

spective States. As a result of the Government's timely intervention steep increases in prices of raw jute were considerably arrested.

[*Translation*]

Capacity to Process Potato

2439. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of total production of potatoes in the country being used in the manufacture of processed food;

(b) whether a time bound scheme has been formulated to increase the present manufacturing capacity; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) While total production of potatoes during 1988-89 is estimated at 14.8 million tonnes, no information is available about the actual quantity of potatoes being processed.

(b) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries has not formulated any scheme for the purpose.

(c) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Liquor Consumption in Delhi

2440. SHRI A.K. ROY: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of liquor consumed in the Union Territory of Delhi during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) revenue collected therefrom during the period, year-wise;

(c) whether the liquor consumption is on the increase violating the Directive Principle of the Constitution; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to prevent liquor consumption?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN):

(a) and (b). The quantity of liquor sold in Delhi during the last three years of 1986-87, 1987-88 and 1988-89 was 422.5, 493.5 and 550.8 lakh bottles respectively. This includes different types of liquor such as I.M.F.L., Beer, country liquor and 50 Rum. The revenue collected on account of the sale of liquor during these three years amount to Rupees 112.11, 130.64 and 158.60 crores respectively.

(c) and (d). It is presumed that the liquor sold is consumed by people. Growth in consumption can be attributed to increases in population, number of people consuming liquor, and quantity consumed by the individuals, as well as to effective enforcement measures taken by Delhi Administration against illicit distillation and sale of illicit liquor. In accordance with the Directive Principles of the Constitution, Delhi Administration has taken a number of steps to discourage consumption of intoxicating drugs and liquors by way of educating the public about the evils of drinking through various mass media-television, radio, cinema, newspapers etc., and incorporating appropriate measures in the Excise Policy.

Diversion of Surplus Water of West Flowing Rivers to Tamil Nadu

2441. SHRI B. RAJARAVI VERMA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to hold talks with Kerala regarding diversion of surplus waters of west flowing rivers to the dry pockets of Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether any action plan is likely to be prepared in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) to (c). A preliminary feasibility report for linking of rivers in Kerala viz. Pamba and Achankovil to the Vaigai river in Tamil Nadu has been prepared. It is to be sent to the concerned State Governments for comments and thereafter discussed in the Technical Advisor Committee of the National Water Development Agency.

Wages to NTC Employees

2442. SHRIMATI SUBHASHINI ALI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the workers and employees of NTC mills are entitled to get their wages, DA etc. as the employees of other public sector organisations;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The wages, D.A. etc. of textile workmen, including those in NTC Mills, are periodically negotiated on the principle of "Region-cum-Industry" between employer of

Cotton Textile Mills or their Association with the concerned Trade Unions or their Coordinating Joint Committee of Trade Unions or State level Federations or Branches of Central Trade Organisation on bipartite basis or before Labour Commissioner of the concerned State Government on tripartite basis. But only in respect of workmen of mills in Punjab, such matters are determined by Government of Punjab in exercise of their powers under Minimum Wages Act, 1948.

Telugu-Ganga Project

2443. SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO:
SHRICHIRANJILAL SHARMA:
SHRIMATI T. MANEMMA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far under the Telugu-Ganga Project;

(b) whether the Project was reviewed recently by the Chief Ministers of Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by Union Government to expedite the Project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) This project is not monitored by the Centre.

(b) The State Government has informed that the Chief Ministers of Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu held discussions on 4.2.1990.

(c) Apart from completion of techno-economic appraisal, the project has been cleared from environment and forest angles in September and October, 1988 respectively. A meeting of the Chief Ministers has been convened on 5.4.1990 to consider inter-State issues.