

the University. According to the information furnished by the University, one Lecturer, 23 Readers, 87 Professors and 8 Library Staff are presently working in re-employed capacity. The University has informed that ordinarily such re-employed persons are not permitted to exercise administrative and financial powers.

[Translation]

Barren Land

1016. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY:
SHRI JANARDAN MISRA:
SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- the total area lying barren at present, State-wise;
- whether the Government are formulating any scheme for the development of barren land;
- if so, the broad features of the scheme; and
- the time by which this scheme is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) An area of 129.50 million ha. has been estimated to be under Wastelands including Barren Lands. The State-wise distribution is given in the Statement attached.

(b) The following schemes are being implemented for development of these lands:—

- Integrated Wastelands Development Project;
- Technology Extension;
- Investment Promotional Scheme;
- Grant-in-Aid;
- Wastelands Development Force.

(c) and (d) The broad features of these Schemes include development of wastelands through Soil & Moisture Conservation; Plantation; Natural Regeneration, Horticulture and other land-based activities. The schemes are being implemented on year to year basis.

Statement
ESTIMATE OF WASTELANDS
(million Hectares)

State/UT	Non-Forest Degraded Area	Forest Degraded Area	Total
Andhra Pradesh	7.682	3.734	11.416
Assam	0.935	0.795	1.730
Bihar	3.896	1.562	5.458
Gujarat	7.153	0.683	7.836
Haryana	2.404	0.074	2.478
Himachal Pradesh	1.424	0.534	1.958
Jammu & Kashmir	0.531	1.034	1.565
Karnataka	7.122	2.043	9.165
Kerala	1.053	0.226	1.279
Madhya Pradesh	12.947	7.195	20.142
Maharashtra	11.580	2.841	14.401
Manipur	0.014	1.424	1.438
Mizoram	0.815	1.103	1.918
Nagaland	0.508	0.878	1.386
Orissa	3.157	3.227	6.384
Punjab	1.151	0.079	1.230

Rajasthan	18.001	1.933	19.934
Sikkim	0.131	1.150	0.281
Tamilnadu	3.392	1.009	4.401
Tripura	0.108	0.865	0.973
Uttar Pradesh	6.635	1.426	8.061
West Bengal	2.177	0.359	2.536
UTs	0.889	2.715	3.604

TOTAL:— 93.685 35.889 129.574

Railway Network

1017. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government propose to expand the Railway Network in the under-developed areas of Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some proposals have been received for making survey of the broad gauge or continue with the metre gauge as usual in the tribal area of Chhota Udepur in Gujarat;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details are as under:

(i) Gauge conversion of Delhi-Ahmedabad is making good progress and the portion in Gujarat will be completed by 1995-96.

(ii) Viramgam-Mahesana will also be converted in 1995-96.

(iii) Gauge conversion of Rajkot-Veraval has been sanctioned.

(iv) The work on Kapadvanj-Modasa new line, which had been temporarily frozen, has been re-started.

Some surveys for new lines/gauge conversions have also been taken up. These are:—

(i) Conversion of Surendranagar-Bhavnagar MG line into BG and extension of converted line from Bhavnagar to Pipavav via Alang.

(ii) Gauge conversion of Baruch-Jambusar NG line and Botad-Surendranagar MG line into BG and construction of a new BG line from Jambusar to Botad including rail-cum-road bridge across the Gulf of Cambay.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) It has been decided that such of the NG lines which were closed following floods and breaches be re-opened and conversion of these lines into BG will be considered on merits for which the State Government, Railways and Planning Commission will raise. Necessary action in this regard is being initiated.

(e) Does not arise.