

agriculture and forest land;

(b) if so, the steps being taken in this regard;

(c) whether Union Government have taken final decision in regard to the controversial projects of this nature in the States of Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh; and

(d) if not, by what time a final decision in this regard is likely to be reached?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NILAMANI ROUSTRAY): (a) and (b). The need for minimising submergence of agriculture and forest land and displacement of people is emphasised in the guidelines as well as during detailed discussions with the project authorities.

(c) and (d). No hydel power project from the States of Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat is awaiting environmental or forestry clearance.

361 Workshop on Social Forestry, Jaipur

2979. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a three-day national workshop on social Forestry was recently held in Jaipur;

(b) if so, the main subjects discussed; and

(c) the decision arrived at?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NILAMANI ROUSTRAY): (a) The Forest Department of Rajasthan organised a workshop on Social Forestry for Environmental Conservation at Jaipur from 5th to 7th June, 1990.

(b) The main subjects discussed were forest conservation and protection, social forestry, wastelands development, the role of minor forest produce in tribal development and micro-planning.

(c) No decisions were taken in the workshop. However, based on the discussions held, the workshop recommended the village level committees should be constituted for protecting the forests and that all possible measures should be taken to preserve the existing flora and fauna. The workshop also recommended that development programmes should be drawn up on the basis of local needs, identification of wastelands and provision of appropriate technological and credit support. The significant role of minor forest produce in promoting cottage industries and generating employment was also identified.

362 Foreign Exchange in VCRs/VCPs

2980. SHRI BABANRAO DHAKNE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of foreign exchange involved in manufacturing VCRs and VCPs during the last three years; and

(b) the total number of VCRs/VCPs manufactured during this period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI M.G.K. MENON): (a) and (b). The total number of VCRs/VCPs manufactured in the country during the last three years, (1987-89) is estimated to be about 1.42 lakh numbers. The foreign exchange outgo for its manufacture is estimated to the Rs. 40 crores.