

97 police officials, 20 cases have already been instituted in the court.

[English]

Agricultural Subsidy

1785. **SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken a decision to withdraw subsidies on various items relating to Agricultural Sector,

(b) if so, the details thereof

(c) the reasons for arriving at this decision, and

(d) the implication of this decision on export of agricultural products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c) The Government's policy aims at reducing the level of subsidies in the economy including agriculture with a view to reducing fiscal imbalances so that the developmental activities are financed in a non-inflationary manner. Accordingly, subsidies on fertilizers have been curtailed. The farmers have, however, been adequately compensated through enhanced minimum support prices

(d) it is too early to judge whether withdrawal of subsidies on agricultural commodities will have adverse effect on its exports

[Translation]

Food Processing Industry in Bihar

1786. **SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF**

FATMI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals sent by the Government of Bihar for setting up Food Processing Industries during the last two years, and

(b) the number of projects sanctioned so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO)

(a) and (b) Two proposals, one for setting up of Mushroom Spawn Laboratory and Processing Centre and another preliminary proposal for development of infrastructure for fruits and vegetables processing was received from the Tribal Cooperative Development Corporation through the Government of Bihar. Financial assistance of Rs 4.65 lakhs have been sanctioned for the first proposal. Complete proposal for the infrastructure for fruits and vegetables processing have not been received from Bihar Government

Animal Husbandry

1787. **SHRI VILASRAO NAG-NATHRAO GUNDEWAR:**

SHRI PROBEN DEKA

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Union Government have received proposals from the Governments of Assam and Maharashtra for promoting animal husbandry in these States,

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?