

Disappearance of Certain varieties of Fish

3212. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some research was conducted with the assistance of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research to ascertain the cause of disappearance of certain varieties of fish from the river waters in the Travancore region in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details and findings thereof; and

(c) whether any method has been developed for growing these varieties of fishes in artificial environment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARI KRISHNA SHASTRI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Per Capita Steel Consumption

3213. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the present per capita consumption of steel in the country;

(b) how does it compares with Western countries; and

(c) when the per capita consumption is likely to reach half of the consumption in the Western countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b). The present per capita consumption of crude steel in the country is estimated to be around 19 kg. As compared to this, the average per

capital apparent crude steel consumption in the western countries in 1986 was around 351 kg.

(c) The per capita consumption of steel depends on various factors such as population growth, level of industrial development, construction activities, level of income and steel prices. In view of the varying nature of these factors, it cannot be forecast as to when the per capita consumption of steel in the country is likely to reach half the level of the consumption in the western countries.

Proper Surfacing of Unsurfaced Roads

3214. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of roads in the country which are not properly surfaced; and

(b) the steps being taken to ensure proper surfacing of these roads?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) About 53%.

(b) The development of roads is a continuous process and improvements are being made subject to availability of funds.

Assistance to Maharashtra for Drinking Water Scheme

3215. SHRI YASHVANTRAO GADAKH PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of the central assistance sanctioned to the Maharashtra Government in connection with the drinking water scheme during 1987-88;

(b) whether the State Government has submitted a supplementary demand for assistance for drinking water;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the amount sanctioned; and