

Governmental Organisations under Ganga Action Plan in the towns situated along Ganga.

(b) and (c) Participation of general public has been in the form of shramdan, padyatra, tree plantation, river ghat cleaning, exhibitions, slogan and essay writing competitions and water quality testing. As a result, people in 33 towns along Ganga in U.P., Bihar & West Bengal have been made aware of the problems of pollution of river and the efforts being made to clean it under Ganga Action plan.

Subsidy to Farmers

*668. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN:
SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the subsidy being extended to the farmers in our country as compared to the farmers in United States of America and other developed countries during the last three years;

(b) whether the subsidy extended to our farmers has declined gradually during the said period;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government for providing them subsidy at par with other developed countries?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) No official data are readily available about the quantum of subsidy being extended to farmers in our country as compared to farmers in U.S.A. and other developed countries during the last 3 years. However, according to Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Devel-

opment (OECD), producer subsidy as a percentage of the value of agricultural production for 1990 are given below. For India, the percentage of subsidy to net domestic product accruing from agriculture is 6%.

<i>Country</i>	<i>Producer subsidy equivalent as percentage of value of agricultural production</i>	<i>OECD</i>
Japan		68
EC		48
US		30
Canada		41
Australia		11

(b) and (c) Agricultural subsidies in India have gone up from Rs. 8365 crore in 1990-91 to Rs. 1990-91 to Rs. 10476 crore in 1992-93. Part (c) of the Question does not, therefore, arise.

(d) In developed countries, agricultural subsidies are used for different objectives. Whereas in these countries, subsidies are resorted to keep inter-sectoral commercial parity, in India subsidies are being provided to bring about a structural transformation for making agricultural sector a modern commercially viable one from a low return subsistence activity.

[English]

Forts in Maharashtra

669. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of forts in Maharashtra under the Archaeological Survey of India;