

[Translation]

Acquisition of Agricultural Land

2339. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to impose any ban on acquiring agricultural land of surrounding villages of Delhi for environmental protection;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the decision is likely to be taken in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi has reported that agricultural land is acquired in Delhi under the provisions of Land Acquisition Act, 1894 mainly for requirements of planned development of Delhi in accordance with the Master Plan for Delhi prepared under the provisions of Delhi Development Act. Environment considerations are, thus, duly taken into account, since the subsequent development is planned taking environmental considerations also into account.

[English]

Use of Nuclear Energy

2340. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAM CHANDRAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether nuclear energy is being utilised in medicines and agriculture;

(b) whether the Government have chalked out any programme in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the allocation made for the purpose during 1993-94 and 1994-95?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND DEPARTMENT OF SPACE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Department of Atomic Energy has ongoing programmes in Nuclear Medicine as well as Nuclear Agriculture. In the area of Nuclear Medicine, radioisotopes produced in Trombay are used for diagnostic and therapeutic purposes. In the area of Nuclear Agriculture, the programme encompasses crop improvement, increasing fertilizer use efficiency and integrated pest control management to reduce environmental damage from the use of chemical pesticides, as well as tissue culture for micropropagation of commercial plants.

(d) The Budget allocations made/proposed in the area of Nuclear Medicine, Nuclear Agriculture and allied fields are Rs. 120.90 lakhs and Rs. 146.90 lakhs for the years 1993-94 and 1994-95 respectively.