

	<i>Contract year</i>	<i>Amount received (Rs.) (Value in Lakhs)</i>
1.	14.4.88 to 13.4.89	756.75
2.	14.4.89 to 13.4.90	1129.30
3.	17.4.90 to 16.4.91	1240.42

(b) Iron Scrap from the Blast Furnace Slag Dump is sold through contractors by inviting open tenders on an all India basis for composite contracts of recovering, removal and lifting of scrap.

(c) As the scrap content in the slag dump is not assigned a separate cost, it is not possible to reflect the profit on recovery of scrap, separately. The sale proceeds from the sale of iron scrap from Blast Furnace Slag Dump add to the income/profit of the Company.

#### **Mushroom Purchased by NAFED**

6860. SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of Mushroom purchased by NAFED under Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) during 1990-91;

(b) the rate at which these mushrooms were purchased;

(c) whether the rate at which mushroom were purchased by NAFED was higher than the prevailing rate in market; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b). A quantity of 45.821 MTs of Mush-

room was purchased by NAFED under the Market Intervention Scheme during 1990-91 @ Rs. 22/- per Kg.

(c) and (d). The Market Intervention Price of Rs. 22/- per Kg. was fixed in consultation with the State Government of Haryana to save the Farmers from distress sales. The prevailing market rates were lower than the market intervention price.

#### **Public Telephone Facility to all Post Offices in Sikkim**

6861. SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether public telephone facility is available in all post offices/sub post offices in Sikkim;

(b) if so, the number thereof, Post Office-wise/sub-post Office-wise in each district; and

(c) if not, the details of the measures proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Public telephone facility is available in all the 17 Departmental Sub-Post Office and the 7 extra departmental sub-offices. Out of 120 extra departmental branch post office 5 are provided with public telephone.

(b) Their numbers sub post office-wise/ Branch post office-wise in each district are furnished in the statement attached.

(c) The Department of Telecommunica-

tions has planned to provide telephone facilities in all village Panchayats during 1991-95. These telephones will be located at post offices, panchayat office, Grocer's s'hops or other places with public access.

### STATEMENT

<i>District</i>	<i>Departmental Sub-Office.</i>	<i>Extra Departmental Sub-Office.</i>	<i>Extra Departmental Branch Office.</i>
East Sikkim	11	2	2
West Sikkim	2	nil	2
North Sikkim	1	5	nil
South Sikkim	3	nil	1

#### **Freedom Fighters' Pension to Malabar Special Armed Police**

6862. SHRI K. MURALEE DHARAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the applications for the grant of freedom fighters' pension from the re-trenched Malabar Special Armed Police (MSAP) personnel for disobeying the British orders during freedom movement are still pending; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the time by which these applications are likely to be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) and (b). The Malabar Special Armed Police Strike has not been recognised as a part of the national freedom struggle for the purposes of pension under the Central Freedom Fighters' pension Scheme. As such, participants in the said

strike are not eligible for pension.

#### **Establishment of Irrigation Development Bank**

6863. SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for the establishment of an Irrigation Development Bank to mobilise resources for speedy completion of on-going irrigation projects in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b). A proposal for setting up of an Irrigation Finance Corporation to provide funds for the expeditious completion of nationally important projects was recommended by the Working Group on Major and Medium irrigation Programme for inclusion in the VIII Plan. The proposal is to provide resources by the Central Government to the Corporation in shape of equity and loans.