[English]

Transfer of Land in Bombay

4251. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3066 on March 16, 1994 regarding transfer of land in Bombay and state the progress so far made in finalising modalities for taking over the rest of the salt land, transferred from the Ministry of Industry to the Ministry of Urban Development in Bombay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): After a series of discussions and inter Ministry consultations, a proposal has been formulated for creation of a Nucleus cell which would look into the individual cases and take over the relevant records as well as suggest further line of action. Action has been initiated to obtain approval of the competent authority for the proposal.

[Translation]

NCES in Maharashtra

- 4252. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) the nature of tests conducted by the Government to generate power from non-conventional energy sources during the Eighth Five Year Plan so far;
 and
- (b) the amount sanctioned for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Field trials are being conducted of newly developed non-conventional energy technologies based on Biomass and Solar Photovoltaics for grid-connected power generation, with a view to generate operational experience and evaluate their techno-economic viability.

(b) The financial assistance that has been provided so far in the Eighth Plan for this purpose by the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources exceeds Rs. 5.00 crores.

[English]

Tea Cultivation on Non-Forest Wastelands

- 4253. SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Government constituted a 'Working Group' in order to promote and encourage tea cultivation on the non-forest wastelands;
- (b) if so, the terms of reference of the working group;
- (c) whether the working group has submitted its report; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WASTELAND