

devolution proposal would, therefore, not arise. Government have stated that the India has always stood for a peaceful negotiated settlement to the crisis in Sri Lanka.

Indian Electricity Act

1210. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have decided to merge three legislations governing the power sector, i.e. the Indian electricity Act, 1910, the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948, and the Indian Electricity Rules, 1956, into a single Act,

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL) (a) to (c) . And exercise has recently been initiated in the Ministry of Power to review the recommendations made by the various committees and to suggest appropriate legislative changes in the Indian Electricity Act, 1910, and the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948

Revamping of HFC Units

1211. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state

(a) whether the committee constituted to recommend action plan for revamping of the unit of Hindustan Fertilizer Limited have since submitted its report,

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations of the report submitted by the committee, and

(c) the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV) : (a) The Government had constituted a Technical Committee on 16.6.94 to examine whether Durgapur, Barauni and Namrup I & II units of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited (HFC), a sick PSU in the fertilizer sector, could be operated with a modest investment on renewal/replacement of the problematic equipments.

(b) The Technical Committee, in its report submitted to the Government on 19.7.94, identified trouble prone equipment and weak areas for replacement, repairs and modifications, alongwith other remedial measures essential to continue the operation of the aforesaid units. The Committee estimated an investment requirement of Rs. 263.18 crore and also assessed the stream days and production capacities likely to be achieved by these units

(c) Based on the recommendations of the Technical Committee and taking into account other relevant factors,

a revival package for HFC was formulated. It envisaged the revamp of its Barauni, Durgapur and Namrup units with an investment of Rs. 464.93 crore, apart from capital restructuring and other financial reliefs. The funds for revival of these units have not been tied up so far. A joint group comprising internally representatives of Financial Institutions (FIs) and HFC has been constituted by the Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India Ltd. (ICICI) to reformulate the revival package of HFC keeping in view the observations made by ICICI regarding its techno-economic viability in the context of its appraisal for funding by (FIs).

The revamp of HFC's Haldia project was not found to be techno-economically viable and it has been decided to consider the option of attracting private capital for its rehabilitation.

[Translation]

Research Centres in Bihar

1212. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the names and locations of the Research Councils, Research Centres and Projects under the Indian Council of Agricultural Reserch (ICAR) in Bihar,

(b) the expenditure incurred on each of the above Councils, Centres and Projects during the last three years; and

(c) the impact of these research works on the agricultural production in the State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AYUB KHAN) : (a) and (b) . The details of names and locations of Research Centres, Projects and expenditures incurred during the last 3 years are given in the Statement attached.

(c) In Crop Science, research work of Centres in the State has helped in evolving improved varieties of crops and development of low cost production and protection technologies

In Horticulture several new varieties of crops namely Lichi, Cucumber, Brinjal were released.

In Soils, Agronomy and Agro-forestry, the research programmes have been helpful in bringing out suitable location specific technologies.

The National Agriculture Research Project (NARP) has developed technologies for farmer's needs. In Agriculture Extension the demonstration of various improved practices, the percentage of increase in yield in many crops increased from 85 per cent to 195 per cent