

normal rainfall of 122 mm during the entire month. This resulted in inundation of the area where crops of cotton, moong, arhar and bajra were sown in an area of 245 hectares and this resulted in failure of these crops in the said area leading to loss of production at the farm.

(k) CSF, Raichur in Karnataka and CSF, Chengam in Tamil Nadu experienced heavy cyclonic rain (350mm) in the third week of November, 1992 which extensively damaged the matured crops of jute and sunflower.

(l) Agricultural operations at CSF, Girjapuri District Bahraich in U.P. were completely paralysed for about 8 days due to non-availability of POL etc. owing to Ayodhya incident on 6th December, 1992.

(m) CSF, Kokilabari in District Barpeta of Assam is located in the BODO belt and was affected due to disturbances in Assam particularly the BODO agitation. On account of this, the operations at the farm were severely curtailed and the farm could not take up various crops in the envisaged areas.

(n) CSF, Aralam in Kerala faced a prolonged strike by workers lasting for about four months and this severely affected the performance of the farm. During this period the planting material died and the harvesting of the crops could not be completed in time.

(o) Most of the farm machinery at the farms of the Corporation has outlived its life and due to non-availability of regular funds caused by delay in sanctioning of loans from the participating Banks under National Seeds Project Phase III augmentation of irrigation facilities and replacement of machinery could not be accomplished.

(p) There has been steep rise in the cost of fertilisers particularly DAP, urea and MOP on account of decontrol and reduction in subsidy which has put extra burden by way of input cost on the Corporation without corresponding increase in the sale price of the product of the farm.

(q) Apart from the above following factors also contributed to the losses suffered by the Corporation :

- (i) Disposal of 35,000 qtls of Wheat and 16,000 qtls Paddy seeds as grain due to glut in the market.
- (ii) The additional liability of Rs. 1.5 crores due to statutory increases in the salary and wages on account of payment of wage arrears to the employees who opted for the industrial scales.
- (iii) The additional interest liability of Rs. 23.00 lakhs on account of cash credit restrictions.
- (iv) There was increase in the cost of inputs such as fertilisers, pesticides, POL, spare parts to the extent of Rs. 80,00 lakhs on account of rise in prices.

[Translation]

Pollution in Madhya Pradesh

2096. SHRI BHAWANI LAL VERMA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received complaints regarding air pollution in Madhya Pradesh, particularly in Nagar Korba;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent of air pollution in various cities at present and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

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

(a) and (b). There have been complaints regarding air pollution in Madhya Pradesh in general and a specific complaint has been received for Korba. The complaint about Korba relates to pollution from thermal power plants of National Thermal Power Corporation and Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board.

(c) and (d). Ambient Air Quality is monitored in the cities of Bhilai, Bhopal, Indore, Jabalpur, Korba, Nagda, Raipur and Satna. The data indicates that there is an increasing trend in air pollution due to industries, vehicular traffic and anthropogenic causes. However, the level of sulphurdioxide and oxides of nitrogen are well within the limits but levels of suspended particulate matter at times exceed the prescribed standards. Government have taken a number of steps for control of pollution. The salient features of the steps include the following :

- (i) Emissions standards have been prescribed under the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, to control air pollution.
- (ii) Environmental guidelines have been evolved for siting and operation of industries.
- (iii) Industries have been asked to comply with the consent requirements of the State Pollution Control Board to limit the emissions within prescribed standards. Legal action is taken against the defaulting units under the relevant acts.
- (iv) Fiscal incentives are provided for installation of pollution control equipment and also for the shifting of polluting industries from congested areas.
- (v) A network of ambient air quality monitoring stations have been set up.
- (vi) Gross and mass emissions standards for vehicles have been notified under the Motor Vehicle Rules, 1989.