

(e) policy of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): (a) Delhi Administration has reported that there were 26 IMFL retail vends in Delhi, when the retail trade was taken over from private hands

in the year 1979-80.

(b) There are 146 retail shops in Delhi at present.

(c) The number of retail shops opened during the last three years is as under:

Financial Year	1989-90	—	6 shops
	1990-91	—	10 shops
	1991-92	—	12 shops

(d) No such target has fixed by the Administration.

(e) The opening of new retail vends depends upon the requirement.

Brackish Water Fish Farming

*444. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have permitted the private sector to exploit the field of brackish water fish farming;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. BALRAM JAKHAR) (a) There has been no ban on the private sector taking up brackishwater fish farming subject to land use policy of the State Governments and environmental consideration.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Autonomous District Councils

*445. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Assam has decided to grant more legislative, administrative and financial powers to the autonomous district councils in Karbi Anglong and North Cachar Hill districts;

(b) if so, whether such delegation of power by the State Governments to the district councils in autonomous districts calls for the approval of the Union Government or constitutional amendment; and

(c) if so, whether the necessary steps have taken by the Government of Assam?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): (a) to (c). The matter is under examination.

Coconut Development Board

*446 DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have approved the Eighth Five Year Plan proposal of the Coconut Development Board;

(b) if so, the total outlay for plan and non-plan programmes;

(c) whether any new projects have been approved; and

(d) by what time these projects are likely to be launched?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) An outlay of Rs. 100 crores for the VIII Plan as prosoed by the Coconut Development Board has been approved.

(b) The entire outlay is for plan programmes.

(c) and (d). An outlay of Rs. 9 crores has been approved for the first year of Eighth Plan (1992-93) and programmes launched. No new scheme has been approved.

Panel of Experts on Oil Exploration

***447. SHRI SHRAVN KUMAR PATEL:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Panel of Experts on Oil Exploration appointed to examine the issues regarding boosting crude exploration and production and reducing imports has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the recommendations made by the panel; and

(c) the follow-up action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKAR-ANAND): (a) No such 'Panel of Experts' has been appointed.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Committee on Agricultural Marketing

***448. SHRI M.V. CHANDRA SHEKARA MURTHY:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the High Powered Committee on Agricultural Marketing has recommended to the union Government to review their decision to transfer the Central Schemes for development of markets to the States;

(b) whether the Union Government propose to review the decision; and

(c) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) In their Interim Report, the High Power Committee on Agricultural Marketing has recommeded that the decision of Government to transfer the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Development of Markets to the States should be reviewed.

(b) and (c). As the decision to transfer this Scheme to the State Sector has been taken by the National Development Council on the basis of a recommendation to that effect made by a Committee of the National Development Council it is not proposed to review the above decision.

Loss to Agricultural Sector

***449. SHRI SOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated loss to the agricultural sector due to adverse terms of trade during the last three years;