

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
22. Tamil Nadu		10542	237	3479	3459	147.27	December
23. Tripura		9	5	-	-	0.06	December
24. Uttar Pradesh		1767	5	-	200	-	August
25. West Bengal		1804	962	538	-	494.76	December
26. A and N Island		1	1	1	1	0.03	December
27. D and N Haveli		Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	November
28. Delhi		843	66	46	39	-	December
29. Daman and Diu		250	-	-	-	-	August
30. Chandigarh		3	5	-	-	0.03	December
31. Lakshdweep		-	-	-	-	-	December
32. Pondicherry		163	26	3	10	0.57	December
		112994	9078	4846	4078	1546.00	

Statement Showing Information Received Upto 31.03.95

Rail Link

5137. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to provide a rail link between Rajgir and Gaya to promote travelling in that area sponsored by Department of Tourism and ITDC;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) to (c). No such proposal has been received from Department of Tourism or I.T.D.C.

Research on Coconut

5138. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether research on coconut kernel and effects of its use by human beings has been conducted;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the name of institution/organisation which has conducted such research and when;

(c) the details of funds provided by the Government or by Coconut Development Board for such research;

(d) whether Bio-chemistry department of Kerala University is also conducting such research;

(e) if so, since when and the funds allocated for the purpose to the University;

(f) whether requests for more fund to conduct such research have been received; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Department of Bio-chemistry, University of Kerala, Trivandrum has conducted study on effect of coconut kernel consumption on Serum lipid profile and thrombosis in March, 1992. The results indicated that consumption of coconut kernel alongwith coconut oil actually caused lowering of serum cholesterol level.

(c) The Coconut Development Board has provided a fund of Rs. 7,88,218 to the University for this research project.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Since, March, 1992, funds allocated for the purpose was Rs. 7,88,218.

(f) Yes, Sir.

(g) The University of Kerala has requested for additional funds of Rs. 3,28,264/- for extension of studies to other districts of Kerala. The Board has requested the University to limit the study to Trivandrum district alone.

Evaluation of Text Books

5139. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI :
SHRI BALRAJ PASSI :
SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether NCERT has set up some special task force to review the text books and revise them;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the main findings of the task force so far;

(c) whether the views of the State Governments have also been taken into consideration in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether revised text books would be available for the next academic session; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) to (f). The National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has taken up a programme for conducting a comprehensive research study covering all aspects of textbooks evaluation through an internal task team. The textbook evaluation will be conducted by the respective NCERT departments jointly with the four Regional Institutes of Education. The textbooks will be made available after the revision is completed on the basis of the evaluation report. Schools affiliated to the various State Boards use textbooks prescribed by the respective State Boards. The State Governments have their own mechanism for designing, publication and printing of textbooks.

Performance of Railways

5140. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the performance level of Indian Railways has been declining over the last three years;

(b) if so, the factors responsible therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to improve the performance of Railways?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The steps taken to improve the performance include, amongst others, increasing the reliability and utilisation of assets, improvement in punctuality and safety in train operation, reduction in energy consumption, innovative marketing strategies, reduction in working expenses etc.

Ecologically Fragile Area

5141. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry have decided to review the notification No. SO/416 (E), dated 20.6.1991 declaring Dehanu Taluka in Maharashtra as Ecologically Fragile Area;

(b) whether his Ministry have constituted a Committee to examine the issues including the necessity of providing a Buffer zone of 25 kms. free of industries;

(c) whether the above Committee has furnished its report;

(d) if so, the findings thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(e) if not, the time by which it is likely to be submitted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) :

(a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) and (e). The Committee has prepared the draft report to be submitted to the Government shortly.

(d) Does not arise.

Import of Sugar

5142. SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering a proposal to import sugar under OGL to meet the possibility on sugar scarcity and keep the prices in control; and

(b) if so, the details and its impact on the sugar industry and on cane growers?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) and (b). With a view to ensure adequate availability of sugar, State Trading Corporation of India Limited (STC) and Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India Limited (MMTC) have entered into forward contracts for import of about 4.05 lakh tonnes of sugar.

Since the distribution of sugar is controlled by the Government, it is expected that it would not have any adverse impact on the sugar industry or on the cane growers.

Assistance for Female Education by U.S.A.

5143. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the United States of America has set up a 100 million dollar 'Girls and Women Education Fund' as stated by US First lady, Mrs. Hillary R. Clinton during her recent visit;

(b) if so, the details of the schemes to be financed from the said fund; and

(c) the steps so far taken by the Government in this regard?