

National Dairy Development Board awarding contracts at exorbitant prices.

(b) Does not arise.

Subsidy to Khadi Gramoudyog by Central and State Governments on Mahatma Gandhi Birthday

4718. SHRI RAM NAGINA MISRA: Will the Minister of RURAL RECONSTRUCTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Khadi Gramoudyogs are given any subsidy by the Central and State Governments on the occasion of Mahatma Gandhi birth day celebrations; and

(b) if so, the amount of subsidy given by Central Government to Khadi Gramoudyogs functioning at the Centre and in the States and the State-wise details in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A special rebate is sanctioned only for Khadi (Cotton, Woollen and Silk) during Gandhi Jayanti period every year. There is no State-wise allocation of this amount as the amount of rebate given depends upon the volume of sales in each State. !

Pollution of River Water

4719. SHRI D. M. PUTE GOWDA: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to a survey made by the National Environment Research Institute, water from 70 per cent of rivers in India is polluted and unfit for drinking;

(b) if so, details thereof and a factors responsible for that; and

(c) the action contemplated in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH): (a) and (b). No, Sir. The National Environmental Engineering Research Institute had studied only some stretches of Yamuna, Ganga and Hoogly rivers and found the water unsuitable for drinking in untreated form.

Large quantities of untreated sewage and industrial wastes, mainly from Class-I towns and some Class-II towns are responsible for pollution of water bodies in the country.

(c) The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 is in force in the various States through which Yamuna, Ganga and Hoogly passed. The concerned State Boards are implementing the provision of this Act.

The action in respect of treatment of domestic sewage which is now being discharged in untreated form into these rivers has to be taken by the concerned local bodies with the help of respective State Governments and this is being pursued by the State Boards for Control of water Pollution.

Financial Assistance to New Sugar Factories in Andhra Pradesh

4720. SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are giving financial assistance to new sugar factories; and

(b) if so, whether it will comply with the request of Andhra Pradesh Government to assist the sugar factories for which already share capital was collected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) and (b). All-India Financial Institutions have