

the first three years only and withdraw its participation in the Scheme thereafter except in the Rabi 1989-90 season. In the current Rabi 1990-91 season also, the State Government is not implementing the CCIS in any district including the city and surrounding rural areas of Kanpur City.

(c) The number of farmers benefitted under the CCIS from Rabi 1985-86 to the end of Rabi 1987-88 in the City and Surrounding rural areas of Kanpur, so far, are 653 and 1671, respectively.

Harassment of Indian Diplomats in Pakistan

141. SHRI KESHARI LAL:
SHRI RAMESH
CHENNITHALA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of incidents in which Indian diplomats and their families were harassed in Pakistan this year;

(b) whether the Government have expressed its concern to the Government of Pakistan over the said incidents;

(c) if so, the reaction of the Pakistan Government thereto; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to check recurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b). There have been several instances of obtrusive surveillance and harassment of Indian diplomats as well as staff serving in our missions in Islamabad and Karachi, and their families. All such incidents are invariably taken up with the Government of Pakistan, and appropriate protests lodged.

(c) and (d). The Government of Pakistan usually denies the involvement of its personnel in such incidents. We are continuing our efforts with the Government of Pakistan to impress upon it the need to ensure smooth functioning of our officials and Missions, and to discharge its obligation under the Vienna Convention, to ensure the security and safety of the personnel of diplomatic missions.

[English]

Indo-Pak Talks on Bilateral Relations at Political Level

142. SHRI KALP NATH RAI:
SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA
RAJE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have expressed its willingness to hold talks with Pakistan at political level instead of at Foreign Secretaries level for normalisation of relations between the two countries; and

(b) if so, when the Ministerial level meeting is expected to take place between the two countries?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b). Government of India has always been willing to have a dialogue at any level considered appropriate, with Pakistan for the resolution of bilateral differences and for the normalisation of relations. Political-level discussions can be fruitful only in an atmosphere of mutual trust and confidence and after due preparation. At present, the two countries are engaged in a dialogue at the level of Foreign Secretaries. Political level talks will be initiated as soon as the time for it is propitious.