

(c) and (d) Tenughat TPP St.II (TVNL) (3X210 MW) and Muzaffarpur TPP Extn (BSEB) (2X250 MW) are lying incomplete due to paucity of funds. These are State Sector Projects and the Government of Bihar is taking appropriate steps to overcome the crisis including identification of sources of funding.

"Ban on Sandalwood Export"

2311. SHRI K.P. MOHAN :
SHRI K.P. NAIDU :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of sandalwood is lying in Tamil Nadu due to ban on the sandalwood export;

(b) if so, whether the Government have received any requests to lift the ban on the sandalwood export; and

(c) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) Government of India has allowed export of sandalwood under ceilings released from time to time to liquidate the accumulated stocks of sandalwood in Tamil Nadu.

(b) and (c) The request of State Government is under consideration.

Aid on NGOs

2312. SHRI NADENDLA BHASKAR RAO :
SHRI RAJVEER SINGH :
SHRI RAMPAL UPADHYAY :
SHRI BASWARAJ PATIL SEDAM :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of voluntary organisations engaged in the welfare of women being given aid by the Union Government, State/UT-wise;

(b) the criterion fixed for providing assistance;

(c) the details of agencies conducting audit of such organisations;

(d) whether some of these organisations have misutilised the funds;

(e) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken against such organisations;

(f) the details of the organisations blacklisted during the last three years; and

(g) the details of schemes being implemented for the welfare of women?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Monastries in Ladakh

2313. SHRI RAMKRISHNA BABA PATIL :
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether nearly one hundred monastries in Ladakh are facing total destruction;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for the preservation of these monastries?

THE MINISTER FOR HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c) Under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act 1958, the A.S.I has declared 13 monuments as of national importance which include seven monastries. These monuments are in a good state of preservation.

[Translation]

Agriculture Education

2314. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :
SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL :
SHRI VITHAL TUPE :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the students of agricultural education and agricultural science are being discriminated against;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether Dr. Swaminathan Committee constituted on Agriculture Education, has thrown any light on this phenomenon;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether agriculture education has not been accorded the status of technical education;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor;

(g) the steps being taken by the Government to do away with this discrimination; and

(h) the grant provided to each State for the agriculture education for the year 1998-99?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (h) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Conservation and Growth of Medicinal Plants

2315. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have sanctioned any project for the conservation and growth of medicinal plants in Madhya Pradesh; and