

(iii). While according environmental clearance to new plants, it is stipulated that a green belt should be provided around the power plant and continuous monitoring of air and water quality be carried out. Further, the project authorities are required to prepare and comply with a flyash utilisation programme.

(iv) Steps have been initiated for checking quality control of coal dispatches through Coal Controller's field units.

(e) As per the information provided by the Central Pollution Control Board, out of 73 thermal power plants in the country, 30 have adequate pollution control facilities to comply with standards whereas 43 units have inadequate pollution control systems.

(f) and (g). The following steps have been taken for increasing the utilisation of flyash :

(i) Fiscal incentives have been provided for Excise Duty exemption for flyash based products containing more than 25% flyash and Custom Duty exemption for specialised equipments.

(ii) Financial assistance has been provided for setting up pilot and R and D projects which utilise flyash.

(iii) Guidelines have been prescribed for utilisation of flyash and its free availability for at least 10 years;

(iv) A Technology Project in Mission Mode has been undertaken by the Government on "Selected Technology Projects for flyash disposal and utilisation".

Kesari Dal

*314. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD :
SHRI TARA SINGH :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total production of Kesari Dal in the country during the last one year, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to impose ban on the cultivation of Kesari Dal;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Union Government have issued any directions to the State Governments in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR) : (a) A statement is attached.

(b) and (c). No such proposal is under consideration.

(d) and (e). No directions have been issued in this regard. However, the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India requested the Chief Ministers of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and West Bengal States to impose ban on cultivation/marketing of Kesari Dal during 1989. Subsequently, in 1992 Ministry again requested the Chief Ministers of Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, and West Bengal to ban Kesari Dal under Rule 44-A of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Rule, 1955.

STATEMENT

State-wise Production of Kesari Dal During 1993-94

State	Production (in '000' Tonnes)
Bihar	184.4
Madhya Pradesh	332.5
Maharashtra	16.9
West Bengal	40.1
All India	573.9

Wildlife Offences

*315. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that low conviction rate for wildlife offences is one of the major causes of the country's dwindling wildlife resources;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to make the wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 more stringent;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) :

(a) It cannot be asserted with certainty that low conviction rate for wildlife offences is one of the major causes for dwindling wildlife resources.

(b) to (d). The wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 was last amended in 1991 with a view to *inter alia*, make it more stringent and effective. At present there is no proposal to amend the Act.

[Translation]

Railway Projects

*316. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the work on the major railway projects has been left incomplete;

(b) if so, the details of such projects;

(c) the time fixed for their completion and the extent