

Depletion of Natural Resources

1530. SHRI JAG MOHAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's over-anxiety to boost exports and liberalisation causing disproportionate depletion of natural resources and undermining the environment;

(b) whether any scientific and independent assessment has been made in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Issue of permits/licences by NDMC

1531. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether permits/licences are issued by NDMC to hawkers such as milkmen, vegetable/fruit sellers etc. for selling their items in NDMC area;

(b) if so, the number of permits issued during the current year; and

(c) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MODH. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) The NDMC is competent to issue such permits/licences. However, no fresh licences are being issued to hawkers in view of the Thareja Committee's Report to the Supreme Court. Only old licences are being renewed.

Army deployment in Assam

1532. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Army has been deployed in Assam at the request of Assam Government;

(b) whether Assam Government gave a memorandum to the Honble Government to withdraw the Army from Assam; and

(c) if so, the factual position in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) The army has been operating in some parts of the State of Assam under the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958 to combat secessionist and unlawful elements.

The whole State of Assam stands declared as 'disturbed area'.

(b) The Central Government is not aware of any such memorandum having been given to the Governor by the State Government of Assam.

(c) Does not arise.

Chemist Stalls/First Aid Facilities

1533. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether instruction were issued to provide Chemist stalls/First Aid facilities at the Railway Station in 1980; and

(b) if so, the names of the station where such facilities have been provided by the Northern Railway?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Over Northern Railway, Chemist stalls have been provided at the following station:

1. New Delhi
2. Hazrat Nizamuddin
3. Delhi Sarai Rohilla
4. Delhi Cantt
5. Chandigarh
6. Attari
7. Amritsar
8. Varanasi

Transfer of DESU, DTC, DMS

1534. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK
DR. Y.S. RAJA SEKHARA REDDY

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Centre has agreed to transfer the control of the Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking, the Delhi Transport Corporation and the Delhi Milk Scheme to the Delhi Government;

(b) if so, the details and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Centre have also taken a decision to give the Delhi Government its share in the Central Taxes, Income-Tax, Excise Duty and Additional Excise Duty from August 1, 1996;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether the Delhi Government have made any request in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b). A proposal to transfer the Delhi Transport Corporation, Delhi Milk Scheme and Super Bazar to the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi is under active consideration. There is also a proposal to place the Delhi Electricity Supply Undertaking under the administrative control of the Government of NCT of Delhi. The Transfer of these organisations would improve the delivery of civic services in Delhi.

(c) to (e). The Government of NCT of Delhi has represented for a share in the Central Taxes for funding their Annual Plans. The matter is under examination.

Rail Link from Gadwal to Kopal

1535 SHRI RAJA RANGAPPA NAIK : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that since Nizam's Government one rail line proposal between Gadwal to Kopal is pending

(b) whether Government have received a Memorandum in this regard and

(c) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). No Sir

(c) Does not arise

Elections to Bodoland Autonomous Council

1536 SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to hold elections to the Bodoland Autonomous Council in terms of the accord arrived at with the Bodo Leaders and the State Government.

(b) if so, the tentative schedule thereof and

(c) whether the Government also propose to hold dialogue with various factions of the Bodo leaders with a view to speed up the process of elections and if so, the time by which the dialogue is likely to take place?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) The elections to the Bodoland Autonomous Council are to be held by the State Government

The State Government had decided to hold elections to the Bodoland Autonomous council in December 1995. However, the elections were deferred by the State Government in view of the representations made by some Bodo groups. No fresh date for elections has been announced by the State Government

The Central Government welcomes all good suggestions which facilitate the democratic process.

Prevention of Cruelties to Animals

1537 JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether inspite of laws on transportation of livestock from one place to other with regard to their number, arrangement for providing fodder and water etc. they are loaded like sardines and some even die during transportations, and

(b) if so, the preventive measures being taken by the Government to implement the prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) and (b) Attention of this Ministry has been drawn from time to time on cruelty inflicted on animals while transporting. Following steps have been taken for effective implementation of Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960

(i) Animal Welfare Board has taken up training programme for members of Society for prevention of Cruelty to Animals and also taken up steps to create public awareness

(ii) State Governments are pursued to nominate nodal officers for coordinating animal welfare activities

(iii) Financial support is extended to Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals to enable them to step up their animal welfare activities and take up prosecutions

(iv) State Governments have been advised to set up State Advisory Welfare Board

Frequency of Rajdhani Express

1538 SHRI A G S RAM BABU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to run Hazrat Nizamuddin-Trivandrum Rajdhani Express daily instead of weekly

(b) whether there is also a proposal to extend Trivandrum-Hazrat Nizamuddin Rajdhani Express up to New Delhi.

(c) if so, the details thereof and

(d) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). There are no such proposals at present.