

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) Government raised Rs. 1183.83 crores from the disinvestment of public sector undertaking shares during the second tranche of disinvestment held in December, 1992.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (e) Do not arise.

#### Productivity of Saline Land

4525-B. SHRI BIJOY KRISHNA HANDI-  
QUE :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to  
ate :

(a) whether Australia has agreed to assist India in undertaking pilot projects to increase the productivity of saline lands through the extensive use of "atriplex fodder species"; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WASTELANDS DEVELOPMENT) (COL. RAM SINGH) : (a) and (b) A preliminary discussion with the Government of Australia has been held recently for undertaking pilot projects to increase the productivity of saline lands through use of Atriplex species. The aim of the project would be to test the adaptability of Atriplex species to different agro-climatic zones in the States of Rajasthan, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Punjab.

#### Plight of Slum Kids

4525-C. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH  
HOODA :

Will the Minister URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether second International Conference of Mayors was held at Mexico recently to discuss the plight of slum kids ;

(b) if so, the details of the Indian representatives who attended the Conference; and

(c) the broad decisions taken at the Conference and the manner in which those are going to be implemented for improving child life specially in urban areas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON) : (a) and (b) The India Country Office, UNICEF, New Delhi has reported that Second International Colloquium of Mayors as Defenders of Children was held from 5th to 7th July, 1993 at Mexico. The Mayors of Calcutta and Howrah participated in this Colloquium.

(c) The Colloquium adopted a Declaration and Plan of Action. In the Declaration the Colloquium appealed to the Mayors and Municipal leaders around the world to join the international effort by placing on top priority the needs, problems and protection of the rights of the children. For this purpose they must join to find ways to mobilise funds, they must declare in a public ceremony their commitment as 'Defenders of children' ; must join UN systems especially UNICEF as well as other international, regional, inter-governmental and non-governmental organisations etc. to promote the well being of the children. They must carry out action in the frame-work of Plan of Action adopted by them and adapt it to Municipal realities and in line with the National Plan of Action. The Declaration further called upon the Heads of States and Governments to give every support and encouragement to the leadership of Municipalities to implement the Goals of World Summit for Children.

The Plan of Action as adopted by the Colloquium emphasises to develop Municipal Plan of Action within the frame-work of Convention on the Rights of the Child, Plan of Action of the World Summit on children, on National Plan of Action, especially on the following vital areas :

(i) Health,

(ii) Nutrition,