

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) During 1995 and 1996, 53 rhinos are reported to have been killed by poachers in Kaziranga, which is a National Park.

(b) and (c) According to the State Government a large number of protection camps have been established and regular day and night patrolling is undertaken through armed Home Guards and departmental staff. The use of wireless communication, boats and vehicles as well as gathering of intelligence by payment of incentives to informers are the other strategies adopted for dealing with the poaching problem in the national park.

(d) Information on wild animals which die due to natural causes is not compiled and collated in this Ministry. However, information received from various States and UTs on the number of poaching cases detected during the last three years is given as statement.

Statement

Poaching Cases

S.No.	Name of the State	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	18	40	50
2.	Assam*	76	34	48
3.	Bihar	48	03	NA
4.	Goa	01	09	01
5.	Haryana	842	533	287
6.	Himachal Pradesh	04	06	04
7.	Kerala*	164	207	35
8.	Maharashtra	108	99	102
9.	Manipur	01	01	08
10.	Meghalaya	02	05	08
11.	Mizoram	07	15	26
12.	Nagaland	Nil	Nil	01
13.	Orissa	96	103	NA
14.	Punjab	369	368	247
15.	Tamil Nadu	23	30	21

1	2	3	4	5
16.	Rajasthan	75	82	107
17.	Sikkim	Nil	Nil	Nil
18.	Tripura	01	Nil	01
19.	Uttar Pradesh*	788	583	255
20.	West Bengal	07	05	06
Union Territories				
	Chandigarh	Nil	Nil	Nil
	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	Nil	Nil	Nil
	Daman & Diu	Nil	Nil	Nil
	Delhi*	20	33	61
	Pondicherry	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total		2650	2156	1268

*As per Calender Year.

Illegal Shipping of Emigrants

3699. SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the racket of organizing illegal shipping of emigrants from India to Europe has been busted recently;

(b) if so, whether the Government have taken up the matter with the Government of Greece to ascertain facts in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) The incident of illegal shipping of emigrants from India to Europe came to light on the basis of a drowning accident of around 170 Indian youths in the high seas in the Malta-Sicily Channel on the night intervening 24th/25th December, 1996. The investigation of the case was handed over to the Central Bureau of Investigation vide FIR dated 17.1.97. Based on the version given by the 22 Indian survivors of the accident who arrived at Sahar Airport, Mumbai, on 27.1.97, the CBI proceeded further in the matter. As a result of CBI's investigation, 13 persons have been arrested so far in this case. According to information furnished by the Ministry of External Affairs, our mission in Athens had got in touch with the Greek Government who extended their cooperation which included an interview by our Ambassador with the survivors which had also helped CBI to get in touch with Interpol to examine into all other aspects of the

tragedy. A large number of incriminating documents have been recovered by the CBI from the accused persons.

Area under Oilseeds Cultivation

3700. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH BHATI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total area of land under the oilseeds cultivation in the country at present, State-wise and oilseeds-wise;

(b) the extent to which it has been increased/decreased in each State as compared to the previous two years, oilseed-wise and year-wise;

(c) whether any steps have been taken by the Government to increase the area under cultivation of oilseeds; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) The statement giving State-wise, oilseeds-wise area of land under cultivation for the years 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96, and the per cent increase/decrease of area in 1995-96 as compared to 1993-94 and 1994-95 is attached.

(c) and (d) To increase the production of oilseeds, Government is implementing Oilseeds Production Programme since 1990-91 in which assistance is given to the farmers for purchase of breeder seeds, production of foundation seeds, infrastructure development, distribution of farm implements, sprinkler sets, gypsum/pyrites, rhizobium culture and micro-nutrients, besides technology transfer through frontline demonstration and training of farmers.

Statement

State-wise Estimates of Area under Oilseed Crops During 1995-96 in Comparison to 1994-95 and 1993-94

State	Area (Thousand Hectares)			Percentage Increase (+)/ Dec. (-) in 1995-96 over	
	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1993-94	1994-95
1	2	3	4	5	6
Crop : Groundnut					
Andhra Pradesh	2351.8	2176.0	2209.3	-6.1	1.5
Bihar	5.0	4.7	4.8	-4.0	2.1
Goa	1.1	1.1	1.2	9.1	9.1
Gujarat	2053.0	1989.3	1902.9	-7.3	-4.3
Haryana	2.3	2.4	2.1	-8.7	-12.5
Himachal Pradesh	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.0
Jammu & Kashmir	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0
Karnataka	1243.3	1200.0	1178.4	-5.2	-1.8
Kerala	12.4	16.5	16.5	33.1	0.0
Madhya Pradesh	276.8	266.2	280.9	1.5	5.5
Maharashtra	659.0	602.6	511.0	-22.5	-15.2
Nagaland	0.5	0.5	1.0	100.0	100.0