

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Union Government intend to revive the scheme;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RASHEED MASOOD) : (a) As per information available, Ayurveda Medical Officers were appointed in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat and Orissa under the Village Health Guide Scheme;

(b) to (f) Village Health Guide Scheme is continuing. Due to resource constraint it was decided not to fund the post of Medical Officer under the scheme w.e.f. 1-7-1989. State Governments have been asked to absorb these Medical Officers against the vacant posts of Medical Officers in the State Sector.

Scheme for Strengthening Surface and Ground Water Organisations

4680. **SHRI CHANDUBHAI DESHMUKH:** Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government had started a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for strengthening the surface and ground water organisations in the States during the Sixth Plan and continued it through the Seventh Plan;

(b) whether Government under the centrally sponsored scheme discontinued the assistance for the establishment and continued the support for equipments only; and if so; the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government plan to support the establishment also under the centrally sponsored scheme during the Eighth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION

IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the VII Plan, the assistance for establishment was restricted to the North Eastern States of (1) Assam (2) Meghalaya (3) Manipur (4) Tripura (5) Nagaland (6) Arunachal Pradesh and (7) Mizoram as the dearth of technical personnel in these States was hampering the groundwater development.

(c) The continuance of the scheme during the VIII Plan is still under consideration.

Reviewing the jute packaging materials (Packaging material compulsory use in packaging commodities) Act, 1987

4681. **SHRI CHANDUBHAI DESHMUKH:** Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether on account of implementation of the Jute Packaging Materials Act, 1987 about 150 HDP Woven Sacks Units established in Gujarat State are working at very low capacity utilisation;

(b) if so, whether Government have received any representation regarding taking remedial steps by way of reducing percentage of production to be packed in Jute Packing Material for the Cement and Fertilizer Units located in the State of Gujarat; and

(c) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken by Government regarding the representation and to ensure survival of the large number of SSI Units which are going sick due to operation of the order?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (c) Plastic Sacking or HDPE from different parts of the country including from Gujarat have been representing from time to time that the Reservation Orders issued by the Government in terms of the provisions of the Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory Use