

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AYUB KHAN): (a) and (b) . The minimum support prices of kharif and rabi crops of 1995-96 have been fixed by the Government. A statement showing the minimum support prices of various crops for 1995-96 season is enclosed.

(c) and (d) . The minimum support prices of major crops for the year 1995-96 have been fixed by the Government after taking into consideration the recommendations made by the CACP, views of State Governments and concerned Central Ministries, etc. While formulating its recommendations on price policy, the CACP takes into account a number of important factors like cost of production changes in input prices, input/output put price parity trends in market prices, parity between prices paid and prices received by the farmers (Terms of Trade), etc

### STATEMENT

*Minimum Support Prices  
(According to Crop Year)*

(Rs. Per Quintal)			
Sl. No.	Commodity	Variety	1995-96
1	2	3	4
1.	Paddy	Common	360.00
		Fine	375.00
		Super Fine	395.00
2.	Coarse Cereals (Jowar, Bajra & Ragi)	FAQ	300.00
3.	Maize	FAQ	310.00
4.	Wheat	FAQ	380.00
5.	Barley	FAQ	295.00
6.	Gram	FAQ	700.00
7.	Arhar	FAQ	800.00
8.	Moong	FAQ	800.00
9.	Urad	FAQ	800.00
10.	Sugarcane*	FAQ	42.50
11.	Cotton	F-414/H-777	1150.00
		H-4	1350.00
12.	Groundnut-in-shell	FAQ	900.00
13.	Jute	TD-5 Grade	490.00
14.	Repeseed/Mustard	FAQ	860.00
15.	Sunflower Seed	FAQ	950.00
16.	Soyabean	Black	600.00
		Yellow	680.00
17.	Safflower	FAQ	800.00
18.	Tobacco (Black Soil)	VFC F-2	19.00
	(Rs. per kg.) (Light Soil)	L--2 Grade	21.50
19.	Copra (Milling) (Calendar year)	FAQ	2500.00
	ball	FAQ	2725.00
20.	Sesamum	FAQ	850.00
21.	Nigerseed	FAQ	700.00

\* Statutory Minimum Price for a basic recover of 8.5%

[Translation]

### Drinking Water Scheme for Gujarat

1192. SHRI HARIBHAI PATEL :  
SHRI DILEEP BHAI SANGHANI :  
SHRIMATI BHAVANA CHIKHLIA :

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat have submitted drinking water Schemes for fluoride affected villages;

(b) if so, when the scheme was received by the Union Government and action taken thereon so far;

(c) the number of villages affected with deficiency of fluoride in Gujarat;

(d) the details of assistance provided by the Union Government to Gujarat state during the last three years in this regard;

(e) whether the clearance of the scheme after approval has been communicated to the Gujarat Government;

(f) if so, when and if not, the reasons for delay; and

(g) the time by which the clearance is likely to be given and communicated to the State Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) SHRI UTTAMBHAI HARJIBHAI PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b), (c), (f) and (g) . Four projects involving 186 schemes to benefit 549 habitations at an estimated cost of Rs. 4543.46 lakh were received in April, 1995. The Central Government has informed GWS & S Board in December, 1995 that these schemes cannot be considered till such time the Regional/individual schemes already approved at a cost of Rs. 6672.36 lakh for 589 habitations affected with excess fluoride/fluorosis are taken up for implementation.

(c) As on 1.4.94 there were 2413 habitations affected with excess fluoride in Gujarat.

(d) The Central Government had released assistance of Rs. 2742.53 lakh. However, the State Government has not utilised any amount so far.

### Indo-Nepal Relations

1193. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the steps taken by the Government to strengthen further the bilateral relations with Nepal during the last two years and the details of the achievements made thereby ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (i) All efforts were made to consolidate and expand ties with Nepal, a country with which India has traditionally enjoyed close and friendly relations during the past two years.

(ii) India continued with its efforts to promote and sustain a dialogue at high level with Nepal. Among the Indian dignitaries who visited Nepal in 1994 were Shri Bhuvanesh Chaturvedi as the Prime Minister's special envoy in June and the then Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Shri B. Shankaranand, in October; the Crown Prince of Nepal, Dipendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev paid his first official visit abroad to India in August.

(iii) In 1995, the visits of former Deputy Prime Minister Madhav Kumar Nepal (6-10 February) and former Prime Minister Manmohan Adhikari (10-14 April to India helped consolidate ties between the two countries. During this year the visits of Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Minister of External Affairs to Nepal (26-30 January) and that of Prime Minister Deuba of Nepal to India (11-17 February) helped improve ties and expand cooperation between the two countries. The signing of a Treaty on Integrated Development of the Mahakali River including Sarada Barrage, Tanakpur Barrage and Pancheshwar Project during the visit of Prime Minister Deuba represents a major breakthrough in the harnessing of river waters in the region for mutual benefit. An agreement on the construction of 22 bridges on the Kohalpur-Mahakali Highway in Nepal with Indian assistance was also signed during the visit. Further, an agreement on electric power trade, which would facilitate conclusion of power trade, agreement between Nepali and Indian parties, irrespective of such parties being governmental, semi-governmental or private enterprises was initiated during the visit.

(iv) India continues to play an active role in Nepal's development efforts. Major ongoing projects with GOI assistance include the setting up of a medical college and institute at Dharan, and the construction of 22 bridges on the East-West Highway in Western Nepal. Further, additional locomotives and coaches are being supplied to strengthen services on the Jayanagar-Janakpur railway sector. Work on surveys for East-West electric railway, outer ring road at Janakpur, broad-gauging of rail link between Raxaul and Sirsia, as well as other projects have also been initiated.

[English]

#### **Surplus Port Land**

1194. SHRI GABHAJI MANGAJI THAKORE : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any land lease rules have been framed by the Government for leasing out of the surplus port land in the country ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI M. RAJASEKARA MURTHY) : (a) and (b) . No, Sir. As per provision of Major Port Trusts Act, 1963, the Government has been approving the proposal for lease of land recommended by the Port

Trust Boards for creation of Port facilities and services. A set of guidelines has been issued for this purpose.

#### **Vilification Campaign of Pakistan**

1195. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the sustained misinformation and vilification campaign launched by Pakistan on the Jammu and Kashmir issue ; and

(b) if so, the step taken/being taken by the External Publicity Division of his Ministry to successfully counter the said misinformation campaign?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHED) :

(a) and (b) . Yes, Sir. Government are aware of Pakistan's vilification campaign against India on the Jammu and Kashmir issue.

Countering Pakistan's anti-India propaganda is an ongoing process. Swift, comprehensive and effective action is taken to counter Pakistan's false and motivated propaganda. Factual information is regularly provided to decision makers; the media and the Governments of foreign countries through the Missions of the foreign countries in India.

The world community has been made aware of Pakistan's direct fostering of terrorism in India particularly in Kashmir; its attempts to demolish the centuries old harmonious social fabric of Kashmir society, its efforts to use terrorism as a means to subvert and destroy secular democratic institutions and to create communal tension. Pakistan's use of subversion and terrorism to further its territorial ambitions since 1947 has been brought to the attention of the world community. It has been documented by independent organisation such as the Human Rights Watch Arms Project and others. As a result of these efforts many countries are believed to have impressed upon Pakistan the need to resolve all outstanding issues with India through dialogue and to have urged Pakistan to desist from fostering terrorism in India.

#### **Diesel Power Products in Gujarat**

1196. SHRI RATILAL VARMA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Electricity authority has given techno-economic clearance for setting up of a diesel power project in Saurashtra region of Gujarat; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL) : (a) and (b) . The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.