

1	2	3	4	5
25.	Indian Remote Sensing Satellite (IRS-P2)	17.90	15.10.1994	Successful. Carried remote sensing payload. Launched by second developmental flight of PSLV.
26.	Indian Remote Sensing Satellite (IRS-IC)		28.12.1995	Successful. Carries advanced remote sensing cameras. Launched by Russian Molniya launch vehicle. Still in service.
27.	Indian Remote Sensing Satellite (IRS-ID)		29.09.1997	Successful. Identical to IRS-1C. Launched by India's PSLV. Still in service.
	Total cost of IRS-IC including launch and IRS-ID is Rs. 246.50 crores			
28.	Indian Remote Sensing Satellite (IRS-P3)	28.75	21.03.1996	Successful. Carries remote sensing payload and an X-ray astronomy payload. Launched by third developmental flight of PSLV. Still in service.

[English]

### Support Price for Soyabean

\*115. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices takes into consideration the proposed minimum support price suggested by the State Governments while fixing the support price;

(b) whether minimum support price for soyabean (black and yellow) and gram is likely to be fixed in the coming years in accordance with the proposed minimum support price of the State Governments; and

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to revise the support price of soyabean and gram to provide remunerative price to farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) to (c) While recommending the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for major agricultural commodities including Soyabean (yellow and black) and Gram, the Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP) takes into account a number of factors like cost of cultivation, demand and supply, input and output prices, the terms of trade for agriculture, inter-crop parity in prices, international prices, etc. The information elicited through a detailed questionnaire from the State Governments and other interest groups on various issues relating to the above aspects are also taken into consideration.

The Government fixes the minimum support prices each season for major agricultural commodities including Soyabean (black and yellow) and Gram on the basis of the report of the CACP and the views of State Governments and Central Ministries as well as other relevant factors. The minimum support prices fixed by the Government cover not only the cost of production but also provide a reasonable margin of profit.

The minimum support price fixed by the Government for Soyabean (black and yellow) and Gram for the current agriculture year (1997-98) are as follows :

Commodity	MSP		Increase in 1997-98 over 1996-97	
	1996-97	1997-98	Absolute	Percentage
<b>Soyabean</b>				
Black	620	670	50	8.1
Yellow	700	750	50	7.1
Gram	740	815	75	10.1

The system in vogue for fixing the MSPs would be continued in coming years also.

### Review of Administrative Laws

\*116. DR. BIZAY SONKAR SHASTRI : SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has constituted a Commission to review Article 309 of the Constitution and also all administrative laws enacted thereunder;

(b) if so, the terms of reference of the Commission; and

(c) by when the Commission is likely to submit its report to the Governments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) to (c) While Government have not constituted any Commission to review Article 309 of the Constitution, a Commission has been set up on May 8, 1998 on review of administrative laws. A copy

the terms of reference of the Commission is given in the closed Statement. The Commission has been given months' time for submitting its report.

#### Statement

The Terms of Reference for the Commission on Review Administrative Laws are as follows :

- (a) To undertake an overview of steps taken by different Ministries/Departments for the review of administrative laws, regulations and procedures administered by them, and the follow-up steps thereafter, for repeal and amendment.
- (b) To identify, in consultation with Ministries/Departments and client groups, proposals for amendments to existing laws, regulations and procedures, where these are in the nature of law common to more than one Department, or where they have a bearing on the effective working of more than one Ministry/Department and State Governments, or where a collectivity of laws impact on the performance of an economic or social sector, or where they have a bearing on industry and trade.
- (c) To examine, in the case of selected areas like environment, industry, trade and commerce, housing and real estate, specific changes in existing rules and procedures so as to make them objective, transparent and predictable.
- (d) To make, on the basis of this exercise, recommendations for repeal/amendments of laws, regulations and procedures, legislative process etc.

#### Plant Quarantine Measures

\*117. DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to amend the Plant Quarantine Act, 1989 to strengthen plant quarantine measures;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be amended; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) to (c) A group has been constituted recently by the Government of India to suggest amendments to the Plant, Fruit and Seeds Order, 1989. The recommendations of the group are being considered.

#### Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace

\*118. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the United Nations is on the verge of abandoning a long standing proposal for declaring the Indian Ocean as "Zone of peace";

(b) if so, whether the Committee was set up in 1972 to implement the General Assembly resolution calling for the establishment of a "Zone of peace" in Indian Ocean;

(c) whether the three countries - US, UK and France have been opposing this resolution;

(d) if so, whether India has once again pressed the UN that the resolution should be implemented and the Indian Ocean be declared as a peace zone; and

(e) if so, the steps the Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) India sponsored the resolution, along with the NAM countries, on the implementation of the declaration of the Indian Ocean as Zone of Peace in the 52nd UNGA.

(e) India is a member of the 44-member *ad hoc* Committee established to implement the Resolution on declaring Indian Ocean as Zone of Peace. India actively participates in the meetings of the *ad hoc* Committee. The Non-Aligned Movement's Ministerial Meeting in Cartagena in May 19-20 has again re-affirmed the validity of the objective of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as Zone of Peace. They re-affirmed the importance of international co-operation to ensure peace, security and stability in the Indian ocean region.

[Translation]

#### Percentage of Irrigated Land

\*119. DR. CHINTA MOHAN :  
PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether only one-third of total agriculture land is under irrigation at present.

(b) if so, the details thereof;