

(c) DMS milk is sold on first-come-first-served basis. DMS milk being priced far below those of other suppliers, there is very heavy pressure of demand on DMS milk casting a substantial strain on the distribution mechanism. The Resident Welfare Associations are being associated in distribution so as to make it fair and equitable.

(d) The DMS received 15 complaints in 1995, 18 in 1996 and 14 in 1997 (till August) from MPs regarding distribution of milk. Required remedial action was taken in all the cases.

[Translation]

Wind Energy

2212. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether demand for energy is constantly increasing in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the efforts made to promote alternative resources of energy;

(c) whether any survey was conducted at some places to explore the potentiality of wind energy in the State;

(d) if so, the outcome of the survey; and

(e) the time by which the plan is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Central Government provides capital subsidy, fiscal incentives and soft loans from Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Ltd. (IREDA) for renewable energy projects in the country, including Madhya Pradesh. Such assistance is available for biogas plants; improved chulhas; solar photovoltaic devices and systems; biomass gasifiers; solar water and air heating systems; and, grid-connected, as well as decentralised power generation projects, based on solar energy, wind energy, small hydro and biomass. Resource assessment studies and surveys are being supported to identify potential areas for such projects. In addition, the State Government has announced an attractive policy to promote Non-Conventional Energy Sources in the State, as per the guidelines of the Central Government.

(c) Under the Wind Resource Assessment Programme, 15 Wind Monitoring Stations and 30 Wind Mapping Stations have been set up to identify potential areas for Wind Energy exploitation in the State.

(d) Four potential sites, namely, Jamgodrani, Kukru, Sindhva and Mahuriya have been identified, which are considered suitable for Wind Power Projects.

(e) The exploitation of the full potential will depend upon identification of further sites; techno-economic viability; continuation of Central and State incentives; and mobilisation of financial resources.

NCES Potential in Maharashtra

2213. SHRI R.S. GAVAI :

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE :

SHRI SADASHIVRAO D. MANDLIK :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the various schemes started to explore the non-conventional energy sources in Maharashtra especially in tribal areas during the last three years;

(b) the locations selected for setting up these projects;

(c) the funds allocated during the last three years and as on April 30, 1998, project-wise; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to make easily available and at cheaper rates the equipments used in installation of the solar energy, wind energy and other non-conventional energy sources?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) :

(a) and (b) The Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources has been implementing a wide range of programmes for the production and development of non-conventional energy sources such as Biogas plants, Improved chulhas, Biomass gasification and Briquetting plants, Solar thermal water heating, both domestic and industrial, Solar photovoltaic energy based rural home-lighting, lanterns, Water pumping for irrigation and village level power plants, Grid connected power from Wind energy, Small hydro, Biomass combustion, Bagasse-based Co-generation and Solar photovoltaic energy and energy from Urban and industrial wastes, throughout the country including in the State of Maharashtra. The entire State of Maharashtra including all the tribal areas are covered under these schemes.

(c) The details of funds allocated to Maharashtra, during the last 3 years and as on 30th April, 1998, project-wise is given in the Statement attached.

(d) In order to make easily available, at cheaper rates the equipment used in the installation of solar energy, wind energy and other non-conventional energy

projects, the Government has announced schemes for grant of financial support to take up research and development, technology upgradation and the setting up of pilot plant production and activities. Government is providing soft loan assistance to industries for the expansion of existing units and the setting up of new units for production of silicon for use in solar cells. The Ministry has taken up a technology development plan for indigenous production of wind energy equipment and to encourage complete indigenisation of wind electric generators.

Statement

The details of funds allocated to Maharashtra during the last three years and as on 30th April, 1998

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the Programme	Funds allocated and released during last three years and as on 30th April, 1998
1.	National Project on Biogas Development	1473.780
2.	Community/Institutional/Night soil based Biogas Plants	82.610
3.	National Programme on Improved Chulha	267.160
4.	Integrated Rural Energy Programme	140.900
5.	Special Area Demonstration Programme	16.513
6.	Solar Photovoltaic Programme	23.250
7.	Solar Thermal Energy Programme	9.970
8.	Water Pumping Windmills	5.000
9.	Wind Power Programme	365.240
10.	Small Hydro Power Programme	34.000
11.	Biomass Power Programme	17.600
12.	Urban & Industrial Wastes	17.100
13.	New Technologies	8.390
14.	Information & Public Awareness	7.100

[English]

Production of Cotton

2214. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :
SHRI CHINTA MOHAN :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether in spite of India's place being third among the cotton producing countries in the world the per hectare yield of cotton in the country is less than that of other cotton producing countries in the world;

(b) if not, the estimate of yield per hectare in U.S.A., China and Pakistan, separately;

(c) whether the cotton production has become unremunerative due to less yield and more cost; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and the steps taken by the Government to increase the yield of cotton in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. India's per hectare yield of cotton is less than several other cotton producing countries in the world in spite of its place being third on the basis of production. The yield estimates for India, USA, China and Pakistan as per FAO Production Year Book-1996 are as under:

	(Kg./ha.)
— India	307*
— U.S.A.	772
— China	767
— Pakistan	488

*Unofficial. The official estimate of the Directorate of Economics & Statistics is 266 Kg. per ha. in 1996-97.

(c) The cultivation of cotton is remunerative as the returns are higher than the cost.

(d) To increase the productivity and production of cotton, Government is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme viz., Intensive Cotton Development Programme (ICDP) in all the cotton growing States. It has also been decided to launch a Technology Mission on Cotton during the IXth Five Year Plan. The Government is also fixing the Minimum Support Price of cotton with a view to ensure remunerative prices to the cotton growers for their produce.