

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODHKANTSAHAY): (a) and (b). Checking of all incoming passengers entails great hardship to the commuters. However, screening of suspicious persons and objects is done by the Delhi Police.

Performance of Public Sector fertilizer factories

4776. SHRI BABANRAO DHAKNE:
SHRI CHHITUBHAI DEVJI
BHAIGAMIT:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Public Sector fertilizer factories in the country has been continuously showing unsatisfactory performance for the last several years;

(b) if so, the details thereof stating the annual production and loss suffered by each of these units during the last three years, year-wise and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the measures taken by Government to make them financially viable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA): (a) No Sir; the only public sector fertiliser companies showing unsatisfactory performance for the last several years are the Fertiliser Corporation of India (FCI) and the Hindustan Fertiliser Corporation (HFC)

(b) The details of production and loss suffered by these companies for the last three years are given below:—

STATEMENT

		1987-88			1988-89			1989-90	
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
			Production ('000 MT N)	Loss (Rs./crs.)	Production ('000 MT N)	Loss (Rs./crs.)	Production ('000 MT N)	Loss (Rs./crs.)	
F.C.I.			358.4	(-) 42.66	310.2	(-) 191.24	303.7	(-) 164.80	(Provisional)
H.F.C.			289.2	(-) 104.84	240.2	(-) 156.38	237.4	(-) 169.14	(Provisional)

The main factors responsible for poor performance are low capacity utilisation on account of power shortage, design deficiencies, old and obsolete technology, equipment break-downs, poor work culture, surplus manpower and also because the coal based technology was used for the first time in the cost of FCI's plants at Ramagundam and Talcher.

(c) With a view to improving the profitability of the fertiliser plants, several schemes for revamping, modernisation, installation of captive power plants etc. are being implemented/formulated.

Red Headed Caterpillars

4777. SHRID.M. PUTTE GOWDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether red headed caterpillars have devastated crops in certain parts of Chickmagalur, Chitradurga and Shimoga Districts in Karnataka State;

(b) whether Union Government propose to declare the above mentioned area as pest affected area and propose to take immediate measures to bring it under control; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR):
(a). No Sir, the incidence of red headed caterpillars occurred on sunflower, groundnut, jowar, regi and pulse crops only over an area of 3743 ha. in Chickmagalur, 98 ha. in Shimoga and 80 ha. in Chitradurga districts of Karnataka. The incidence of pest varied between 20% to 30% which is considered low to moderate intensity of infestation.

(b) and (c). No, Sir. However, the State Government to Karnataka have already undertaken control measures to bring the pest under control.

[*Translation*]

Uniform Wage Policy for Transport Workers

4778. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to implement uniform wage policy for all transport workers in the country;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN): (a) to (c). There is at present no proposal for uniform wage policy for all Transport Workers in the country. Each State has differing social and economic conditions based on which wages are determined and there cannot be a uniform wage policy for Transport Workers.

Congestion in Ports

4779. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the major ports which are facing congestion; and

(b) the measures being taken to ease congestion in those ports?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN): (a) Except Kandla and Visakhapatnam, all other