

Government had announced in advance the statutory minimum price payable for sugarcane at Rs. 42.50 per quintal linked to a basic recovery of 8.5% for the sugar season 1995-96 on December 19, 1994. Since the sugar season 1995-96 has commenced w.e.f. 1.10.1995, some of the States seem to have announced State Advised Prices for sugarcane. The Statutory Minimum Price fixed by the Central Government serves as the floor prices below which no sugar factory can pay. However, the prices advised by the State Governments are not binding on the sugar mills.

Consumer Dispute Redressal Commission

331. SRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO :
SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH :

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government are considering various recommendations made by the working group on comprehensive amendments to the Consumer Dispute Redressal Commission under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government have provided any funds for Consumer redressal form; and

(d) if so, the details and utilisation thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM) (SHRI VENOD SHARMA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Working Group to suggest suitable Amendments to the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 and rules framed thereunder has recommended that the Act should be amended to provide for establishing more Benches of the State Commission in a State and for this, the number of members may be increased to five depending upon the work load. The Inter-Ministerial consultation on the recommendations are in progress.

(c) and (d) The Central Government has approved one time financial assistance scheme of Rs. 61.00 crores to be provided to the States/UTs. for strengthening the infrastructure of the consumer courts set up under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986. A sum of Rs. 15.45 crores has been released as the first installment to States/UTs.

[Translation]

New Research Centres in Maharashtra

332. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to set up some new agriculture research centres in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the location-wise details thereof; and

(c) the time by which these research centres are likely to start functioning ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AYUB KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details as per attached Statement please.

(c) Some of these Centres have already started and others are likely to start functioning during the rest of the VIIIth Plan period i.e. by 1996-97.

STATEMENT

S. No.	Project	Centre-(Location)
1.	N.R.C. - Grapes	Pune
2.	N.R.C. - Onion & Garlic	Pimpri
3.	A.I.C.R.P. on Spices	Dapoli (Proposed)
4.	A.I.C.R.P. - Long Term Fertilizer Experiment	P.K.V., Akola
5.	A.I.C.R.P. - Micro & Secondary Nutrients	P.K.V., Akola
6.	A.I.C.R.P. - Farm Implements and Machinery	P.K.V., Akola
7.	A.I.C.R.P. on Medicinal & Aromatic Plants	P.K.V., Akola
8.	A.I.C.R.P. on Long Term Fertilizer Experiments	M.A.U., Parbhani
9.	A.I.C.R.P. - Weed Control	K.K.V. Depoli
10.	A.I.C.R.P. - Agro-meteorology	K.K.V. Depoli
11.	Central Institute of Fresh Water Acquaculture	Bhandara-Akola

The above projects have been approved by EFC/PIC to be implemented during VIII Plan.

NRC = National Research Centre

AICRP = All-India Coordinated Research Project.

Delhi Plants Conservation Authority

333. SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to set up Delhi Plants Conservation Authority to keep Delhi free from pollution;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard ?