

Department of Culture) (Kumari Selja) (a) No Sir

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The Indian Council of Medical Research convened a meeting of representatives of Medical Colleges from 18 States/Union Territories to consider the measures to be taken at Primary Health Centre level in collaboration with the State Health Officers to treat streptococcal sore throat infection

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

7927 Shri Bir Singh Mahato : Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state

(a) the details of the proposals for financial assistance received from voluntary organisations of West Bengal during the last three years,

(b) the number of proposals approved so far and the number of proposals still pending, and

(c) whether the Government have since released the amount of assistance sought for?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and Department of Culture) (Kumari Selja) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House

[Translation]

CONTROL OVER NATIONAL PARKS AND SANCTUARIES

7928 Shri Rajendra Kumar Sharma : Will the Minister of Environment and Forests be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have started any Environment Development Programme for participation of local people in Forests Conservation and Wildlife Protection

(b) if so, the details thereof including the amount spent during the last three years thereon and the amount earmarked for the year 1995-96,

(c) the details of the benefits likely to be yielded by this programme,

(d) whether there is any proposal to give control of Sanctuaries and National Parks to local people and local organisations,

(e) if so, the details thereof, and

(f) the reaction of environmentalists and others to the proposal?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Environment and Forests (Shri Kamal Nath)

(a) The Government is implementing the Centrally

Sponsored Scheme of "Eco-development in and around protected areas including tiger reserves," since 1991-92 which involves participation of local people in forest conservation and wildlife protection. The scheme is being implemented in 17 States covering about 85 protected areas

(b) The amount spent during the last three years and the amount earmarked for 1995-96 is given below

Year	Amount Spent (Rs In lacs)
1992-93	296 434
1993-94	484 280
1994-95	346 150
1995-96	680 00 (earmarked)

(c) The scheme is aimed at ensuring generation of forest biomass outside protected areas finding alternative to existing biomass use and socio-economic development of the communities living in and around wildlife protected areas so that their co-operation and support can be enlisted for reducing the pressures on the wildlife habitats. This would bring about an improvement in the conservation status of the protected areas

(d) No, Sir

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

[English]

SUGAR MILLS

7929 Shri M.V.V.S. Murthy : Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state

(a) whether the Union Government have decided not to consider fresh applications for loans for Sugar Mills of those States where recovery towards repayment of Cane Development is below 75 per cent;

(b) if so, whether this has not been approved by the State Government,

(c) the states which are likely to be affected by this decision,

(d) whether any alternative has been suggested, and

(e) the efforts being made to recover the loans?

The Minister of Food (Shri Ajit Singh) : (a) Yes, Sir it has been decided that fresh loan application for Cane Development Schemes based on State Government guarantees will not be considered from the mills of those States where recoveries towards repayment of cane development loans of the Sugar Development Fund (SDF) are below 75 per cent