(c) to (e) Steps have now been initiated to get these vacancies filled up on top priority basis.

Promotion of Eco-Tourism

1843. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR :
SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is vast scope to promote Eco-tourism in States including Madhya Pradesh and Orissa;

(b) if so, the areas identified in the States to promote Eco-tourism;

(c) the assistance provided by the Union Government during the last three years to the State Governments for the purpose; and

(d) the allocation of fund made during 2005-06?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) Ministry of Tourism sanctions Central Financial Assistance to

State Governments/Union Territories for promotion and development of tourism products including Eco-tourism products based on the priorities decided in consultation with State Governments/Union Territories.

(c) A Statement showing the Eco-tourism projects sanctioned in different States so far during the Tenth Five Year Plan is enclosed.

(d) Rs. 359.00 crore has been allocated for the scheme "Product/Infrastructure Development for Destinations and Circuits" during 2005-06 which also includes development of infrastructure related to Eco-tourism products.

Statement

Projects sanctioned by Ministry of Tourism during the Tenth Five Year Plan Period for Promotion of Eco-tourism

(Rs. in lakhs)					
Sl.No.	State	Year	Name of the Project	Amount sanctioned	Amount released
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2004-05	Destination development of Bhawani Island	500.00	400.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2002-03	Integrated development of Bhalikpung Tawang Tourist Circuit	638.00	500.00
3.		2004-05	Eco-tourism huts Changlang	83.24	66.00
4.		2005-06	Destination development of Gaera Lake at Teraso Papum Pare Dist.	373.00	298.00
5.		2005-06	Destination development of Hot spring Jia at Lower Dibang Valley	262.00	209.00
6.		2005-06	Circuit development of Dibrugarh-Passighat-Daying Ering Wildlife sanctuary	299.00	239.20
7.	Assam	2002-03	Majuli Island Resort	382.25	325.21
8.		2003-04	Integrated Tourist complex at Agartoli Range	158.00	158.00
9.		2005-06	Circuit development os Manas-Guwahati Kaziranga	781.00	624.80
10.		2005-06	Proposed Eco-tourism development at Kodrajhar, Assma	460.00	368.00
11.		2005-06	Development of NE circuit in Assam	280.00	224.00
12.		2005-06	Proposal for development of Adventure Tourism in Kaziranga, Assam	44.95	35.90
13.	Bihar	2004-05	Eco-Tourism Development at Bhimband (Munger)	370.00	296.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
14.	Chhattisgarh	2002-03	Destination Development of Jagdalpur (Bastar)	45.00	37.00
15.		2003-04	Integrated development of tourist circuit Chhattisgarh	800.00	250.00
16.		2004-05	Integrated development of eco-tourism circuit in Chhattisgarh	648.35	518.68
17.		2004-05	Integrated development of Sirpur under destination development	397.91	318.33
18.		2005-06	Infrastructure and destination development of Mainpat Sarguja District	468.41	375.00
19.	Daman and Diu	2003-04	Development of Diu as distination	265.07	239.00
20.		2003-04	Destination development and beautification of Diu	54.58	43.66
21.	Gujarat	2003-04	Work around Somnath Temple	48.81	48.81
22.		2005-06	Development of Theme Park at Adalaj, Gandinagar	480.00	120.00
23.		2005-06	Dinosaur fossil park at Balasinor	345.00	100.00
24.	Haryana	2002-03	Development of Tapovan Park (Phase-II)	70.27	70.27
25.	Himachal Pradesh	2002-03	Kulu Circuit	41.80	41.80
26.		2004-05	Integrated Development of Kangra Tourist Circuit	800.00	640.00
27.		2004-05	Development of Sirmour as destination	500.00	400.00
28.	Jammu and Kashmir	2005-06	Development of Infrastructure at Sonamarg	379.46	304.00
29.		2005-06	Development of Chenab river front at Akhnour	142.00	113.60
30.		2005-06	Development of Golf Course at Pahalgam	432.00	345.00
31.		2005-06	Development of Integrated J & K Circuit	799.69	639.00
32.		2005-06	Development of Infrastructure facilities at Patnitop	461.00	369.00
33.	Jharkhand	2003-04	Integrated Development of Jharkhand as circuit	716.00	381.60
34.	Karnataka	2003-04	Development of Bannerghatta Biological Park	500.00	410.00
35.		2005-06	Destination development of Jog Falls	462.52	370.00
36.		2005-06	Development of Attiveri bird Sanctuary	60.00	18.00
37.		2004-05	Integrated development of South Karnataka circuit	798.50	638.80
38.		2004-05	Development of Chickmaglore wildnerness Bhadra	202.48	161.98
39.		2004-05	Destination development of Bandipur tiger reserve	195.70	156.56

1	2	3	4	5	6
40.		2004-05	Coorg Golf Links at Virajpet	53.00	15.90
41.	Kerala	2004-05	Development of Northern Regional Circuit	795.56	636.48
42.		2004-05	Integrated Development of High range tourism circuit	783.07	626.45
43.		2005-06	Integrated Development of Alappuzha Heritage town	800.00	640.00
44.		2005-06	Beach Tourism Circuit in Kerala	798.00	638.40
45.		2005-06	Integrated Development of Golf Course at Cochin	1000.00	800.00
46.	Madhya Pradesh	2004-05	Destination Development of Amarkantaka District Anupur	489.60	147.00
47.		2004-05	Development of Smhastha at Ujjain	110.66	33.18
48.		2005-06	Integrated Development of Tourist Circuits in Madhya Pradesh	461.09	368.87
49.		2005-06	Construction of Cottage at Mukki District Balaghat	34.16	27.32
50.	Maharashtra	2004-05	Development of Mahabaleshwar District Satara	685.87	548.70
51.		2004-05	Development of Mahabaleshwar in Satara	500.00	400.00
52.		2005-06	Destination Development of Malsej Ghat in Pune	321.19	116.41
53.	Nagaland	2004-05	Development of Tourist Circuit in six places of Nagaland	766.50	613.20
54.		2004-05	Eco-Tourism Conven. Centre of Phiphema	351.00	280.00
55.		2004-05	Destination Development of Pfutsero	439.24	351.00
56.		2005-06	Development of Mt. Pauna range circuit	250.00	125.00
57.	Orissa	2004-05	Integrated Development of Buddhist Circuit at Lalitgiri, Ratnagiri, Udaigiri and Langudi	740.67	592.52
58.	Pondicherry	2003-04	Development of Bharti Park	245.17	74.00
59.	Rajasthan	2004-05	Integrated Development of Hodoti Region	725.10	580.00
60.		2004-05	Development of hathi gram at Amber fort	492.18	393.74
61.	Sikkim	2003-04	Construction of Eco and Adventure Centre Chernchi	494.00	148.00
62.		2005-06	Development of Tourist Circuit in East Sikkim	355.00	284.00
63.	Tamil Nadu	2003-04	Development near five rathas	43.00	34.00
64.		2004-05	Integrated development of eco-tourism at point calimere wild life sanctuary Muthupet	368.00	294.40
65.		2004-05	Destination Development of Yercaud Hill Resort	448.00	358.40
66.		2005-06	Destination Development of Kodaikanal	470.19	376.15

1	2	3	4	5	6
67.	Tripura	2002-03	Neermahal as a destination	141.21	42.00
68.	Uttaranchal	2004-05	Integrated Development of Badrinath Dham	702.09	561.67
69.		2004-05	Development of Pithoragarh Munsiyari-Berinag in Kumaon	418.60	334.88
70.		2005-06	Development of Nainital-Almorah-Ranikhet tourist circuit	697.51	558.00
71.		2004-05	Development of Pauri-Khishu-Lansdowne as destination	457.93	361.60
72.	West Bengal	2002-03	Destination Development of at Darjeeling	201.10	60.00
Total				30384.68	22278.47

Fishing Harbours in Tamil Nadu

1844. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of fishing harbours functioning in Tamil Nadu at present, location-wise;

(b) whether any proposal is under consideration of the Government to construct more fishing harbours in the State due to its huge coastal area and vast scope for development of fisheries;

(c) if so, the details and latest position thereof, location-wise;

(d) the funds allocated for the purpose so far; and

(e) the amount of central assistance; if any, extended for the development of the said harbours?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN) : (a) Five fishing harbours namely, Chennai in Chennai District, Tuticorin in Tuticorin District, Mallipatnam in Thanjavur District, Pazhayar in Nagapattinam District and Chinnamuttom in Kanyakumari District are functioning at present in Tamil Nadu.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The Government of Tamil Nadu indicated their intention to have additional fishing harbours constructed at nine locations in the State coast. Details of the proposals location-wise along with present status are annexed as Statement.

(d) and (e) The Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries, so far, has provided financial assistance to the tune of about Rs. 28 crores for development of the functioning fishing harbours in Tamil Nadu.

Statement

Sl.No.	Name of the fishing harbour	District	Present status
1	2	3	4
1.	Rameshwaram	Ramanathapuram	The Government of Tamil Nadu is to confirm of availability (i) land, (ii) Environmental clearance and (iii) adequate budgetary provision in the State Budget to share 50% capital cost of the project.
2.	Poompuhar	Nagapattinam	The Government of Tamil Nadu is to submit the proposal after completion of necessary hydraulic model studies together with confirmation on availability of land, environmental clearance, and adequate budgetary provision in the State budget.

1	2	3	4
3. Pazhayar Stage-II	Nagapattinam	The Government of Tamil Nadu is to confirm availability of (i) land, (ii) Environmental clearance and (iii) adequate budget provision in the State Budget to share 50% capital cost of the project.	
4. Mallipattinam	Thanjavur	The Government of Tamil Nadu is to convey acceptability of the Techno-Economic Feasibility Report prepared by the Central Institute of Coastal Engineering for Fisheries (CICEF), Bangalore together with confirmation on availability of land, environmental clearance and adequate budgetary provision in the State Budget.	
5. Thengapattinam	Kanyakumari	The Government of Tamil Nadu is to convey acceptability of the Techno-Economic Feasibility Report prepared by the Central Institute of Coastal Engineering for Fisheries (CICEF), Bangalore together with confirmation on availability of (i) land, (ii) environmental clearance and (iii) adequate budgetary provision in the State Budget.	
6. Chinnamuttom Stage-II	Kanyakumari	The Government of Tamil Nadu is to formulate Techno-Economic Feasibility Report after completion of necessary investigations.	
7. Colachel	Kanyakumari	The Government of Tamil Nadu is yet to establish Techno-Economic Feasibility of the proposal.	
8. Muttam	Kanyakumari	The Government of Tamil Nadu proposes to develop the fishing harbour under BOOT system.	
9. Rajakkamagalamthurai	Kanyakumari	The Government of Tamil Nadu proposes to develop the fishing harbour under BOOT system.	

Cash Crops

1845. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of cash crops which are mainly popular in the country;

(b) whether encouragement to these crops fits in the agricultural policy;

(c) if so, the strategy chalked out by the Government in the area of cash crops; and

(d) the steps being taken to implement the same?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) and (b) Cash Crops which are popular in the country include Cotton, Oilseeds, Jute, Sugarcane, Horticultural Crops etc. The Agriculture Policy envisages a major thrust for the

development of crops particularly horticultural, floricultural, plantation, aromatic and medicinal crops.

(c) and (d) The Government has adopted various strategies to increase production of above mentioned crops through yield enhancement and area expansion. The important Schemes under implementation for increasing production of these crops are :

1. Technology Mission on Cotton.
2. Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize (ISOPOM).
3. Schemes under Macro Management Mode of Agriculture like Special Jute Development Programme and Sustainable Development of Sugarcane Based Cropping System Areas.
4. National Horticulture Mission.

Under these schemes, assistance is provided for inputs

like seeds/planting material, agricultural implements, water saving devices like sprinkler, drip, pest control measures, as well as transfer of crop production and plant protection technology through demonstration, training of farmers/extension workers etc.

[Translation]

Cotton Development

1846. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government provide separate grants for various centrally sponsored schemes i.e. Macro-Management Action Plan Isopalm and Intense Cotton Development programme :

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some States including Rajasthan have asked the Government to restore the grant limit of 50 percent as usual in Macro-Management Action Plan; and

(d) if so, the time by which a decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) and (b) Grants are released to the State separately for implementation of the Centrally Sponsored Schemes—Macro Management of agriculture, Integrated Scheme for Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) and Mini Mission-II of Technology Mission on Cotton. The Macro Management of Agriculture Scheme is being implemented by all the States; Technology Mission on Cotton by 13 cotton growing States; and the ISOPOM scheme is being implemented in 14 States for oilseeds and pulses, 15 States for Maize and 12 for Oil Palm. Under the Macro Management of Agriculture Scheme, the funds approved for implementation of the Work Plan are shared by the Central and State Government concerned in the ratio of 90 : 10 except in case of North Eastern States and Sikkim in case of which the entire expenditure is borne by the Central Government. In case of the other two Schemes, the funding pattern is in the ratio of 75 : 25 between the Central and State Government concerned.

(c) and (d) Under the Macro Management of Agriculture Scheme, the approved rate of subsidy per farmer or per activity is 25% of the cost or rate of present subsidy

available under the schemes subsumed under the Scheme, whichever is lower. A number of States including Rajasthan have raised the issue of increase in the subsidy rates which, however, is not permissible under the Scheme.

[English]

Tea and Coffee Tourism

1847. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is vast scope to promote tea and coffee tourism in the tea growing States;

(b) if so, whether the Government has formulated any plan in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

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

(c) A detailed brochure on Coffee and Tea Plantations in the country has been produced for global promotion.

Tourism Development in Orissa

1848. SHRI JUAL ORAM : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether any plan have been drawn up during Ninth and Tenth Plan for the development of tourism in Puri and other sea beaches in Orissa;

(b) if so, the allocation made and the actual amount spent thereon;

(c) whether the Government has reviewed the implementation of the programme; and

(d) if so, the extent to which the amount allocated has been spent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) Development and promotion of tourism is primarily the responsibility of the State Government/UT Administrations. Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, extends financial assistance to the State Governments/UTs for tourist related projects which are identified in consultation with the State

concerned every year for providing financial assistance under the scheme Integrated Development of Tourism Circuits, Product/Infrastructure and Destination Development and Large Revenue Generating Projects.

Details of projects sanctioned for development of tourism in Orissa during Ninth and Tenth Plan are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) Ministry of Tourism regularly monitor the progress of projects sanctioned under Central financial assistance.

(d) Utilization of funds on execution of the projects sanctioned under various schemes of the Ministry of Tourism is the responsibility of the State Government.

Statement

Projects sanctioned to the State of Orissa during Ninth and Tenth Plan

		(Rs. in lakh)
Sl.No.	Name of the Scheme	Amount Sanctioned
1	2	3
1997-98		
1.	Freedom Fighters' Memorial-cum-Tourist Complex at Bari in Jajpur	49.99
2.	Tourist Centre, Hari Shanker, Bolangiri	20.00
3.	Tourist Centre at Kherigr Road, Nuapara	20.00
4.	Tourist Reception Centre, Balasore	40.00
5.	Tourist Centre, Belkhandi	20.00
6.	Tourist Reception Centre, Ratnagiri	75.00
7.	Public Conveniences at Jajpur	13.03
8.	Public Conveniences at Nandankanan	15.00
9.	Public Conveniences at Dhoulagiri	15.00
10.	Public Conveniences at Kali Jal Island	13.76
11.	Public Conveniences at Gopalpur-on-Sea	13.12
12.	Tourist Reception Centre, Lalitgiri	25.00
13.	Tourist Reception Centre, Mahendragiri	25.00
14.	Tourist Reception Centre at Rani Pur Jharial	20.00
15.	Tourist Reception Centre, Udaigiri	25.00
16.	Tourist Reception Centre, Baripada	40.00
17.	Development of Khurda Fort as Historical Park	33.33
18.	Refurbishment of Kichakeshwari Temple at Khiching	3.30
19.	Refurbishment of Binod Bihari Temple and Beautification of Temple Complex at Raghunathpur	10.00

1	2	3
20.	Refurbishment of Chandramouli Temple at Pattamundai of Kendrapara	10.00
21.	Refurbishment of Grameshwar Mahadev Temple Belar, Nuagaon	3.30
22.	Refurbishment of Jagannath Temple, Derabis	16.60
23.	Refurbishment of Dadhibamana Temple and Beautification of Temple Complex at Aureshwar	3.30
24.	Refurbishment of Baldev Jew Temple at Kendrapara	16.66
25.	Refurbishment of Mahabinayak Temple at Chandikhol	16.66
26.	Rath Yatra	4.00
27.	Beach Festival	5.00
28.	Konark Dance Festival	5.00
Total		557.05
1998-99		
1.	Development of Chandrabhaga Beach Konark and Improvement of Holy Tank and Landscaping.	41.00
2.	Construction of Tourist Reception Centre at Paralekhamundi shifted to B.N. Palace at Paralekhamundi (Distt. Gajapati)	43.20
3.	Tourist Reception Centre at Rourkela (Distt.Sundergarh)	43.20
4.	Tourist Reception Centre at Dhenkanal (Distt. Dhenkanal)	43.20
5.	Puri Beach Festival	5.00
6.	Bali Yatri	3.00
Total		178.60
1999-2000		
1.	Wayside Amenities Centre at Mahurikalia (Distt. Ganjam)	05.00
2.	Wayside Amenities Centre at Mantridi (Distt. Ganjam)	05.00
3.	Wayside Amenities Centre at Barapali (Distt. Baragarh)	05.00
4.	Wayside Amenities Centre at Bhadrakali Pith (Distt. Bhadrak)	05.00
5.	Wayside Amenities Centre at Deogaon (Kushlewar) (Distt. Keonjhar)	05.00
6.	Wayside Amenities Centre at Chandikhol (Distt. Jajpur)	05.00
7.	Wayside Amenities Centre at Odgaon (Distt. Khurda)	05.00
8.	Wayside Amenities Centre at Chatikona (Distt. Rayagada)	05.00
9.	Wayside Amenities Centre at Gorakhnath Pitha (Distt. Jagatsinghpur)	05.00
10.	Yatri Niwas at Chandneswar, Balasore	56.76

1	2	3
11.	Tourist Complex at Keonjhar	45.00
12.	Tourist Complex at Sambalpur	45.00
13.	Wayside Amenities at Dappanayakani Pathi (Distt. Bhadrak)	05.00
14.	Additional Accommodation at existing Yatri Niwas at Konark (Phase-II)	80.00
15.	Additional Accommodation at existing Yatri Niwas at Satapada (Chilka lake)	32.19
16.	Water Sports equipment Satapada (Distt. Puri)	20.00
17.	Konark Festival	01.48
18.	Puri Beach Festival	05.00
19.	Tribal Dance	01.00
20.	Chow Festival	01.00
Total		337.43
2000-2001		
1.	Tourist Complex at Baliarchandi (Distt. Puri)	50.00
2.	Yatri Niwas at Hingula Pitha	25.03
3.	Development of Budha Jayanti Park at Chandrasekharapur Bhubaneswar	36.91
4.	Construction of Trekking base camp at Kuldiah Distt. Balasore	45.00
Total		156.94
2001-2002		
1.	Beach Festival, 2002	3.40
2.	Konark Festival, 2001	3.40
3.	Publicity and advertisement support	11.25
4.	Computerization	20.00
Total		38.05
2002-03		
1.	Rural Tourism Project at Raghurajpur (Distt. Puri)	50.00
2.	Computerization of office and its Groups	7.50
Total		57.50
2003-04		
1.	Development of Puri as a Tourist Destination (ITDC) (Dest.Dev.)	394.55
2.	Konark Festival, 2002	05.00

1	2	3
3.	Folk Dance Festival, 2003-04	05.00
4.	Rajarani Music Festival, 2003-04	05.00
5.	Buddha Mahotsav	10.00
Total		419.55

2004-05

1.	Development of Peace Park and Amphitheater at Dhauli (Distt. Khudra)	488.51
2.	Integrated Development of Buddhist Circuit in Orissa	740.67
3.	Shreekshestra Vasant Festival at Puri	15.00
4.	Kheravala Festival, 2004-05	05.00
5.	Rural Tourism Development of village Pipli (Distt. Puri) (Hardware)	50.00
6.	GOI-UNDP Endogenous Tourism Project at village Pipli in Puri Distt. (Software)	20.00
7.	Rural Tourism Development of Village Raghurajpur in Puri Distt. (Software)	22.00
Total		1341.18

New Wage Board for Newspaper Agencies

1849. SHRI K.C. PALANISAMY : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has taken any decision for setting up a New Wage Board for journalists as well as non-journalists attached to newspaper industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which a final decision will be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The recommendations of the last Wage Boards, namely the Manisana Wage Boards, which were accepted by the Central Government in December, 2000 are yet to be fully implemented by the States/Union Territories. Unless implementation of the recommendations of the last Wage Board firms up further, it may be premature at this

stage to constitute another Wage Board. No time frame in this regard can be fixed.

Agriculture Production in Karnataka

1850. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be please to state :

(a) the present trend of agriculture production in Karnataka;

(b) whether Karnataka is self-reliant in agricultural production and whether all necessary facilities are provided to the State Government by the Union Government;

(c) if so, the details thereabout;

(d) the details of the crops being produced and exported from Karnataka;

(e) whether the Government proposes to increase the support price of crops being exported;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) the funds allocated under Drip Irrigation Scheme to Karnataka during the last three years;

(h) whether the Government has sought any report from the State Government in this regard to utilization of funds; and

(i) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) to (i) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the house.

Revival of Sick PSUs

1850. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO :
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Minister of Heavy Industry has proposed to the Ministry of Finance and Planning Commission that the revival of sick Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) as per the recommendations of Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE) could be made partly from the budgetary funds and the rest by loans from the commercial banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the response of the Ministry of Finance and Planning Commission in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) to (c) As per the process established cases of revival of sick Public

Sector Undertakings (PSUs) as recommended by BRPSE are sent for Inter-Ministerial comments including to Ministry of Finance and Planning Commission. Their views are considered on a case to case basis by Government.

Automobile Industry

1852. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) the turn over of the automobile industry, both in Public and Private sector in the country;

(b) the number of automobiles of various categories produced during the current financial year alongwith the value in units and amount;

(c) the export of the automobiles in terms of units and value during the current financial year; and

(d) the increase/decrease in the industry's performance as compared to the last financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) (a) According to the information received from the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM), the turnover of the automobile industry in the country during the year 2004-05 was Rs. 1,12,000 crore.

(b) and (c) As per SIAM's estimates, the production, sales and exports of various categories of vehicles alongwith their estimated values during April-October 2005 are as under :

Sl.No.	Category	Production (in Nos.)	Domestic Sales (in Nos.)	Estimated value of sales (in Rs. crore)	Export (in Nos.)	Estimated value of exports (in Rs. crore)
1.	Passenger Vehicles (PVs)	732,512	634,788	27010.31	103,827	3143.39
2.	Commercial Vehicles	214,510	182,206	15086.72	21,635	1326.71
3.	3-wheelers	241,586	198,103	1485.77	45,152	281.07
4.	2-wheelers	4,343,566	4,050,229	18979.16	300,897	1122.61
Total		5,532,174	5,065,326	62561.96	471,511	5873.78

(d) During April-October 2005, the production of vehicles registered growth of 16.54% as compared to the corresponding period of last year.

Revitalisation of Sugar Industry

1853. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA :
 SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN :
 SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL :
 SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK :

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

(a) whether the Union Government has recently announced the revitalization package for ailing sugar industry in the country including co-operative sugar factories;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of mills identified therefor, State-wise;

(c) the assistance proposed to be provided under the said scheme to each sugar mill, State-wise;

(d) whether National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has also finalized any package for the sugar industry; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and mills identified 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) to (e) In pursuance to the Finance Minister's Budget Speech for 2005-06 wherein it was announced that the sugar factories that have been operational in 2002-03 sugar season will be assisted to restructure, a Committee was set up in NABARD to prepare a package of assistance for the sugar industry. Consequently, Government of India has decided that all Cooperative Sugar Mills in the country which have term loans outstanding as on 31.03.2005, and which are commercially viable and have adequate operational surplus to repay the said term loans will be categorized as falling under two Categories, i.e. Category A and Category B. Accordingly, the term loans will be restructured/rescheduled to enable repayment within five years (for Category A) or within 15 years (for Category B). The rate of interest on the restructured loans will be reduced to 10% per annum, with effect from 1st April, 2005, irrespective of the original contractual rate. Government of India will provide interest subvention on the restructured loan, which is estimated at Rs. 525 crores. All the Cooperative Sugar Mills in the country, irrespective of the State in which they are located can avail of the above financial assistance as per the terms and conditions of the package.

Blacklisting of NCCF

1854. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to the replies given to Unstarred Question Nos., 3954 dated December 16, 2002 and 5992 dated May 5, 2003 regarding DMS blacklisted NCCF and state :

(a) whether the inquiry has since been completed;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) 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 TASLIMUDDIN) : (a) to (c) On the basis of the preliminary inquiry report and in consultation with the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC), the officers concerned have been administered warning for omissions in the purchase of furniture and other items for the NCCF, NOIDA.

**Import of Packed Cooked/
Semi Cooked Food**

1855. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has since revised the norms for import of packed cooked/semi cooked food;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the incentives being offered to foreign companies for setting up food processed industries in India; and

(d) the other measures being adopted to promote import and sale of packed food in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY) : (a) and (b) The standards for various thermally processed fruits and vegetables products have been prescribed under PFA Rules, 1955 vide notification GSR 185(E) dated 21.03.2005(effective 20.9.2005). The standards for other processed fruits and vegetables products have also been prescribed in the same notification. This notification has come into force on 20.09.2005 except standards for (i) Thermally Processed Fruit Juices (A.16.06), (ii) Thermally Processed Fruit Nectars (A.16.09), (iii) Thermally Processed Fruit Beverages/Fruit Drink/Ready-to-Serve Fruit Beverages (A.16.10), (iv) soup powders(A.16.15), (v) Carbonated Fruit

Beverages or Fruit Drink (A.16.30), (vi) Fruit based beverages mix/powdered fruit based beverage (A.16.40) and (vii) Fruits and Vegetable Chutney (A.16.41), which will come into force on 20.03.2006.

(c) and (d) No measures are being taken to promote imported packed foods specifically, nor incentives are being specifically given to foreign companies for setting up food processing industries.

Tourism Development in Andhra Pradesh

1856. DR. M. JAGANNATH :

SHRI SARVEY SATHYANARAYANA :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the Government has formulated any comprehensive action plan to develop tourism in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the areas identified in the State which can be developed as tourist spots jointly by the Union Government and the State Government;

(c) the funds earmarked or released by the Union Government to the State Government for the purpose;

(d) whether the plan envisages flow of funds through FDI also; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Development and promotion of places of tourist interest/spots is the responsibility of the State Government / UT Administration. However, Ministry of Tourism provides funds on the basis of project proposals prioritized in consultation with them for the following schemes every year :

- (1) Product Infrastructure and Destination Development
- (2) Integrated development of Tourism Circuits
- (3) Assistance for Large Revenue Generating projects

(c) Funds are not earmarked State-wise. These are provided on the basis of project proposals prioritized every year. During the year 2004-05 projects worth Rs. 2827.89 lakhs were sanctioned for development of tourism in Andhra Pradesh.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Expansion Programme of Bio-Tech Drugs

1857. DR. M. JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of agriculture Bio-Technology and Pharmacy Bio-tech companies functioning in the country at present;

(b) the number of such companies conducting commercial research on agriculture; and

(c) the likely expansion programme of bio-tech drugs in the country?

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

(a) At present, several companies are actively working in the areas of Agriculture Biotechnology and Bio-pharmaceuticals. Most of Agri-biotech companies are in the business of developing on transgenic crops specially Bt. Cotton and very few are in the business of bio-fertilizers, bio-pesticides. A sizable number of pharma bio-tech companies are in the process of developing r-DNA pharmaceuticals & vaccines.

(b) At present, as per the information available, there are 35 agri-biotech companies and 31 pharma biotech companies conducting commercial research.

(c) More and more pharma biotech companies are diversifying from production of already approved and marketed products abroad to production of new products and formulations.

Minimum Support Price of Onion

1858. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of onions is very less than the prices at which onion are being imported by the Government to meet the domestic demand;

(b) if so, the MSP fixed by the Government for onion during 2005-06 and the price at which the onions are imported;

(c) whether by giving the benefit to farmers for their produce and keep the buffer stock intact, Government proposes to fix the MSP of onions at par with the price at which it is imported;

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

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) There is no Minimum Support Price (MSP) fixed for Onion. The Government did not import onion during this (2005-06).

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) There is no proposal forwarded by the Government for fixing MSP of Onion.

Fertilizer Subsidy

1859. SHRI S. MALLIKARJUNIAH : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether subsidy to the farmers on fertilizers has been enhanced from the existing rates; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) and (b) There has been no increase in statutorily notified maximum retail price(MRP) of urea and indicative MRPs of decontrolled phosphatic and potassic fertilizers since 28.02.2002. Although an increase of nearly 5% increase in selling prices of fertilizers was declared effective from 28.2.2003, but the prices were rolled back after a few days i.e. w.e.f. 12.03.2003 to the levels as were existing prior to 28.2.2003.

Although no increase in selling prices of fertilizers have been effected for more than two years, but there has been increase in subsidy/concession expenditure on fertilizers due to steep increase in the prices of raw materials, intermediates and inputs used in the manufacture of fertilizers. The farmers have been insulated from the increase in the cost of production of fertilizers as it has been absorbed by the Government in the form of higher subsidy/concession expenditure.

Norms for Distribution of Wheat and Rice

1860. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH :
SHRI PRABODH PANDA :

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

(a) whether the Government has decided to revise norms for distribution of wheat and rice through the Targeted Public Distribution;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this has been done to overcome the shortfall in the wheat procurement during the Rabi season; and

(d) if so, the other steps being taken to overcome this shortage?

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 norms of allocation of foodgrains @ 35 kg. per family per month for Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY), Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Above Poverty Line (APL) families under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) has not been changed. The Government has, however, decided to streamline the ratio of wheat and rice in the allocation of foodgrains for BPL and APL families on the basis of food habits of each State/UT. The ratio of wheat and rice has been revised with effect from 01.08.2005 on the basis of the following proportion or the existing allocation of wheat whichever is less.

1. 70 : 30 for wheat consuming States/UTs;
2. 50 : 50 for wheat and rice consuming States/UTs; and
3. 30 : 70 for rice consuming States/UTs.

(c) This has been done keeping in view the consumption pattern in various States/UTs, as well as the relative availability of rice and wheat stocks in the Central pool due to less procurement of wheat by about 20 lakh tonnes during 2005-06 as compared to procurement during 2004-05.

(d) The following measures have been taken to meet the shortage of foodgrains in the country :

- (i) Ensuring adequate stocking of foodgrains in FCI depots in all regions in the country and releasing the same under the TPDS and other welfare schemes;
- (ii) Monitoring of wholesale and retail prices of foodgrains; and
- (iii) Release of wheat under Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic) [OMSS(D)].

Upgradation of ITI

1861. SHRI UDAY SINGH :

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY :

SHRI RAGHUVeer SINGH KOSHAL;

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA :

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to upgrade Government run ITIs in the country into Centres of Excellence as proposed in the Union Budget;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds required for the said upgradation;

(d) the manner in which mobilization of funds is likely to be taken up;

(e) whether the Government have sought assistance from World Bank for upgradation of ITIs in the country;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the number of persons likely to be benefited by such upgradation plan?

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO) : (a) to (d) A plan scheme to upgrade 100 Government ITIs into Centres of Excellence has been taken up by the Government. Number of Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) covered in various States/UTs under the scheme is given in the enclosed Statement. A provision of Rs.160 crores has been kept by Central Government for upgradation of these 100 ITIs from domestic resources.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir, for upgradation of 400 ITIs.

(g) The Scheme envisages to train 10000 trainees per year at these 100 Centres of Excellence.

Statement

Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) covered under the scheme "Upgradation of ITIs into Centres of Excellence"

Sl. No.	State	No. of ITIs
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5

1	2	3
2.	Bihar	2
3.	Chhattisgarh	4
4.	Delhi	1
5.	Goa	1
6.	Gujarat	8
7.	Haryana	5
8.	Himachal Pradesh	3
9.	Jharkhand	1
10.	Karnataka	6
11.	Kerala	5
12.	Madhya Pradesh	8
13.	Maharashtra	12
14.	Orissa	2
15.	Punjab	6
16.	Rajasthan	5
17.	Tamil Nadu	4
18.	Uttaranchal	3
19.	Uttar Pradesh	10
20.	West Bengal	3
UTs		
21.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1
22.	Chandigarh	1
23.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1
24.	Daman & Diu	1
25.	Lakshadweep	1
26.	Pondicherry	1
		100

**Technology Mission on Oilseeds,
Pulses, Maize and Oil Palm**

1862. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY :
SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL :

SHRI MITRASEN YADAV :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has restructured and implemented the Technology Mission on the Oilseeds, Pulses, Maize and Oil Palm;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the new better technology introduced for increasing the production;

(d) whether the Union Government provide assistance under ISOPOM to various States;

(e) if so, the criteria for allocation of assistance;

(f) the details of the funds provided to various States during 2004-05, Scheme-wise; and

(g) the extent to which the Government has been able to obtain its aim so far?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) and (b) Government of India had introduced a Technology Mission on Oilseeds in 1986 with a view to increase the production and productivity of oilseeds and to make the country self reliant in edible oils. Subsequently, pulses, oil palm and maize were brought under the Technology Mission. The Mission was discontinued during Xth Plan. However, a Centrally Sponsored Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) incorporating the erstwhile scheme namely the Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP), National Pulses Development Project (NPDP), Oil Palm Development Programme (OPDP) and Accelerated Maize Development Programme (AMDP), is being implemented with effect from 1.4.2004 in major oilseeds, pulses, maize and oil palm growing States.

(c) Production technologies such as application of micronutrients (sulphur, zinc boron, etc.) in deficient soils, microbial nutrition through Plant Growth Promoting Rhizobacteria (PGPR) and nitrogen fixing rhizobium have been promoted under ISOPOM for increasing the production of oilseeds, pulses and maize crops.

(d) and (e) Government of India provides financial assistance to States on 75 : 25 sharing basis for various production inputs to ISOPOM implementing States in order

to promote improved production technologies and to increase the production of oilseeds, pulses, oil palm and maize crops. State-wise allocation of funds is made on the basis of area under cultivation of oilseeds, pulses, oil palm and maize and contribution of individual States to the total production of these crops besides, past performance of the States in respect of physical and financial achievements.

(f) The details of financial assistance provided to the States for implementation of ISOPOM during 2004-05 are given in the enclosed Statement.

(g) The country has achieved a production of 261.03 lakh tonnes in oilseeds, 133.80 lakh tonnes in pulses and 141.30 lakh tonnes in maize as against the production targets of 262.00, 153.00 and 135.50 lakh tonnes respectively during the year 2004-05. As regards oil palm, an area expansion of 7721 ha has been achieved as against the targeted area of 10000 ha during 2004-05.

Statement

Financial Assistance provided to the States under Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) during 2004-05

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	States	Assistance provided
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3559.97
2.	Assam	4.00
3.	Bihar	145.00
4.	Chhattisgarh	625.00
5.	Gujarat	1883.00
6.	Goa	10.00
7.	Haryana	497.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	40.00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	85.00
10.	Karnataka	2155.00
11.	Kerala	5.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	2925.00

1	2	3
13.	Maharashtra	1040.00
14.	Mizoram	107.00
15.	Orissa	455.00
16.	Punjab	52.50
17.	Rajasthan	2000.00
18.	Tamil Nadu	990.00
19.	Tripura	5.00
20.	Uttar Pradesh	785.00
21.	West Bengal	260.00
Total		17628.47

Promotion of Horticulture in U.P.

1863. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the areas identified in Uttar Pradesh to promote horticulture; and

(b) the assistance provided by National Horticulture Board (NHB) through National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) and National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) to develop horticulture projects in the State during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) The areas identified in Uttar Pradesh to promote horticulture under the

Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'National Horticulture Mission' is given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) National Horticulture Board is providing assistance for development of horticulture in U.P. under the following schemes.

1. Development of Commercial Horticulture through Production and Post Harvest Management.
2. Capital Investment Subsidy for construction/ Modernization/Expansion of Cold Storage and Storages for Horticulture produce (through NABARD & NCDC).
3. Technology Development and Transfer for Promotion of Horticulture.

The details of assistance provided to the State of U.P. for last three years are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

Statement-I

Uttar Pradesh : Area Identified for promotion of horticulture under National Horticulture Mission

Sl.No.	Cluster	Name of Districts
1.	Cluster-I	Saharanpur, Meerut, Ghaziabad
2.	Cluster-II	Agra, Mathura, Mainpuri, Etawah, Farrukhabad, Kannauj
3.	Cluster-III	Lucknow, Unnao
4.	Cluster-IV	Sultanpur, Allahabad, Kaushambi, Pratapgarh, Varanasi, Jaunpur, Ghazipur, Basti, Sant Kabir Nagar, Ballia, Gorakhpur, Kushinagar, Maharajanpur and Raibareilly

Statement-II

Details of Assistance Provided by National Horticulture Board for Development of Horticulture in Uttar Pradesh

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Name of Schemes						
	Commercial Horticulture		Cold Storages Through NABARD/NCDC			Technology Transfer	
	No of Projects	Subsidy sanctioned	No.	Capacity	Amount sanctioned	No. of Projects	Amount sanctioned
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2002-03	7	69	49	278228.02	1284.29	58	38.16

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2003-04	3	09	146	785583.42	4256.78	50	30.81
2004-05	4	06	124	685735.2	3820.77	23	16.85
2005-06 (as on 31.10.2005)	5	12	52	208548.5	1436.12	3	3.50

[Translation]

Utilization of Rain Water

1864. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA :

DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether 80 percent of the rain water flows down in the sea through the rivers without making any proper use of it;

(b) if not, the projection of the Government in this regard;

(c) the long term plan prepared by the Government to make proper use of this water;

(d) the details of works carried out under the programme during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) to (d) The average annual precipitation is estimated as 4000 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM) in the country. After accounting for the natural process of evaporation and transpiration through vegetation etc., the average annual water availability in the country is assessed as 1869 BCM. Owing to topographic, hydrological and other constraints, the utilizable water is assessed as 1122 BCM. 629 BCM of water is being utilized for diverse purposes. Rest of the water could be considered to be flowing down to sea.

State Governments conceive, plan and implement major, medium & minor schemes for utilization of water resources. Storage capacity of about 213 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM) has been created so far. As per present assessment, the total estimated storage capacity of the various projects under construction is about 76 BCM and that for the projects under formulation is about 108 BCM.

It has been estimated that irrigation potential of 3.34 million hectares has been created during 2003-04 and 2004-05.

[English]

Tourism Projects

1865. SHRI HEMMAL MURMU : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the number of ongoing and pending tourism development projects in each State of the country;

(b) whether any survey has been conducted by the Government to promote tourism particularly in rural and the urban areas of each State during the last three years and the current year; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) 752 Projects have been sanctioned and 188 projects have been completed so far during the 10th Plan period.

(b) and (c) Development and promotion of tourism is a continuous process. Perspective Plans for development of tourism in the States had been prepared by the Ministry of Tourism and forwarded to the States. The Ministry of Tourism also provides Central Financial Assistance to various State Governments for development of tourism infrastructure in consultation with the State Governments and funds are released for the projects proposals which are received complete in all respects.

Increase in Price of Edible Oil

1866. SHRI KARUNAKARA REDDY : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been an abnormal increase in price of edible oils;

- (b) if so, the main reasons therefor;
- (c) the steps taken to control the price; and
- (d) the steps being taken by the Government to avoid the recurrence of such abnormal price increase 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.

**Demand and Allocation of
Rice and Sugar**

1867. SHRI HITEN BARMAN : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

- (a) the annual estimated demand of rice and sugar in the country during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise;

- (b) the details of the actual allocation made by the Government to the States during the above period; and

- (c) the steps taken by the Government to allocate rice and sugar as per the demand of 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) and (b) The allocation under TPDS is not demand based. This is made at uniform rate of 15 kg per family per month each for Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY), Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Above Poverty Line (APL) families. The number of families for allocation is determined on the basis of 1993-94 poverty estimates of the Planning Commission as projected by Registrar General of India as on 1.03.2000 or the number of families identified and Ration Cards issued by each State/ UT, whichever is less.

The supply of sugar has been restricted to only Below Poverty Line (BPL) families except to the North Eastern States, Hill States and Island Territories. The base for levy sugar distribution is the projected population on 1.03.2000. Per capita per month allotment of levy sugar is 700 gms. Statement showing actual allocation of Rice made by the

Government to States during last three years is enclosed as Statement-I and of sugar as Statement-II.

- (d) The allocation of Rice & Sugar under PDS is supplemental in nature and there is no plan to change the norms of allocation being made at present.

Statement-I

State-wise Allocation of Rice during Last Three Years

(Qty. in '000 tonnes)

Sl.No.	State/UT	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3819.44	3819.44	3819.44
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	104.46	91.25	106.63
3.	Assam	1275.66	1275.66	1275.66
4.	Bihar	1987.28	1972.28	1972.28
5.	Chhattisgarh	1191.98	1220.60	1298.06
6.	Delhi	360.33	331.50	331.50
7.	Goa	90.50	88.90	88.90
8.	Gujarat	1309.86	1281.44	1281.25
9.	Haryana	0.00	0.00	0.00
10.	Himachal Pradesh	348.28	360.52	323.02
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	475.62	514.57	516.82
12.	Jharkhand	562.13	711.48	724.45
13.	Karnataka	2707.91	2707.91	2707.90
14.	Kerala	2013.65	1981.94	1891.89
15.	Madhya Pradesh	1240.17	723.88	640.18
16.	Maharashtra	2720.14	2610.92	2696.62
17.	Manipur	84.30	84.30	84.30
18.	Meghalaya	114.11	114.11	114.11
19.	Mizoram	65.51	71.12	110.40
20.	Nagaland	92.78	81.02	85.87

1	2	3	4	5
21. Orissa		2711.79	2492.26	2492.26
22. Punjab		89.18	0.00	0.00
23. Rajasthan'		83.26	78.43	78.43
24. Sikkim		55.18	37.65	33.85
25. Tamil Nadu		5784.33	5710.36	5710.36
26. Tripura		282.02	279.48	255.19
27. Uttar Pradesh		4102.80	3717.39	3855.06
28. Uttaranchal		271.13	247.91	247.91
29. West Bengal		1760.89	1587.92	1587.92
30. A & N Islands		34.50	34.50	34.49
31. Chandigarh		13.25	13.82	15.82
32. D & N Haveli		10.86	10.86	10.86
33. Daman & Diu		9.56	9.49	9.49
34. Lakshadweep		5.24	3.74	3.74
35. Pondicherry		82.43	47.11	47.11
Total		35860.49	34313.76	34451.77

Statement-II

*State-wise and Sugar Season-wise (October-September)
Allocation of Levy Sugar from 2002-03 to 2004-05*

(Qty. in '000 tonnes)

Sl.No.	State/UT	During the Season 2002-03	During the Season 2003-04	During the Season 2004-05
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh.	116.91	124.26	140.25
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	10.28	10.28	10.24
3.	Assam	224.03	224.70	223.95
4.	Bihar	165.72	254.23	213.17

1	2	3	4	5
5. Chhattisgarh		44.89	56.17	55.37
6. Delhi		28.48	33.27	33.39
7. Goa		1.59	1.58	1.58
8. Gujarat		54.88	51.80	75.32
9. Haryana		25.73	31.99	29.09
10. Himachal Pardesh		56.83	57.01	54.51
11. Jammu & Kashmir		86.95	87.10	86.81
12. Jharkhand		60.58	86.01	75.16
13. Karnataka		109.64	109.64	102.66
14. Kerala		42.92	52.92	52.92
15. Madhya Pradesh		124.39	195.46	153.12
16. Maharashtra		141.21	157.94	161.53
17. Manipur		21.93	21.91	21.92
18. Meghalaya		21.08	21.08	21.08
19. Mizoram		8.28	8.35	8.35
20. Nagaland		14.52	14.50	14.51
21. Orissa		76.16	55.10	103.77
22. Punjab		20.82	20.86	19.28
23. Rajasthan		66.77	94.60	83.92
24. Sikkim		4.74	4.74	4.74
25. Tamil Nadu		136.74	136.74	131.17
26. Tripura		32.61	32.62	32.58
27. Uttar Pradesh		328.23	411.55	401.38
28. Uttaranchal		73.42	76.44	70.61
29. West Bengal		143.40	178.43	171.43
30. A & N Islands		4.68	4.71	4.74
31. Chandigarh		0.88	0.73	0.95
32. D & N Haveli		0.62	0.60	0.60

1	2	3	4	5
33. Daman & Diu		0.14	0.13	0.12
34. Lakshadweep		1.32	1.35	1.32
35. Pondicherry		2.99	2.66	2.14
Total		2254.36	2621.46	2563.68

**New Schemes for use of
Water Resources**

1868. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to introduce some new schemes in the country for better use of water resources for irrigation especially in rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the irrigation potential created and utilized in the country during the last three years;

(d) the States lagging behind to achieve national average of irrigation capacity; and

(e) the steps taken by the Union Government to increase the irrigation capacity during Tenth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b) Irrigation being a state subject, schemes for water resources development for irrigation are conceived, planned and implemented by the State Government. However, Government of India provides Central Loan Assistance (CLA) to State Governments under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) for expeditious completion of on-going projects. The Government of India also provides support under Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Command Area Development and Water Management Programme (CAD & WM) with a view to render support for construction of field channels and field drains, enforcement of warabandi, reclamation of waterlogged areas, dissemination of improved techniques for water management and agriculture development etc. There is no proposal for introduction of any new schemes by the Government of India at present.

(c) The irrigation potential created in the country during 2002-03 to 2004-05 is 4.83 million hectare out of which 3.49 million hectare has assessed as potential utilized.

(d) A preliminary analysis suggest that the irrigation potential created out the estimated ultimate irrigation potential is relatively less in the States of Manipur, Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, Assam, Meghalaya, Jharkhand, Orissa, Goa, Jammu & Kashmir, Sikkim, Kerala, Himachal Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Arunachal Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka.

(e) Due thrust was given in the Tenth Five Year Plan with a target of creation of 16.743 million hectare of irrigation potential. Government of India has also provided support to State Governments through CLA under AIBP. Further, irrigation is an important component of "Bharat Nirman".

[Translation]

Cells In States for Tourism Promotion

1869. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has issued instructions to the State Governments for creation of a special Cell for accelerating infrastructure development programme for tourism and providing recreation and service facilities and expeditious completion of pending tourism projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of States which have set up the special cell and those which have not set up the same as yet?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (c) The Ministry of Tourism reviews the performance/progress of the on-going tourism projects all over the country on a regular basis through field visits by officers of headquarters and India tourism office. Regular review meetings are also held with the concerned officials of the State Governments and the progress of the implementation of all the projects are constantly discussed and reviewed. No instructions for creation of special cell, however has been issued.

[English]

Houses for Beedi Workers

1870. SHRI M. SHIVANNA :

SHRI M. APPADURAI :

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

(a) the number of houses constructed so far and proposed to be constructed in the country during the coming years for beedi workers, State-wise;

(b) the number of beedi workers that have been sanctioned housing loan under 'New Housing Building Scheme' in the country particularly in Tamil Nadu, State-wise;

(c) whether any complaints have been received regarding delay in getting housing loan by Beedi workers;

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

(e) the steps being taken to increase the housing loan to poor beedi workers?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO) : (a) The State-wise details in respect of the number of houses sanctioned for the Beedi Workers during the last three years are given in the enclosed Statement. 11251 houses in the State of Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal & Madhya Pradesh have already been sanctioned during the current year 2005-06. However, houses are sanctioned to the eligible beedi workers on receipt of proposals from the State Governments, subject to the availability of funds.

(b) to (e) There is no provision of housing loans to the Beedi Workers under the New Revised Integrated Housing Scheme (RIHS) 2005 which has been implemented w.e.f. 25th May, 2005. However, the Government grants a uniform subsidy of Rs. 40,000/- per tenement to a worker who has deposited an amount of Rs. 5,000/- as his contribution with the District Collector or Deputy Commissioner of the concerned district for the construction of house by an individual beedi worker and for Group Housing Colony for the beedi workers.

Statement

State-wise Number of Houses sanctioned during the Last Three Years for Beedi Workers

Sl.No.	Name of the State/District	No. of houses sanctioned during		
		2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	315	2018	6993

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Bihar	311	Nil	Nil
3.	Chhattisgarh	Nil	285	18
4.	Karnataka	857	1591	489
5.	Kerala	687	584	707
6.	Madhya Pradesh	Nil	1023	1359
7.	Maharashtra	Nil	175	867
8.	Orissa	1830	242	3525
9.	Rajasthan	Nil	6	254
10.	Tamil Nadu	1638	Nil	674
11.	Uttar Pradesh	104	481	Nil
12.	West Bengal & Assam	Nil	538	903
Grand Total		5742	6943	15789

Fish Farmers Development Agencies

1871. DR. K. S. MANOJ : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government is assisting the State Governments for implementing Fish Farmers Development Agencies (FFDA) scheme in the States;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the funds released for the purpose during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(c) whether the Central share for States is not released;

(d) if so, the details of Central share dues as on date, State-wise; and

(e) the time by which it 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 TASLIMUDDIN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of India is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Development of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture. The programme of development

of freshwater aquaculture is one of the components of the above scheme. The above scheme is being implemented by the State/UT Governments through 429 Fish Farmers Development Agencies (FFDAs). Under the scheme, financial assistance in the form of subsidy on developmental activities is shared on 75 :25 basis between the Government of India and the State/UT Governments. Statement showing the release of funds during the last three years and the current year, state-wise is annexed.

(c) to (e) Question do not arise.

Statement

Development of Freshwater Aquaculture—State-wise details of funds released

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of State	Funds Released			
		2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06 (Till Nov. 05)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.00	0.00	20.00	0.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	28.00	33.00	0.00	33.37
3.	Assam	0.00	0.00	80.00	0.00
4.	Bihar	0.00	0.00	25.00	0.00
5.	Chhatisgarh	15.17	91.28	91.00	35.00
6.	Gujarat	0.00	0.00	30.00	52.00
7.	Haryana	103.29	99.20	103.00	100.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	25.00	14.46	0.00	25.00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.00	0.00	169.00	0.00
10.	Karnataka	40.00	27.00	52.50	0.00
11.	Kerala	0.00	0.00	0.00	200.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	0.00	50.00	150.00	100.00
13.	Maharashtra	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
14.	Manipur	0.00	0.00	64.50	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
15.	Meghalaya	0.00	50.00	0.00	0.00
16.	Mizoram	63.00	0.00	37.50	50.00
17.	Nagaland	90.00	90.00	90.00	60.00
18.	Orissa	181.71	0.00	150.00	0.00
19.	Pondicherry	3.64	0.00	0.00	0.00
20.	Punjab	60.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
21.	Rajasthan	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
22.	Sikkim	6.00	0.00	4.50	0.00
23.	Tamil Nadu	25.42	0.00	0.00	0.00
24.	Tripura	40.59	25.89	30.06	40.00
25.	Uttar Pradesh	0.00	230.00	240.05	260.00
26.	Uttaranchal	0.00	0.00	15.00	0.00
27.	West Bengal	291.63	150.56	200.00	150.00
28.	Jharkhand	0.00	51.00	45.70	50.00
29.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total		973.45	912.39	1597.81	1155.37

Farm Subsidy

1872. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is planning to provide subsidies for farm products;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being initiated by the Government to push farm products and agricultural growth?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) to (c) Subsidies are provided to the agricultural sector under various schemes by both the Central and State Governments for benefiting the farmers. Details of the subsidies provided since 1999-00 to 2003-04 are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement**Subsidy Provided to Agriculture Sector**

(Rs. in Crore)

Sl.No.	Item	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03 (Actuals)	2003-04 (RE)(+)
1.	Fertilizer (Total)	13244	13800	12595	11015	11847
	1.1 Indeginous Fertilizer	8670	9480	8044	7790	8521
	1.2 Imported Fertilizer	74	1	47	-	-
	1.3 Sale of decontrolled fertilizer with concession to farmers	4500	4319	4504	3225	3326
2.	Electricity**	4276	6056	9342	7354	NA
3.	Irrigation##	11487	13756	14602	15401	13627
4.	Other subsidies given to marginal farmers and Farmers' Cooperative Societies in the form of seeds, development of oil seeds, pulses etc.	1937	927	979	1259	-

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

2. Electricity & Irrigation : Central Statistical Organization

3. NA : Not available.

** Includes all subsidies to Electricity Boards and Corporations, Separate estimates of Electricity subsidy accountable exclusively to agriculture 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.

+ : Quick estimates.

*[Translation].***Soil Erosion**

1873. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether land is shifting towards Pakistan due to soil erosion;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total area of land lost by India as a result thereof;

(d) whether Pakistan has diverted the flow of Ravi and Satluj rivers;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to check the soil erosion;

(g) whether fertile land of Punjab State has been affected as a result thereof; and

(h) if so, the action being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) to (c) Erosion/shifting of bed and banks of the rivers is a natural phenomenon. As informed by the Government of Punjab, no area of Indian territory is being shifted towards Pakistan and no area of land is lost so far as a result of soil erosion.

(d) and (e) Construction of some works (bunds) in

Pakistan territory have been reported. According to Government of Punjab, there is no major diversion of rivers Ravi and Sutlej except for shifting of flow of river Ravi in Amritsar area gradually due to normal country slope and works constructed by Pakistan in their territory. Counter protective works are executed on Indian side.

(f) to (h) No loss of fertile land of Punjab State has been reported by the State Government. A committee on special remedial works for flood protection embankments on river Sutlej and Ravi constituted by the Ministry of Water Resources visits vulnerable spots in the border Districts of Punjab and suggests counter remedial measures twice every year, for execution by the State Government, which executes such works out of their own resources as well as those provided by the Central Government.

[English]

Development of Pilgrimage Tourism

1874. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to develop Pilgrimage Tourism in various States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to develop Sabarimala in Kerala, Tirupathi in Andhra Pradesh and Vaishno Devi in Jammu and Kashmir;

(d) if so, the details of the amount spent during the last three years and future plans in this regard;

(e) whether there is a proposal to hand over development of Sabarimala to some private agencies; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) Development of tourist places including pilgrim centres is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India extends financial assistance to the State/UT Administrations for tourism related projects, including pilgrim centres, which are prioritized every year in consultation with State Governments/UT Administrations.

(c) and (d) No such proposal has been received from the State Governments concerned during the current financial

year. No project has also been sanctioned for Sabarimala in Kerala, Tirupathi in Andhra Pradesh and Vaishno Devi in Jammu and Kashmir during the last three years.

(e) and (f) No such proposal has been received by Ministry of Tourism.

Irregularities in NCCF

1875. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether any complaints have been received by the Government regarding over charging, quoting of higher rate and supply of inferior quality goods by the National Co-operative Consumer Federation of India Ltd.(NCCF) as compared to other authorized dealers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken against those held responsible?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN) : (a) and (b) There was a complaint from Cabinet Secretariat regarding quoting of higher rates for 40 GB HDD 7200 RPM(Samsung) by NCCF. It was noted that the price quoted by NCCF at Rs. 3264 plus VAT was more than 50% of the price quoted by one of the firms in the local market. The matter was taken up with NCCF. In the reply, NCCF has informed that the principal manufacturing company i.e. Samsung India Electronics Ltd. has since clarified that there was an error on its part at the time of submitting the rates to NCCF. The price of the item referred to above quoted by the Company is Rs. 2600 plus VAT with five years warranty. NCCF has also informed that they have not supplied the above referred item to the Cabinet Secretariat.

(c) In view of the reply above, no action in the matter is called for.

[Translation]

New Products on BIS List

1876. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHAWAHA :
MOHD. SHAHID :

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

(a) whether the Government is considering any proposal/scheme to include more products including toys and cosmetics in the list of Bureau of Indian Standard (BIS);

(b) if so, the total number of such products proposed to be included in the BIS list under the said scheme; and

(c) the time by which 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 (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN) : (a) to (c) Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has formulated more than 18000 Indian Standards, including standards for toys, cosmetics etc. It has granted more than 18700 licences against Indian standards. The Certification Scheme of BIS is primarily voluntary in nature.

Restructuring of National Seed Corporation and State Farmers Corporation

1877. SHRI MITRASEN YADAV : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal regarding the restructuring of National Seed Corporation (NSC) and State Farmers Corporation of India (SFCI) is pending before the Government and funds have been allocated for the purpose during the current year; and

(b) if so, the funds allocated during the current year and the time by which both the corporations are likely to be restructured?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) and (b) The Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE) under Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) has identified only State Farms Corporation of India Ltd. (SFCI) as a sick unit and has recommended its revival/restructuring. The proposal for restructuring of SFCI has been submitted to BRPSE/DPE and is under its consideration. Provision of Rs.38.00 crores was made in the Budget Estimate 2005-06 for the purpose.

[English]

Quality of Lakes

1878. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether water quality and ecology in Dal and Nagin lakes in Srinagar and other lakes in Kodaikanal and Udhamandalam has deteriorated;

(b) if so, whether the Government has sanctioned any fund to improve the quality and ecology of the above lakes;

(c) whether there is any proposal is set up treatment plants there to divert the raw sewage;

(d) whether some lakes in the country have been identified as Polluted Urban Lakes under the National Lake Conservation Plan; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government to make those lakes pollution free?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (c) Projects amounting to Rs. 298.76 crore for Dal-Nagin Lake, Rs. 1.95 crore for Ooty Lake and Rs. 5.13 crore for Kodaikanal Lake have been sanctioned under the National Lake Conservation Programme (NLCP) to improve the water quality and ecology of these lakes. Sewage treatment plants having capacity of 36.7 mld (million litres per day) for Dal-Nagin Lake and 2 mld for Kodaikanal Lake have been proposed in the sanctioned projects under the NLCP. In case of Ooty Lake, diversion and treatment of sewage is to be taken up by the Government of Tamil Nadu themselves and is not a component sanctioned under NLCP.

(d) and (e) Under the NLCP, conservation works for 37 lakes (including Dal-Nagin, Ooty and Kodaikanal lakes) have been sanctioned till date in 10 States for an estimated cost of Rs. 485.97 crore. The Ministry had instituted a separate study for identification of polluted lakes for inclusion under NLCP. A list of 62 lakes was prepared under the study, which has been sent to all State Governments for consideration and prioritization of lakes in their States. Projects under NLCP are taken up based on the prioritization received from the States and availability of funds under the plan.

[Translation]

Forest Plantation

1879. SHRI NAND KUMAR SINGH CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of proposals received from the

Government of Madhya Pradesh under the scheme to encourage voluntary agencies for involving them in forest plantation work;

(b) whether any action has been taken thereon; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (c) 18 proposals from Government of Madhya Pradesh under Grants-in-Aid for Greening India scheme have been received during 2005-06 to encourage the voluntary agencies in generating awareness about, and to participate in tree plantation. 9 proposals out of the total 18 proposals received during this year have been considered and recommended by the Screening Committee of the Ministry of Environment and Forests in accordance with the criteria and availability of fund for the purpose.

[English]

**Unsafe Repacking of Chemical Waste
Inside Union Carbide Factory**

1880. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware of the incidents of unsafe repacking of chemical waste inside the Union Carbide Factory of Bhopal by Ramky Enviro Engineers Limited, Hyderabad;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to stop such unscientific and unsafe repacking of chemical waste there?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (c) The High Court of Madhya Pradesh while hearing the Writ Petition No. 2802/2004 has constituted a Task Force under the Chairmanship of the Secretary, Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals, to monitor the implementation of the road map prepared by the Government of Madhya Pradesh for removal/disposal of toxic wastes lying at the Union Carbide plant site. The agency engaged, viz. M/s. Ramky Enviro Engineering Limited, Hyderabad has carried out the work of repacking the stored toxic wastes in a scientific manner under the overall monitoring of the Madhya Pradesh

Pollution Control Board. As intimated by the State Pollution Control Board of Madhya Pradesh, the company had taken all safety precautions during the execution of the entire job of repacking of toxic wastes, carried out from 16th June to 20th June, 2005. Air monitoring was also carried out during the repacking work and no pesticides were detected in the collected dust. The waste is now safely stored in a shed within the plant premises. A complaint regarding unsafe repacking methods from "The International Campaign for Justice in Bhopal" was received by this Department on 2nd June, 2005 and referred to the Madhya Pradesh Pollution Control Board, who have categorically denied the veracity of the allegations made.

MR. SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2.00 p.m.

11.31 hrs.

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

14.00 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at
Fourteen of the Clock.*

(MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair)

...(Interruptions)

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The House shall take up Papers to be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under the sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :

- (1) (i) Review by the Government of the working of Hindustan Steelworks Construction Limited, Kolkata, for the year 2004-05.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Hindustan Steelworks Construction Limited, Kolkata, for the year

2004-05, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 2920/2005]

- (2) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Steel Authority of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2004-05.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Steel Authority of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2004-05, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 2921/2005]

- (3) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited, Bangalore, for the year 2004-05.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited, Bangalore, for the year 2004-05, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 2922/2005]

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy of each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619 A of the Companies Act, 1956 :-

1. (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2004-05.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2004-05, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 2923/2005]

2. (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Bharat Leather Corporation Limited, Agra, for the year 2004-05.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Bharat Leather Corporation Limited, Agra, for the year 2004-05, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 2924/2005]

3. (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Cement Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2004-05.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Cement Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2004-05, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 2925/2005]

4. (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Hindustan Paper Corporation Limited, Kolkata, for the year 2004-05.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Hindustan Paper Corporation Limited, Kolkata, for the year 2004-05, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 2926/2005]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI) : On behalf of Shrimati Renuka Chowdhury, I beg to lay on the Table :

- (1) A copy of each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619 A of the Companies Act, 1956 :-

- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Kumarakruppa Frontier Hotels Private Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2003-04.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Kumarakruppa Frontier Hotels Private Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2003-04, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 2927/2005]

...(Interruptions)

14.01 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri Srichand Kriplani and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the table.)

...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE) : On behalf of Shri Kantilal Bhuria. I beg to lay on the Table :

- (1) A copy of each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619 A of the Companies Act, 1956 :-
 - (i) Review by the Government of the working of the State Farms Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2004-05.
 - (ii) Annual Report of the State Farms Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2004-05, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 2928/2005]

- (2) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 1374(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 21st September, 2005 containing

Order specifying Urea (Granular) imported in India from Oman under the 'Urea Off Take Agreement upto January, 2006., under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 2929/2005]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : I beg to lay on the Table :

- (1) A copy of the Ozone Depleting Substances (Regulations and Control) Amendment Rules, 2005 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 1391(E) in Gazette of India dated the 26th September, 2005 under section 26 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 2930/2005]

- 2) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 942(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 4th July, 2005 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 60(E) dated the 27th January, 1994 issued under section 3 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 2931/2005]

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet again tomorrow, 6th December, 2005 at 11a.m.

14.02 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, December 6, 2005/
Agrahayana 15, 1927(Saka)*

ANNEXURE-I

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