

The break up of the grades in which these 126 trainees were given specialised training is as under:—

FITTER	—	74	(1 abandoned)
INSTRUMENT	—	7	
ELECTRICAL	—	19	
ELECTRONICS	—	10	(1 abandoned)
MACHINIST	—	10	
PAINTERS	—	6	
		126	

These trainees were paid stipend of Rs. 440/- per month. Though they could not be absorbed on completion of their specialised training due to imposition of ban on recruitment of additional personnel consequent upon the anticipated decline in the workload, HAL have given an assurance that preference will be given to them subject to their being otherwise qualified, as and when necessity for additional manpower arises on improvement of the order book position. In view of this and keeping in view the objectives of the scheme, it cannot be said that the training imparted to them and the amount spent on them is a waste. As a matter of additional relief to them, HAL have also circulated a list of these trainees to other Public Sector Undertakings for considering them for appointment against suitable posts in their organisation.

(a) the total expenditure incurred by Government on science and technology research through various Science Research Institutes during the last three year;

(b) how many research papers were prepared by the prominent Research Institutes; and

(c) how many reports have been evaluated by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (PROF. M.G.K. MENON): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Task Force on Foodgrains Production

3000. SHRIBANANRAO DHAKNE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has constituted any Task Force for preparing a framework action plan for achieving the desired foodgrains production target by the end of the Eighth Plan;

89 Science and Technology
Expenditure on Science/Technology Research

2999. SHRI BABANRAO DHAKNE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(b) whether the Planning Commission has assured full help to the State Governments for the implementation of the action plan to achieve the target, and

(c) if so, the details of assistance likely to be provided to the States, State-wise and the time by which necessary assistance is proposed to be made available?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN) (a) No, Sir The Planning Commission has not constituted any such Task Force in the context of the Eighth Five Year Plan

(b) and (c) Do not arise

391
Wastelands Development

3001 SHRIBABANRAO DHAKNE Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORCES be pleased to state

(a) whether the State Governments have been advised to identify such wastelands which could be covered under the afforestation programme,

(b) if so, the details of data collected

from different States and the institutional arrangements available for implementation of this scheme by the State Governments, and

(c) the effective measures being taken to locate the wasteland for its afforestation?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NILAMANI ROUTRAY) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) and (c) Detailed survey of wastelands, stage-wise, has not been done for the whole country. However, it is estimated that there are about 1295 lac hectares of wastelands in the country. State-wise figures are given in the statement below. The nodal agency for implementation of the afforestation programme in the States are the State Forest Departments. The National Wastelands Development Board had also initiated Wastelands Identification Project in 1986 for identification, classification, and mapping of wastelands through remote sensing in collaboration with the Department of space and the National Remote sensing Agency. During phases I and II of this project 146 districts above been covered. Phase III of the project, which is under implementation, covers 85 other districts.

STATEMENT

State-wise estimate of wastelands in India (in Lac hectares)

<i>Sl No</i>	<i>State/UT</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
1	Andhra Pradesh	114 16
2	Assam	17 30
3	Bihar	54 58