

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The proposal for Market Intervention in black pepper has been finalised in consultation with State Government of Kerala. Under the scheme, initially a quantity of 3,000 mts is to be purchased at Rs.33/- per kg. FAQ by the Central Nodal Agency i.e. National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. and State designated agency on equal basis till end of June, 1993. The losses, if any, under the scheme will be borne on 50:50 basis by the Central Govt. and the Govt. of Kerala.

Pest Infested Wheat

7713. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Govt. may end up buying pest infested wheat" appearing in the Business Standard, Calcutta dated April 11, 1993;

(b) if so, the estimated quantity and value of the weevil-infested wheat contemplated to be procured;

(c) the rationale behind the procurement of this wheat; and

(d) the manner in which it is proposed to be disposed of?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALPNATHRAI):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). No weevil-infested wheat unfit for human consumption is procured by the Food Corporation of India or other public procuring agencies. In fact, percentage of weevilled grains

allowed under the standard specifications applicable to procurement is much less than that allowed under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act.

Social Forestry in Madhya Pradesh

7714. KUMARI PUSHPADEVI SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the different Social Forestry programmes undertaken in Madhya Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) the target fixed and the achievement made during the above period;

(c) whether survival rate of such plants is much less and several of them destroyed due to lack of proper protection; and

(d) if so, the efforts made by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Afforestation and tree planting activities, including social forestry, are being carried out in all States, including Madhya Pradesh, under various Central and State Plan Schemes like Externally-aided Forestry Projects, Rehabilitation of Degraded Forests, Strip Plantations, Farm Forestry, Production Forestry, Control of Shifting Cultivation, Fuelwood and Fodder Projects Scheme, Integrated Wastelands Development Projects Scheme, Drought Prone Area Programme, Tree Cooperatives Project, Rural Employment Schemes, etc.

(b) The targets and achievements of afforestation/tree planting activities in Madhya Pradesh during the last three years are as under:

Seeding in Lakhs Area in hectares

Year	Targets		Achievements	
	Seeding Distribution (for planting on private lands)	Area (Public lands including forest lands)	Seedings Distribution (for planting on private lands)	Area (Public lands including forest lands)
1990-91	2650.00	61650	464.40	75042*
1991-92	600.00	95000	614.60	103151
1992-93	600.00	110000	561.21@	121394@

@ - (Upto January, 1993)

* From 1990-91 targets were set and consequently achievements monitored in terms of two mutually exclusive items viz., seedling distribution for planting on private lands, and area coverage for planting on public lands, including forest lands.

(c) and (d). Sample checking of afforestation/tree planting activities carried out during 1991-92 through independent agencies/experts in the districts of Bastar, Sarguja and Chhindwara indicate an average survival rate of around 70%. With a view to improve performance, all State Governments including Madhya Pradesh, have been advised to strengthen the monitoring mechanisms as well as to draw up location wise details of afforestation and tree planting activities and share this information widely with the people's representatives and the public.

'Global Technology Partnership Conference'

7715. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the representatives from India have participated in the Global Technology Partnership Conference held at Birmingham in March, 1993;

(b) if so, the main deliberations in the

Conference and the outcome thereof;

(c) whether the British Government has requested India to buy its environment technology; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) A Delegation from the Confederation of Indian Industry had participated in the "Global Technology Partnership Conference held at Birmingham between 22nd and 25th March, 1993.

(b) The Conference focussed on following issues:-

The challenge for Business in the context of 'Earth Summit' at Rio.

Technology cooperation.

Business-to-Business relations in