

National afforestation plan for India

1118. SHRI A. NEELALOHITHA¹ DASAN NADAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state whether there is any national afforestation plan for India and if so, what is the area fixed for each State for afforestation for the entire Sixth Five Year Plan period.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): Yes, Sir. A statement showing the area proposed to be planted up in each State and Union Territory under the state sector tree plantation schemes during the Sixth Plan period is attached.

Statement

State-wise area proposed to be brought under afforestation programme during Sixth Five Year Plan (1980-85) (under State Sector Schemes)

State/Union Territory	Area/Hectares
States	
Andhra Pradesh	113155
Assam	55315
Bihar	74836
Gujarat	149440
Haryana	51642
Himachal Pradesh	84230
Jammu & Kashmir	45250
Karnataka	57780
Kerala	51122
Madhya Pradesh	165500
Maharashtra	185000
Manipur	15386
Meghalaya	20220
Nagaland	14950
Orissa	182300
Punjab	56200
Rajasthan	83323
Sikkim	6200
Tamil Nadu	117000
Tripura	22300
Uttar Pradesh	129800
West Bengal	120110
Total (States)	1801059

State/Union Territories	Area/Hectares
Union Territories	
A & N Islands	2200
Arunachal Pradesh	44800
Chandigarh	1790
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	2500
Delhi	1300
Goa, Daman & Diu	13583
Mizoram	20600
Pondicherry	80
Total—Union Territories	86853
ALL INDIA TOTAL	1887912

Plan for strengthening public distribution system in Kerala

1119. SHRI A. NEELALOHITHA. DASAN NADAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India has received a plan for strengthening the Public Distribution System in Kerala;

(b) if so, give details of the plan;

(c) whether the Government of Kerala has requested a financial assistance from the Central Government for the implementation of the plan; and

(d) if so, what action has been taken by the Government of India on the request?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI BRAJA MOHAN MOHANTY):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). The Government of Kerala has asked for cash credit facilities at concessional rates of interest from the Commercial Banks for pro-

urement, storage and distribution of essential commodities. The question of providing credit facilities from Commercial and Cooperative Banks at concessional rates of interest for the public distribution system to States have been considered in consultation with the Finance Ministry and Reserve Bank of India. The Reserve Bank of India have revised the rates of interest on the advance to be made to the State level agencies entrusted with procurement and distribution of essential commodities with effect from 2nd March, 1981.

Sharp decline in prices of sugar

1120. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) Hindustan Times dated July 18, 1981 news captioned the Indian Sugar Mills Association (ISMA) and the National Federation of Cooperative Sugar Factories (NFCFSF) had invited Government's attention to what they called the serious situation 'arising in sugar markets due to sharp decline in free market prices' calling for emergent steps by Government;