

the country. Initially, a programme for deployment of 1,000 solar photovoltaic (PV) water pumping systems for agriculture and related users was taken up through a soft loan and subsidy arrangement. The programme covers Bihar also. So far 888 solar pumping systems are reported to be installed, of which 29 are installed in the State of Bihar.

The scheme is implemented through the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency. Under this scheme marketing of PV pumps is directly done by the manufacturers and financial intermediaries. All farmers, individuals, NGOs, Government organisations and other organisations are eligible for the subsidy and soft loan.

During 1996-97 another 500 solar PV water pumping systems are proposed to be deployed. Government is providing a subsidy of Rs. 125 per watt of PV array capacity, not exceeding Rs. 1.5 lakh and a soft loan not exceeding Rs. 1.00 lakh per pumping system, at 5% interest repayable over 10 years.

[English]

#### Software Piracy.

2904. SHRI BHOJY KRISHNA HANDIQUE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any action against software piracy under the new copy right regime;

(b) if so, the number of cases of piracy detected;

(c) whether the losses from software piracy have been assessed; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS, AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

#### Tyre Corporation of India

2905. SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the renovated Kakinada unit of Tyre Corporation of India is producing for other tyre producers only;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the conversion charge from other tyre manufacturers is below cost:

(d) whether the utilization capacity is less than 50%; and

(e) if so, the reasons for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. During 1994-95, 96,646 tires of Tyre Corporation of India Limited's own brand were produced.

(c) The conversion charges recovered from other tyre manufacturers are so fixed by the Company as to cover employment cost, fuel cost and other factory overheads.

(d) and (e). Yes, Sir. The capacity utilisation is less than 50% on account of liquidity crunch resulting from accumulated losses and shortage of working capital.

#### Research and Development in Rural Areas

2906. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of animal drawn vehicles in the country as on March 31, 1995;

(b) whether a number of organisations have designs for efficient animal drawn-carts;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any subsidy is being given for manufacturing or purchase of such high-efficiency bullock carts;

(e) whether the Government are funding for the research and development in this field; and

(f) if so, amount spent so far and the number of active projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) SHRI UTTAMBHAI HARJIBHAI PATEL : (a) As per Indian Livestock Census, 1987, there were 1,43,50,400 animal carts in India. The information in this regard upto March, 31, 1995 is not available.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Under Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Central Institute of Agricultural Engineering, Bhopal and Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri have improvised designs of bullock carts. Some NGOs have also reportedly designed improved bullock carts.

(d) Assistance is given under IRDP for purchase of bullock carts by families living below poverty line in rural areas. The assistance is in the form of subsidy by the Government & Term Credit by Financial Institutions. The