

[*English*]

Reports Regarding Nature and Degree of Bacteriological Contamination of Drinking Water

8053. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any State Governments have submitted any reports to Union Government regarding the nature and degree of bacteriological contamination of drinking water; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA): (a) No, Sr.

(b) Does not arise.

Safeguarding of Indian Borders

8054. SHRI CHIRANJILAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Border Security Force has been asked to remain vigilant in Kutch sector following the intelligence report regarding movement of Pakistan army in this sector; and

(b) other steps proposed to be taken to safeguard the Indian borders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b). Government constantly monitor all developments having a bearing on our national security and take appropriate measures to

ensure full preparedness at all times to meet defence and security needs.

[*Translation*]

Expenditure Incurred on Former Prime Minister's Visit Abroad

8055. SHRI RAGHAVJI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the countries visited by former Prime Minister during the year 1988 and 1989; and

(b) the total expenditure incurred on these visits?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) 1988:— Pakistan (to pay homage to late Khan Abdul Gaffar Khan), Sweden, Japan, Vietnam, Syria, FRG, USA (UN), Hungary, Jordan, Yugoslavia, Spain, Turkey, Bhutan, China and Pakistan (for SAARC Summit).

1989:— France, USSR, Pakistan and Yugoslav (for NAM Summit).

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*English*]

Sethusamudram Project

8056. SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANDHANAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to include Sethusamudram Project in the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) to (c). The 8th Five Year Plan Schemes are yet to be finalised.

Memorandum of Understanding Between Management and Employees of FACT

8057. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a memorandum of understanding was signed between the Management of the Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Limited and employees union;

(b) if so, the salient points of the memorandum of understanding;

(c) whether the Bureau of Public Enterprises has cleared this Memorandum of understanding; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA): (a) Minutes of the agreement regarding wage settlement was signed on 1.11.1989 between the management of Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Ltd. (FACT) and the ten recognised Unions representing workmen of FACT.

(b) The salient features of the wage settlement which is subject to the approval of the Government of India, are as follows:

- (i) A minimum basic pay of Rs. 1100 and the merger of Dearness Allowance (DA) upto 658 points of All India Consumers Price Index (Shimla series base 1960 = 100)

(ii) Introduction of slab system of fixed D.A.

(iii) Direct benefit ranging from a minimum of Rs. 210 to a maximum of Rs. 610 including the fixed D.A.

(iv) Increase in the House Rent Allowance, Conveyance Allowance etc.

(v) The wage settlement to be effective for a period of four years from 1.1.1988 to 31.12.1991.

(c) and (d). The Government of India cleared the wage settlement subject to the settlement being for a period of five years instead of four. It has been felt that since FACT's wage settlement confers almost similar benefits agreed in the case of Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. (FCI) - National Fertilizers Ltd. (NFL) Group of Companies, the FACT settlement should also have the same tenure.

[*Translation*]

Gas Based Fertilizer Plants in M.P.

8058. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any request from Madhya Pradesh Government for setting up gas based fertilizer plants in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the proposal has been cleared by Union Government; and

(d) if not, the reasons for delay and when it is likely to be cleared?