

incentives are given to farmers for use of improved seeds, farm implements, transfer of technology, field demonstrations etc. The farmers are all assured Minimum Support Price (MSP) for their produce.

Chinese Missiles to Pakistan

3182. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :
SHRI VAIKO :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Chinese Government propose to start fresh supplies of M-11 Missiles to Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Indian Government to counter this threat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE):
(a) and (b) Government are aware of the longstanding defence cooperation between China and Pakistan, including in transfer of missiles, missile technology and nuclear weapons related technology. There are credible reports that supply of M-11 missiles along with the related equipment has been ongoing since early 1990s and more recent reports relate to cooperation in setting up of a missile production facility.

(c) Government continues to closely monitor all developments with regard to Pakistan's missile programme. Government maintains that the continued transfer of sophisticated military technology into our neighbourhood is a destabilising development. These concerns have also been made known to the Chinese side, including at the highest level. Government remains fully committed to taking all necessary steps to safeguard the country's security in accordance with its assessment of developments relating to India's security environment.

Fishing Vessels

3183. SHRI FRANCISCO SARDINHA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of fishing vessels registered in Goa;

(b) whether the trawlers at Betul are facing difficulties because of the narrow mouth of the river Sal;

(c) if so, whether there is any proposal for dredging the mouth of the river Sal to facilitate the movement of the trawlers; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) There are 3709 fishing vessels registered in Goa as on 1996.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The dredging of the mouth of the river Sal will be based on the recommendations of the study assigned to the National Institute of Oceanography, Goa by the Government of Goa.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Budget Allocation for Agriculture

3184. DR. PRABHA THAKUR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of the total budget outlay proposed to be spent for agricultural development in view of the priority accorded to the agriculture in the budget;

(b) the percentage of farmers in the country; and

(c) the details of the budget allocation, criteria fixed for agricultural development?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) The allocation for agriculture and allied activities during 1998-99 will be 3.67 per cent of total Central Plan Budget.

(b) As per 1991 Population Census, the percentage of cultivators to total workforce was 35.2 per cent.

(c) Allocation for agriculture and allied activities is determined by the Planning Commission on the basis of national priorities, availability of resources and competing requirement from different sectors.

[English]

Deep Sea Fishing

3185. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received requests from the Government of Kerala to cancel all the permits/licences for deep sea fishing issued to the foreign vessels/joint ventures; and

(b) if so, the action taken there on?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) and (b) On the requests of the various State Governments including