

Fake Pension Cases

85. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether about 2800 persons are getting fake pensions of Nagar Nigam in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether any enquiry was conducted by the State Government in this regard;

(c) if so, the results thereof and the action taken so far on the accused; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (d). Under the provisions of the Constitution of India, the State Pensions are the concern of the respective State Governments.

Therefore, the information as asked for is not available with the Central Government. However, to the extent possible, the information will be collected from the State Government of Uttar Pradesh and laid on the Table of the House.

Modernisation of NTC Mills

86. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the revival package which was approved earlier for NTC mills is likely to be implemented;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government for modernisation of sick units of National Textile Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R L JALAPPA) : (a) to (c) Government approved a revised Turn Around Plan for modernisation of NTC mills, involving modernisation of 79 mills at an outlay of Rs. 2005.72 crores restructuring of 36 unviable mills into 18 viable units, etc. The funds for modernisation are expected to be met out of the proceeds from sale of surplus lands and assets of NTC mills. Since 6 out of the 9 subsidiary corporations of NTC are before the BIFR, the revised Turn Around Plan has been placed before the BIFR for their approval. Pending approval of the modernisation/rehabilitation plan by the BIFR, Government are meeting the shortfall faced by NTC in meeting the requirements of its wages/salaries.

[Translation]**Agricultural production**

87. KUMARI UMA BHARATI :
DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA :
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Agriculture sector has been benefitted by the implementation of economic reform measures during the last few years,

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether annual agricultural production has also increased during the previous years;

(d) if so, the annual rate of production in the country during the eighth plan period year-wise;

(e) the rate of increase in the annual production as compared to the seventh five year plan, and

(f) the target of annual production rate fixed by the end of this century?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The agriculture sector has been benefitted through adequate availability of imported inputs at competitive prices and from higher prices of exported commodities. The farmers have also been benefitted from liberalisation of domestic trade.

(c) and (d) The average annual growth in agricultural production based on the index of agricultural production is estimated to be 4.1 percent in 1992-93, 3.6 percent in 1993-94, 4.6 percent in 1994-95 and almost one percent in 1995-96.

(e) The average annual rate of increase in agricultural production during the seventh five year plan was estimated at 4.0 percent.

(f) The target of annual rate of increase in agricultural production beyond the eighth plan period is yet to be decided.

[English]**Kaziranga National Park**

88. SHRI KESHAB MAHANTA
DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have received several complaints in regard to incidents of illegal hunting and felling of trees in the Kaziranga National Park in Assam.