

Organisations etc. that were present during the International Symposium on Tiger held in New Delhi in February, 1993, which resulted in "Delhi Declaration" in which the need for establishing the Global Tiger Forum was highlighted. The Forum is yet to be formally established. However, for the interim period, the participants of the first meeting of Tiger Range Countries, held in New Delhi on 3-4 March, 1993 resolved that the Minister of Environment and Forests, Government of India, may act as the Chairman, the Forest Minister of Myanmar as the Vice-chairman of the forum and the interim secretariat may function, for the time being, from India. India is a member of the Forum and currently the Chairman.

Movement of Foodgrains

3526. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether some States have not agreed to follow the centre's policy regarding the free movement of foodgrains;

(b) if so, the main reasons for their refusal;

(c) the efforts made to persuade these States to fall in line with the other States; and

(d) the action the Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) and (b). For wheat & coarse grains the whole country is a single food zone at present. However, the States of West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh and J & K continue with certain restrictions on movement of paddy/rice, J & K have imposed restrictions on the movement of local coarse varieties of rice so as to ensure its availability in the State. The restrictions on movement of foodgrains in West Bengal apply only to the areas covered under the Statutory Rationing and near the international border. The State Government feel that such restrictions are necessary to prevent possible rise in prices. The Government of Andhra Pradesh wants to continue the restrictions on movement of paddy/rice for maximising the procurement of rice for operating the Public Distribution System under which rice is distributed at highly subsidised rate.

(c) and (d). The State Governments concerned have been requested to remove the restrictions so as to fall in line with the national policy of treating the entire country as a single food zone.

Mother Dairy

3527. SHRI B.L. SHARMA PREM : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of cases of departmental inquiries are pending in the Mother Dairy for more than two years;

(b) if so, the number of such cases; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to complete such inquiries within reasonable time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AYUB KHAN) : (a) and (b). Twenty-three departmental enquiry cases are pending for more than two years in the Mother Dairy, New Delhi.

(c) The enquiry officers have been advised to expedite the enquiry proceedings.

Super Bazar

3528. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether instances of corruption and mismanagement in the purchase of items, selection of suppliers, fixing of prices of items supplied by Super Bazar have come to the notice of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION) (SHRI VENOD SHARMA) : (a) to (c). No specific instances of corruption and mismanagement in the purchase of items, selection of suppliers, fixing of prices of items supplied by Super Bazar has come to the notice of the Government except one case which have been referred to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

Super Bazar had supplied steel trunks to the National Capital Territory of Delhi during November 1993 elections. Secretary (Elections) Government of the N.C.T. of Delhi complained about the quality and price of the steel trunks. The Government decided to get the matter investigated through the CBI.

Social Audit Panel

3529. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have constituted a Social Audit Panel to review the working the various programmes and projects being implemented under his ministry;

(b) if so, the composition and the objectives thereof; and