

(b) if so, the amount allocated for it and the progress made so far in respect of the said project?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) The Department of Biotechnology has sanctioned a project entitled, "Conservation and Mass propagation of endemic and indigenous forest plant species using tissue culture and clonal propagation" to the Biotechnology Application Centre, Madhya Pradesh Council of Science and Technology, Bhopal. The main objectives of the project are collection, conservation and tissue culture propagation of economically important species which include a few medicinal plant species. The total cost is Rs.56.78 lakhs for five years. Tissue Culture Protocol development studies are being conducted for species of medicinal importance *Rauwolfia* species, *Acorus calamus*. 150 plant species of medicinal importance have been collected and are being maintained in the conservation centre. A green house has been established and large scale production of a number of species is being taken up.

[English]

Development of Sectors with the Assistance of S & T Science & Technology

2316. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the scientists of the Jawaharlal Nehru University have recently found that the Yamuna Water contains the Cancer causing agents;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the remedial steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) The study jointly conducted by the School of Environmental Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi and the National Institute of Oceanography, Goa have not found any cancer causing agent in the Yamuna water.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

National Literacy Mission in Tamil Nadu

2317. SHRI VAIKO : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether National Literacy Mission in Tamil Nadu is concentrating on making people literate in Tamil medium or any other medium; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Yes, Sir. In Tamil Nadu, under National Literacy Mission, the non-literate persons in age-group of 15-35 years are being made literate in Tamil language only.

(b) In Tamil Nadu, out of 29 districts covered under literacy campaigns, 6 districts are in total literacy phase, 14 districts in post literacy phase and 9 districts in Continuing Education phase. So far 67,05,709 persons have been made literate in Tamil Nadu under all schemes of National Literacy Mission.

Killing of Wild Animals

2318. SHRI RAJ NARAIN PASSI :
PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :
SHRI MOHAN SINGH :
SHR: SHANTILAL PURSHOTTAMDAS PATEL :

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

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-items captioned "Feast Probe a wild goose chase?" appearing in the 'Hindustan Times', dated November 11, 1998;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) whether Government have obtained the factual position from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(f) the further action contemplated by the Government in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Report has been called for from the State Government.

(d) to (f) The report of the State Government is still awaited.

Rural Electrification

2319. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of loans/grants provided to the states for rural electrification in the country during 1997-98 and 1998-99; and

(b) the total amount for which the proposals were received from the State Governments for the purpose, state-wise?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) and (b) A statement giving State-wise details of funds disbursed under Rural Electrification Corporation's Programme during 1997-98 and for 1998-99 (up to 30.11.1998 is enclosed).

During the year 1997-98 as against the total receipt of claims amounting to Rs.1133 crores in respect of States mentioned in Annexure, REC has disbursed Rs.1094 crores. During the current financial year 1998-99 REC has disbursed Rs.511.09 crores up to 30.11.1998 as against the claims of Rs.541 crores received from the States. The Corporation makes every effort to meet the demands in respect of technically acceptable claims.

Statement*Statewise Disbursement of Loan/Grants for the Year 1997-98 and 1998-99 (upto 30.11.98)*

(Rs. in Lakh)

Sl.No.	State	Loan disb. during 1997-98	Kutir Jyoti disb. during 1997-98	Total disb. during 1997-98 (3+4)	Loan disb. during 1998- 99 (upto 30.11.98)	Kutir Jyoti disb. during 1998-99 (upto 30.11.98)	Total disb. during 1998-99 (6+7)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6094	440	6534	1329	217	1546
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1174	35	1209	77	0	77
3.	Assam	0	44	44	0	0	0
4.	Bihar	147	142	289	0	262	262
5.	Goa	386	0	386	225	0	225
6.	Gujarat	3931	90	4021	11101	25	11126
7.	Hayama	836	1	837	780	0	780
8.	Himachal Pradesh	2060	35	2095	250	25	275
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	2187	3	2190	897	0	897
10.	Karnataka	8655	360	9015	7871	626	8497
11.	Kerala	5200	0	5200	4824	11	4835
12.	Madhya Pradesh	6826	564	7390	2473	265	2738
13.	Maharashtra	26976	342	27318	10864	275	11139
14.	Manipur	1359	40	1399	0	0	0
15.	Meghalaya	0	18	18	0	18	18
16.	Mizoram	256	51	307	0	0	0
17.	Nagaland	173	26	199	0	0	0
18.	Orissa	3612	83	3695	0	0	0
19.	Punjab	3314	50	3364	961	25	986
20.	Rajasthan	12009	56	12065	3141	24	3165
21.	Sikkim	0	20	20	0	20	20
22.	Tamil Nadu	11476	276	11752	2100	204	2304
23.	Tripura	323	11	334	309	14	323
24.	Uttar Pradesh	9011	150	9161	1856	0	1856
25.	West Bengal	322	80	402	29	0	29
26.	Dadar Nagar Haveli	011	0	0	0	0	0
27.	RE. Coop-Sircilla	136	0	136	11	0	11
Total		106463	2918	109381	49098	2011	51109