

Gene Banks for Medicinal and Aromatic plants was approved by the Heads of the States/Governments in principle at the first summit level meeting of the G-15 countries on South-South consultation and cooperation held in Kuala Lumpur in January, 1990. A project document prepared by India and considered by an expert group of G-15 countries was approved by the summit level meeting at Caracas in November, 1991. As a follow up, the meeting of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) and Regional Coordinators have been held on 24-26th June, 1992. India is the Regional Coordinator for Asian region, Brazil for Latin America and Egypt for Africa. Modalities for creation and operation of a Trust Fund have been worked out. Training, exchange of information, organisation of scientific workshops, preparation of an inventory of important medicinal and aromatic plants and a regional plan of action for the establishment of gene banks have been undertaken. Each country has initiated action on these recommendations. The first newsletter and an inventory of important Indian Medicinal and Aromatic plants have been prepared by India.

[English]

Availability of Cement in Rural Areas

1284. KUMARI VIMLA VERMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the efforts made by the Government to ensure the availability of cement in the rural areas of the country particularly backward areas of Madhya Pradesh, and

(b) the efforts made to improve the productivity of cement by setting up cement industries/plants in rural areas of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHII): (a) and (b).

Government is providing all infrastructural support to the Industry to maximise cement production and to ensure its movement from surplus to deficit areas, thereby making available cement in all parts of the country including the rural areas. Madhya Pradesh is a surplus State in respect of cement production and availability.

Government has delicensed the cement sector enabling entrepreneurs to set up cement units depending upon the availability of raw materials and the market.

Vanaspati Plant in Punjab

1285. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHARY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a Vanaspati Plant in Punjab;

(b) if so, the proposed installed capacity of the said plant; and

(c) the employment generation capacity of that proposed plant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

Distribution of surplus land in Bihar

1286. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the area of land declared surplus after the application of the Agricultural Land Ceiling Legislation in Bihar;

(b) the area of surplus land distributed among the eligible beneficiaries so far, with year wise break-up;

(c) the percentage of beneficiaries who belong to scheduled castes and scheduled Tribes;

(d) the percentage of beneficiaries out of them who are residing in the same revenue village; and

(e) the percentage of beneficiaries who belong to other economically backward families residing in the same revenue village?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) 4.75 lakh acres of land has been declared surplus under the ceiling laws, upto 1991-92 in the State of Bihar.

(b) A statement is enclosed.

(c) 61.12% of beneficiaries belong to Scheduled Castes and 11.81% to Scheduled Tribes.

(d) and (e). Land being a State subject, these details are therefore not maintained at Govt. of India level, however, the Bihar Land Reforms (Fixation of Ceiling Area and Acquisition of Surplus Land) Act, 1961 Section 27, lays down the procedure for distribution of ceiling surplus land, which inter-alia provides that land be distributed to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and landless persons belonging to backward classes residing in the same village.

STATEMENT

Statement showing year-wise area distributed (cumulative) to the eligible beneficiaries.

Year	Area distributed (in lakh acres)
Upto March, 1988	2.32
1989	2.48
1990	2.54
1991	2.67
1992	2.74

Ban on strikes in key public sectors

1287. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to ban strikes in various key public sector units;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the sectors in which strikes would be banned.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY AND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES) (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) No Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Reorganisation of Public Sector Undertakings

1288. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to reorganise Central Public Sector Undertakings;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which these are likely to be reorganised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY AND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES) (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) to (c). As already announced in the Industrial Policy Statement laid in Parliament on July 24, 1991 the Government will continue to follow the mixed economy pattern as its policy. For improving