

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS, AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) to (c). Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited (KRIBHCO) is implementing a Rainfed Farming Project in three districts, namely, Panchmahal (Gujarat), Jhabua (Madhya Pradesh) and Banswara (Rajasthan) from 01.01.1993 with financial aid by the Government of United Kingdom. This aid is being utilised to improve the long-term livelihood of poor farmers in a drought prone region of Western India through a participatory approach to farming systems development. The Government of United Kingdom has also sanctioned financial aid for the Rainfed Farming project to be implemented by KRIBHCO in 12 districts of West Bengal, Orissa and Bihar from 01.04.1995. This project aims at widespread and sustainable development of Renewable Natural Resources (RNR) for poor men and women farmers in rainfed areas of West Bengal, Orissa and Bihar.

(d) and (e). The progress of implementation of each Project is reviewed by its Project Steering Committee (PSC). Representatives of the respective State Governments are members of the PSC. The implementation of the project will also be reviewed in this Ministry soon.

[Translation]

Bypasses

4887. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA :
SHRI KHELAN RAM JANGDE :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the proposals for construction of new bypass roads and which are under consideration of the Government location-wise and State-wise;

(b) since when these proposals are under consideration;

(c) the time by which approval is likely to be accorded to these proposals;

(d) the details of the bypasses presently undergoing construction, State-wise;

(e) the amount earmarked for it, State-wise; and

(f) by when the work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (c). The proposals for construction of new bypasses which can be considered for sanction subject to availability of funds are listed in the enclosed Statement-I. It is too early to indicate the time by which sanctions will be accorded.

(d) Details are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(e) and (f). Funds are not allotted work-wise but for the State as a whole for the development and maintenance of all National Highways, including the bypasses. Most of the bypasses are likely to be completed within the next 4 years, depending upon the availability of funds.

STATEMENT-I

S. No.	Details of the proposals for construction of new bypass	Name of the State/ Union Territory
1.	Ponda NH-4A	Goa
2.	Barog NH22	Himachal Pradesh
3.	Hassan NH-48	Karnataka
4.	Trivandrum, Phase-I NH-47	Kerala
5.	Rambha (Crust only) NH-5	Orissa
6.	Villainur NH-45-A	Pondicherry
7.	Basti, Phase-II NH-28	Uttar Pradesh

STATEMENT-II

S. No.	Details of the bypasses under construction	Name of the State/ Union Territory
1	2	3
1.	Verna NH-17	Goa
2.	Dhoraji NH-8	Gujarat
3.	Kharver NH-10	Haryana
4.	Sampla NH-10	-do-
5.	Barog (Formation) NH-22	Himachal Pradesh
6.	Shimla NH-22	-do-
7.	Kullu NH-21	-do-
8.	Hubli-Dharwar, Phase-I NH-4	Karnataka
9.	Nulbagal NH-4	-do-
10.	Calicut NH-17	Kerala
11.	Alleppey NH-47	-do-
12.	Quilon NH-47	-do-
13.	Trivandrum, Phase-I (Part) NH-47	-do-
14.	Jabalpur NH-7	Madhya Pradesh
15.	Indore NH-3	-do-
16.	Durg NH-6	-do-
17.	Gurdaspur NH-15	Punjab
18.	Niwai NH-12	Rajasthan
19.	Banthala NH-12	-do-
20.	Udaipur NH-8	-do-
21.	Fatehpur NH-2	Uttar Pradesh
22.	Varanasi NH-2	-do-
23.	Sitapur NH-24	-do-

1	2	3
24. Shahjahanpur NH-24		Utar Pradesh
25. Lalitpur NH-26		-do-
26. Faizabad (Phase-II) NH-28		-do-
27. Shantipur NH-34		West Bengal

[English]

Natural Gas Availability to Urea Plants

4888. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the rate of price at which natural gas is made available to fertilizer plants for the production of urea; and

(b) the cost incurred in the production of urea?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS, AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEANS DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) the price of natural gas payable by fertilizer plants w.e.f. January 1, 1995 is Rs.1850 per thousand cu.mtrs. except for the North-East where the price is Rs.600 per thousand cu.mtrs. This price is exclusive of transportation charges, royalty, duties and taxes. The transportation charges, along the HBJ pipeline are Rs. 850 per thousand cu.mtrs.

(b) The cost of production of urea varies from unit to unit, depending upon the feedstock used, health and vintage of the plant, capacity utilisation, energy consumption, etc. However, as per the latest notification, the weighted average retention price per tonne of urea in respect of gas-based plants works out to Rs. 4670/-.

Visit of US Leaders

4889. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA :
SHRI SHARAD DIGHE :
SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE :
SHRI RAM BADAN :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the US Defence Secretary, Commerce secretary, the Assistant Secretary of State for South Asia, Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs and the Treasury Secretary visited India recently;

(b) if so, the specific issues figured in their talks with Indian leaders and the precise outcome of the visits;

(c) whether any agreements were signed during these visits;

(d) if so, the salient features of each agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The talks were aimed at the overall strengthening and diversification of bilateral relations. They included talks on Indo-US defence cooperation, the strengthening of trade, commercial and economic relations as well as consultations on international and regional issues of mutual interest. The visits contributed to strengthening of ties in defence, commercial and economic relations bilaterally and enabled the two countries to obtain a closer understanding of each others policies;

(c) An Agreed Minute of Defence Relations was signed on January 12, 1995 during the visit of the US Defence Secretary. An MOU for the formation of an Indo-US Commercial Alliance was signed on January 16, 1995 during the visit of US Commerce Secretary.

(d) The Agreed Minute on Defence Relations provides a framework for Indo-US defence cooperation envisaging concurrent progress in the three areas of civilian to civilian cooperation, service to service cooperation and cooperation in defence research and production. The Commercial Alliance provides and institutionalised mechanism for private industry in the USA to work with their Indian counterparts to increase trade and investment between the two countries.

[Translation]

Talks with Nepal

8090. SHRI BALRAJ PASSI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Secretary level talks were held between India and Nepal recently; and

(b) if so, the purpose and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA) : (a) and (b). Secretary level talks were held between the Commerce Secretaries, Home Secretaries, Secretaries (Water Resources) and Foreign Secretaries of India and Nepal in March -April, 1995. These talks were in preparation of the visit to India of the Prime Minister of Nepal. Talks focussed on bilateral relations and strengthening of cooperation in the areas of trade and commerce, security, prevention of activities in one country against the interest of the other country, water resources development and other aspects of bilateral relations.

Violation of Urban Land Ceiling Act

4891. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :
SHRI RAJESH KUMAR :
SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :

Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Urban Land Ceiling Act is being violated in Delhi;