

Daily allowance paid to athletes in Patiala

62. SHRI CHATURBHUI: Will the Minister of SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) how much daily allowance has been paid per day to the athletes who have been practising under Government scheme in Patiala; and

(b) estimated daily expenditure incurred by average athlete there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) The sportsmen and sports women undergoing coaching and training at the Netaji Subhash National Institute of Sports, Patiala are being allowed boarding facilities at the rate of Rs. 25 per head per day. This amount is not being paid in cash to them. An Out of Pocket Allowance of Rs. 2 per head per day is being paid.

(b) The information about the estimated daily expenditure being incurred by the sportsmen/women themselves is not known, but according to Netaji Subhash National Institute of Sports, Patiala this may be about Rs. 10 per head per day, on an average.

Desert development programme in Kargil Distt. of Jammu and Kashmir State

63. SHRI P. NAMGYAL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government have stopped the operation of the Desert Development Programmes in some part of Kargil District of Jammu and Kashmir State;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the areas of SOT, Bodhkhharbu, Shakarchikatan Batalik and Wakhs Mulbekh are the most drought prone areas of

Kargil District where the Desert Development Programme has been stopped;

(c) the reasons for stoppage of the programme; and

(d) whether the Central Government will reconsider the decision of excluding these areas from the Desert Development Programme and include these areas again under the said programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) to (d). Yes, Sir. The Desert Development Programme has been discontinued in four blocks of Kargil district from 1982-83 on the recommendation of the Task Force on Drought Prone Areas Programme and the Desert Development Programme. The blocks are—Kargil, Dras, Sanko and Shakarchikatan. Exclusion of these areas from the programme was suggested by the Task Force in view of the substantial irrigation, rainfall and vegetation in these areas.

Execution of Mahi-Bajaj Sagar Project

64. SHRI DAULAT RAM SARAN: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the execution of the multipurpose Mahi-Bajaj Sagar Project has been considerably delayed causing heavy losses;

(b) if so, the period by which the project has been delayed stating the reasons for delay in the execution of the project;

(c) the estimated escalation in the cost of the project as a consequence thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to ensure that there is no further delay in its completion as also escalation in its cost?