

FCI Godowns in Kerala

3890. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to open/expand any godowns of Food Corporation of India in Kerala;

(b) whether there is any protest from the local residents against the acquisition of land in Kerala for opening/expanding godowns over there; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) FCI was given provisionally advance possession of land at Payyannur (Kannur Distt.) for construction of godown. But the land is still under possession of the land owners who have disputed the amount of compensation. FCI has approached Government of Kerala for handing over the physical possession of the land early and can commence the construction only after getting physical possession of the land.

Iodine Salt for Human Consumption

3891. SHRI VIJAY SANKESHWAR : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the facts pertaining to the effects of iodine contents in the salt;

(b) whether the Government have made it mandatory that the salt should contain iodine for human consumption;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the reaction from the general public and medical experts to this issue have come to the notice of the Government; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) Iodine Deficiency Disorder (IDD) is a major public health problem. Iodine is an essential micro-nutrient required daily by human being to combat IDD. Iodine supplementation through salt is the simplest and most cost effective method in the long run to combat - IDD.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Iodine is an essential micro-nutrient required for physical and mental development of human beings.

Deficiency of Iodine leads to goitre of all ages, physical and mental retardation, deaf-mutism, squint, neuromotor defects, still births, abortions, etc.

(d) and (e) Representations have been received from the small scale salt producers and others expressing their reservation on Salt Iodisation. Govt. has taken measures in the interest of Public Health under Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955 stipulating that salt sold for direct human consumption has to be compulsorily iodised with effect from 27.5.98. Recently, Andhra Pradesh High Court has issued orders suspending the notification. A similar case has also come up before the High Court at Gwalior. The matter is *sub-judice*.

Changes in Scheduled Areas

3892. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the States having Fifth Scheduled Areas changed the boundaries, names and merged with non-scheduled districts and areas in recent years;

(b) if so, any approach of the States has been made to the Central Government before or after the decision taken by them in this regard; and

(c) the reaction of the Government for the Constitutional and legal problems arising with these changes without approval of the Act of Parliament under Article 244 (1) to this effect thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) The names of the districts as reflected in the Constitutional orders have been changed due to creation of new districts in case of some States without changing boundaries of Scheduled Areas.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Industrial Training to Women

3893. SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the details of financial assistance provided for imparting industrial training to the women during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether the Central Government have constituted any monitoring Committee to ensure the proper utilisation of financial assistance provided in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) Statewise details of the financial assistance provided for imparting industrial training to women under the World Bank assisted Vocational Training Project during the last three years is attached as Statement.

(b) and (c) To ensure proper utilisation of financial assistance, monitoring is done by the State Project Implementation Units at the State level and the Central Project Implementation Unit at the Central level. Utilisation Certificates and Audit Certificates are furnished by the States. The progress is reviewed jointly by the World Bank mission and the Ministry in review meetings at regular intervals.

(d) does not arise.

Statement

(Rupees in lakh)

S.No.	States	Financial Assistance provided during the last three years		
		1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
1.	Andhra Pradesh	182.57	41.643	57.60
2.	Assam	25.80	4.686	17.051
3.	Bihar	13.724	5.956	19.719
4.	Goa			15.00
5.	Gujarat	18.12	20.129	33.933
6.	Haryana	67.88	0.342	100.515
7.	Himachal Pradesh	4.455	1.702	3.407
8.	Kerala	20.235	12.523	15.773
9.	Karnataka	133.63	52.973	116.464
10.	Madhya Pradesh	28.90	55.064	48.774
11.	Maharashtra	85.22	83.789	135.054
12.	Orissa	3.123	31.654	25.583
13.	Punjab	111.94	26.204	10.205
14.	Rajasthan	10.41	12.844	24.107
15.	Tamilnadu		7.074	41.137
16.	Tripura		1.806	0.107
17.	Uttar Pradesh	103.155	36.909	25.479
18.	West Bengal	49.70	0.885	30.417
19.	Delhi	5.330	1.599	1.741

Terrorist outfits in Delhi

3894. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the details and number of terrorist outfits whose members are operating in National Capital Territory of Delhi at present;

(b) the areas in Delhi where these outfits are active;

(c) the number of terrorists caught in the capital during the last three years; and

(d) the role of Pakistan's Intelligence agency ISI in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) There are no specific terrorist outfits operating only in the National Capital Territory of Delhi. However, the various militant groups have been using Delhi for committing violent actions or for hiding and planning their militant actions elsewhere.

(c) The number of terrorists arrested during the period from 1993 to 30th June, 1998 in the National Capital Territory of Delhi was 234.

(d) The interrogation of various militants arrested during the last few years clearly establishes that the Pak ISI has been providing assistance to various militant groups by way of logistics, funds, arms/explosives training, motivation, etc.

[English]

Oil Fields

3895. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have given oil fields to private companies without reimbursement the money the ONGC spent to discover/develop these fields;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of the CAG report in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTHOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) Under the first and second offer of discovered fields, Government of India has approved award of contracts for 24 small sized discovered fields and 6 medium-sized discovered fields. Past cost reimbursement in respect of these fields was not a biddable item in the notice inviting bids. However payment of signature/production bonuses by co-venturer to ONGC/OIL was to compensate them for risk/expenditure incurred by them on exploration.