

(b) the total revenue received from these challans; and

(c) the total expenditure incurred in towing away the vehicles during last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) The requisite information is given below :

| Year | Number of vehicles challaned | Compounding fee realised |
|------|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1994 | 14,03,533 | Rs. 12,18,44,774 |
| 1995 | 13,28,300 | Rs. 11,11,50,200 |

(c) Information is being collected.

[English]

Floriculture Centre

3198. SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested for sanction of a model floriculture centre at Hyderabad in view of a large number of foreign collaborations for floriculture in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Government of India has sanctioned setting up of a Model Floriculture Centre in the State of Andhra Pradesh at a total cost of Rs. 57.50 lakhs, under the Central Sector Scheme on commercial Floriculture. The Centre would serve as the focal unit for floriculture development in the state and will undertake collection, multiplication and distribution of quality planting material of improved varieties; laying out demonstrations on new technologies and training of farmers/entrepreneur on various aspects related to production and post harvest management of flower crops.

Conversion into Broad-Gauge Lines

3199. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to consider the conversion of Hospet-Guntakal Metre Gauge railway line into Broad Gauge during the next two years;

(b) if so, the estimated cost thereof;

(c) if not, reasons therefor; and

(d) the expected time by which the said line would be converted into Broad Gauge?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir. The doubling of Guntakal-Hospet section, by conversion of the existing metre gauge line, has been included in the Budget, 1996-97.

(b) Rs. 105.77 crores.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The work is likely to be completed in the Ninth Plan period.

[Translation]

Use of Insecticides

3200. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government are aware that the excessive use of insecticide results in the loss of resistance power of the human beings;

(b) if so, whether the Government have any proposal to ban the excessive use of insecticides; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir. Some National and International studies have revealed possible linkage between exposure to pesticides and the immune system in human being thereby decreasing resistance potential.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. To decrease dependence on excessive use of pesticides, the Government is promoting Integrated Pest Management (IPM) for control of crop-pests. IPM approach relies on exploitation of natural biocontrol potential having blend of non-chemical approaches viz., cultural mechanical, use of botanicals like neem-based pesticides and biocides. This eco-friendly IPM programme is being taken up at an outlay of Rs. 45 crores during the VIII Plan period. So far 12,245 Agriculture Extension Officers and 77,556 farmers have acquired IPM skill resulting in decreasing pesticide use trend in the country.

Disruption on Rail Route

3201. SHRI DINESH CHAND YADAV : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Rail services were disrupted on Nairmali-Bhaptipahi rail route due to the damage caused by the floods in the Kosi river during 1944;

(b) if so, whether the Government have formulated any scheme for its reconstruction;

(c) whether any survey has been conducted in this regard;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof;