

(ख) चूँकि केन्द्रीय जांच ब्यूरो से उनकी जांच रिपोर्ट प्राप्त नहीं हुई है इसलिए राष्ट्रीय भवन निर्माण निगम के किसी अधिकारी के विरुद्ध अभी तक कोई कार्यवाही नहीं की गई है।

Display of Outdoor Commercial Advertisement by NDMC

3293. SHRI RAMPRASAD AHIRWAR : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) the rates charged for display of outdoor commercial advertisements by New Delhi Municipal Committee and what is the arrangement to auction or lease outdoor display sites and whether it is done through agents or directly to advertisers ;

(b) whether the NDMC ensures that each advertisement displayed outdoors incorporates the statutory notices which are required under law ; if so, why outdoor advertisements for soft drinks in Delhi do not contain the statutory notice required under clause 11 (3) of Fruit Products order issued under the Essential Commodities Act ; and

(c) steps that the NDMC propose to take to ensure that such advertisement contains the statutory provisions stating that the soft drinks are "Artificially flavoured" and "contain no fruit juice" ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS, IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) A copy of the Schedule of Rates (of Advertisement Tax) prescribed by the New Delhi Municipal Committee for various types of advertisements is laid on the Table of the House (Placed in Library. See No LT-8380/84). The Committee also do not allot, either by lease or by auction, sites for outdoor display of commercial advertisements as a matter of policy.

(b) and (c). As reported by NDMC, outdoor commercial advertisements are, by and large, displayed without their prior approval and as such they rarely have an opportunity

to direct incorporation of statutory notices in outdoor commercial advertisements. According to the NDMC it is primarily for the authorities operating the penal provisions of various laws to ensure fulfilment of the requirement of notices on the part of advertisers.

Steps to Check Deforestation

✓ 3294. SHRI SUSHIL BHATTACHARYYA : SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN : *

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) how many sq. km. of forest land has been deforested in India during the last five years ;

(b) the extent of damage suffered by people during the period as a result of (i) imbalance in the environment, (ii) the number of people robbed of their means of livelihood as a result thereof ;

(c) the steps taken by Government to check deforestation ; and

(d) how much land has been brought under afforestation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Since October, 1980, about 182 sq. kms. of forest area has been dereserved or diverted to non-forest purposes with the approval of the Central Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

(b) The extent of damage on a country-wide basis has not been assessed.

(c) The following important steps have been taken :—

(i) Enactment of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, to check indiscriminate dereservation or diversion of forest lands to non-forest purposes.

(ii) The State Governments have taken legislative measures to tighten protec-

tion arrangements against illicit felling of trees.

- (iii) Administrative vigilance in vulnerable areas has been intensified and mobile patrols have been introduced.
- (iv) Most of the States and Union Territories have eliminated the agency of contractors in the working of forests.
- (v) The Central Government has issued guidelines to the States and Union Territories for the preparation of management plans of forests.
- (d) Upto 1979-80, about 3.56 million hectares of area in the country have been covered under various afforestation schemes. The Sixth Plan (1980-85) aims at covering an additional area of 2.15 million hectares.

High Powered Central Team to assess the wide spread damage by floods

3295. SHRI M. RAMGOPAL REDDY :
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Central Government propose to set up a high powered Central team to assess the widespread damage brought by the devastating floods affecting more than 50 lakh people and the misuse of flood relief money in West Bengal ; and

(b) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) and (b). As per existing procedure Central Teams are sent to States, affected by natural calamities on receipt of a memorandum which inter-alia gives details of extent of damages caused and the assistance required to mitigate the effect of the calamity.

In respect of West Bengal floods, no memorandum seeking central assistance has been received so far from the State. There-

fore, there is no proposal to depute a central team at present. No Central assistance has been sanctioned to the State so far. The State is meeting the situation from within the margin money of Rs. 1360 lakhs available with them, for rescue and relief, in the affected areas.

Assistance to States Affected by Natural Calamities

3296. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA :
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the States which were affected by floods, drought and other natural calamities during the years 1981-82, 1982-83 and 1983-84 and the assistance given on this account to each such State ;

(b) the assistance given to State of Gujarat on this account during the same period and the amount asked for ;

(c) whether there is any proposal to introduce insurance scheme in the country and particularly in rural areas against losses occurred in the natural calamities ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Two statements giving information about names of States affected by drought and floods/cyclone during the years 1981-82 to 1983-84 and ceiling of Central assistance sanctioned are given as statement-I and statement-II respectively.

(b) The information in respect of assistance sought and ceiling of central assistance sanctioned to Gujarat for natural calamities for the years 1981-82 to 1983-84 is given as statement-III.

(c) and (d). A pilot scheme of Crop Insurance is in operation in the country since 1979. The salient features of the scheme is given as statement-IV.