

Projects under National Natural Resources Management System

3160. SHRI BALGOPAL MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Government have designed some projects under National Natural Resources Management system;

(b) if so, the projects designed by the Government of Orissa and the financial assistance sought for these projects; and

(c) the funds allocated by the Union Government for those projects so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M.G.K. MENON): (a) Yes, Sir. About 20 States have set up Remote Sensing Service Centres and have undertaken projects under the National Natural Resources Management System (NNRMS).

(b) Government of Orissa has set up a State Remote Sensing Application Centre (ORSAC) in May, 1984 with a view to utilising the benefits of remote sensing technology towards monitoring and management of natural resources. The centre is carrying out large number of application projects in the areas of soil, geology, environment, urban landuse, floods, watersheds, forest mapping, ocean resources mapping and ground water potential zone mapping. The Centre is presently participating in the National projects namely, National Landuse Mapping and Drought Monitoring Projects, Soil Mapping Project, Crop acreage estimation and Production Forecasting, National Resources Data Management System, Drinking Water Technology Mission, IRS-UP projects on crop and water quality monitoring etc.

ORSAC has requested Department of Space for financial support for procurement of some machinery/equipment.

(c) The Department of Space has provided Rs. 20.00 lakhs as financial support to ORSAC towards procurement of a computer-based image processing system.

Air Pollution Control Measures in Cement Plant

3161. SHRI BALGOPAL MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cement plant set up at Rajgangpur in Orissa has not taken any air pollution control measures;

(b) whether air pollution in that area has been rising steadily;

(c) whether increasing air pollution has been posing a serious health hazard; and

(d) if so, the action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) No, Sir. M/s. Orissa Cement at Rajgangpur in Orissa has taken all the necessary air pollution control measures to control air pollution and are meeting the emission standard.

(b) No, Sir. The air pollution in that area has decreased considerably after the cement plant has installed the appropriate pollution control devices.

(c) and (d). Does not arise.