

(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

in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987 have affected their utilisation capacity and economic viability. Government are of the view that the interests of the traditional jute packaging sector and the synthetic plastic units should be harmonised and both of them should co-exist by having a estimate share of the packaging of various sectors of the economy viz., foodgrains, sugar, cement and fertilizers. Keeping this objective in view the Reservation Orders have been in force over the last three years which leave in the opinion of the Government reasonable share for jute as well as synthetic sacking units. Government of India in consultation with the Govt. of Gujarat have also initiated a dialogue with the synthetic woven sack units in this State in order to bring about harmonised co-existence between Jute and HDPE units.

Transfers in Central Council for Research in Ayurveda And Siddha

4682. SHRI BASUADEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether ban on filling up of posts and transfer of posts from plan to non-plan applies to Central Government autonomous organisations under his Ministry;

(b) if so, as to why a number of transfers have been effected in Central Council for Research in Ayurveda and Siddha during the last three years;

(c) whether his Ministry has taken any action for irregular appointments made in contravention of ban orders and transfer of persons and posts; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to curb such irregularities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RASHEED MASOOD): (a) Yes.

(b) to (d) An Enquiry Committee has been appointed on 13-8-90 to look inter alia into the alleged irregular transfers in the Central Council for Research in Ayurveda and Siddha.

Supply of Edible oils to States

4683. SHRI BABUBHAI MEGHJI SHAH: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of States have urged Union Government to allocate more edible oils in recent months for public distribution;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Union Government to meet the demand of the States; and

(c) the quantum of different edible oil supplied to State by Union Government during the current year, month-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In order to meet the enhanced demand, allocation of edible oils to the States/UTs was increased from 70,000 MTs in July 1990 to 90,000 MTs in August, 1990. The allocation has further been increased to 92,000 MTs for September, 1990 and this increased level of allocation is likely to continue till the end of festival season.

(c) A statement showing allocation of edible oils made to the States/UTs and lifting of the same by them during the current oil year, State-wise is given below: