

Women Rights Commission

3409. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL :
SHRI MANJAY LAL :

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

(a) whether the Government propose to constitute 'Women Rights Commission' for providing equal rights to women;

(b) if so, whether a draft has been prepared and submitted for approval by the National Commission for Women; and

(c) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (KUMARI VIMLA VERMA) : (a) to (c). A proposal to set up Offices of Commissioners for Women's Rights to act as a public defenders of women's rights in under consideration of the Government, in consultation with various agencies, including the National Commission for Women.

Transfer of Forest Officers

3410. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any cases from Uttar Pradesh have come to the notice of the Government where Forest Officers and Conservators etc., connected with prosecution cases of poaching and smuggling of wildlife skins, bones and organs, were transferred and shifted, leading to disruption of the prosecutions involving notorious poachers/smugglers;

(b) if so, the details of such cases during the last three years; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A case of transfer of some forest officers from Merrut Circle of Uttar Pradesh, who were involved in the investigation and prosecution of some important wildlife offence cases, came to notice in August, 1995.

(c) The matter was taken up with the State Govt. who have now reported that the transfers have been done in the administrative and public interest and that this does not lead to disruption of the prosecution of any offender as the process is carried forward by the successors.

[Translation]

EEC Funded Projects

3411. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO
GUNDEWAR :

DR. SAKSHIJI :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the on-going agricultural projects financed by European Economic Community and other foreign agencies in the Country during the last three years, State-wise; and

(b) the targets fixed and achievements made under these Projects during the said period in each State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Physical Education

3412. DR. AMRIT LAL KALIDAS PATEL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat have requested for financial assistance to improve the standard of Physical education in schools of the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof the and the action taken by the Government so far in this regard; and

(c) the financial assistance allocated/released during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

[English]

Anti Hoarding Drive

3413. SHRI K.T. VANDAYAR : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the steps being taken by the Government to enforce anti hoarding drive in the country;

(b) the number of defaulters booked under the act during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether the Government propose to give severe punishment to hoarders in the country by cancelling their licences and if so, the details thereof;

(d) the steps taken to streamline the Public Distribution System; and

(e) the total amount of subsidy involved in the distribution of essential commodities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL SUPPLIES) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) to (c). State Government and UT Administrations have been delegated powers under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 for taking action against unscrupulous elements indulging in hoarding of and blackmarketing in essential commodities and other violations of the various Provisions and Control Orders issued under the Essential Commodities Act., 1955, from time to time, State Governments/UT Administrations are advised to undertake special anti-hoarding drives whenever it is felt that availability or price of any essential commodity is adversely affected due to speculative hoarding by unscrupulous elements.

Central Government advises the State Government/UT Administrations in this regard from time to time, and also through periodic meetings to review the enforcement of the provisions of Essential Commodities Act, 1995.

The number of defaulters booked under the Act during the last three years is given below:

	No. of persons Arrested	No. of persons Prosecuted	No. of persons convicted
1992	5186	6067	335
1993	4300	5754	3569
1994	9078	4846	4078
1995 (up to Oct.95)	9014	2493	1971

The State Governments/UT Administrations are taking action under the Control Orders issued by them to cancel licences of the defaulters whenever considered necessary. They have been advised to launch prosecution in selective cases with due care and caution so that small traders are not unduly harassed.

(d) Strengthening and streamlining of the Public Distribution System is a continual process. Suggestions and measures to improve the Public Distribution System (PDS) are discussed in the meetings of the Advisory Council on PDS in which Ministers in-charge of Food and Civil Supplies Departments in the State Governments/UT Administrations are members. Union Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution is the Chairman of the Advisory Council. In addition to the meetings of the Advisory Council, Union Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution holds periodic regional meetings with the State Governments/UT Administrations for reviewing the working of the Public Distribution System and the Revamped Public Distribution System (RPDS) and affecting improvements/streamlining the same.

(e) The total amount of food subsidy (including sugar) during 1994-95 was Rs.5100 crores as per Revised Budget Estimates of the Central Government. A budgetary provision of Rs. 5250 crores has been made for food subsidy for the current year, i.e. 1995-96. There is no budgetary subsidy on commodities such as Superior Kerosene and Soft Coke. There are administrative and other costs borne by the State Governments also on the Public Distribution System (PDS). It is not possible to quantify all these costs incurred on PDS.

Sports Authority of India

3414. SHRI SHAILENDRA MAHTO : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to include a number of academicians, Principals of Physical Education Colleges, researches from amongst those who have chaired Olympic science congress or presented research papers in other International Research Conferences, in the Governing Body of Sports Authority of India (SAI);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the meetings of Governing Body of SAI are held atleast once in three months and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether SAI has prepared any lists of Indian eminent researchers in sports and Physical Educationists having participated in Sports and Physical Education Research Conferences abroad and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) As per rules of the Sports Authority of India the Governing Body is required to meet as often as necessary and ordinarily atleast once in each quarter of the financial year. During the current financial year four such meetings have already been held so far.

(d) No, Sir.

Super Bazar

3415. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Super Bazar and National Cooperative Consumer Federation (NCCF) are selling number of items which do not conform to the provisions of the Packaged Commodities Rules 1977, i.e., not