

THE MINISTER STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) 1389 persons were arrested during 1989.

(b) Action against all the arrested persons has since been initiated. Following measures were taken to book the criminal dealing in drug trafficking:

- (i) Some active drug traffickers/smugglers operating inter-State and also internationally have been identified.
- (ii) Special watch is being maintained at the entry and exit points of the UT of Delhi against drug trafficking.
- (iii) The bail of drug traffickers, who are sent to judicial custody in drug cases is strongly opposed in courts.
- (iv) Cases of major drug traffickers are moved for preventive detention to the Delhi Admn. under the provision of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985.

Expansion and Modernisation of Karungapally Telephone Exchange

6788. **SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR:** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether representations have been received from the people and organisations for the expansion and modernisation of Karungapally Telephone Exchange;

(b) whether power plant and microwave tower for providing S.T.D. facility have been constructed and if so when; and

(c) the steps taken for implementing the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir by March, 1990.

(c)

- (1) In order to expand and modernise Karungapally Telephone exchange it is proposed to replace the present electro-mechanical telephone exchange by an electronic exchange of suitable capacity during 8th Plan period.
- (2) For providing STC facility a reliable transmission medium is required between Karungapally and Trivandrum Trunk automatic exchange. The microwave Tower and power plant have been used to commission a UHF link between Karungapally and Quilon. Between Quilon-Trivandrum an optical Fibre link is planned to be commissioned during 1990-91. STD facility would become feasible soon after commissioning of above scheme using the existing automatic exchange.

Problems faced by Mechanised Fishing Industry

6789. **SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the problems of mechanised fishing industry in Kerala;

(b) whether Government have received any memorandum from the All Kerala Mechanised Fishing Boat operators Association, Cochin for diesel subsidy; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to resolve the crisis face by the industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A memorandum from the All Kerala Mechanised Fishing Boat Operators' Association, Cochin was received only on 10.4.1990 by the Agriculture Ministry. No decision has been taken on the contents of the Memorandum so far.

Sale Price of Edible Oil 'Dhara'

6790. SHRI Y S. RAJA. SEKHAR REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) whether the National Dairy Development Board is selling its own product 'Dhara' at prices higher than those of the same edible oils in the market;

(b) if so, the efforts being made to bring down the price of 'Dhara';

(c) whether National Dairy Development board has been given immunity from the Essential Commodities Act in the past two years; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) and (b). No Sir. National Dairy Development Board's products of 'Dhara' brand are

generally priced lower than other packs of similar edible oils available in the market and hence the question of making efforts to bring down 'Dhara' prices does not arise.

(c) and (d). Under the Essential Commodities act State Governments are empowered to issue orders pertaining to licensing, control and stock declaration of essential articles. However, the sale, purchase and storage of essential article by or on behalf of the Central Government is excluded from the Order. NDDB buys, stocks and sells edible oilseeds/oils on behalf of the Central Government in implementation of the Integrated Policy on Oilseeds.

[Translation]

Fire In High Rise Buildings

6791. SHRI SARJU PRASAD SAROJ: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of multi-storeyed commercial and residential buildings in Delhi alongwith the names of their owners and occupants which still do not have proper fire safety equipment;

(b) the number of cases of fire in these buildings during the last three years;

(c) the action taken by Government against the owners/occupants of such multi-storeyed buildings which are lacking in fire-fighting equipments; and

(d) the steps taken to monitor the compliance of Delhi Fire Prevention and Fire Safety Act, 1986?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) There are 138 commercial and 19 residential buildings which lack fire safety measures.