

- (b) if so, whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard and the officers found guilty punished;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) Yes Sir a complaint was received for not adopting norms in the allotment of MARR telephone in Orai Telecom Division.

(b) A departmental enquiry was conducted. No official was found guilty.

(c) and (d) Not applicable in view of the reply in (b) above.

[English]

#### Central Ground Water Board

1650. SHRIMATI BHAVNA DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Ground Water Board has launched a Scheme, "Studies in Recharge of Ground Water" in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any improvement in increasing ground water in the State has been noticed after the implementation of the scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) The Central Ground Water Board has implemented a Central Sector Scheme on 'studies on recharge of ground water' in some parts of Maharashtra, Karnataka, NCT of Delhi and Union Territory of Chandigarh. Based on the positive results of studies in these States, the Government have decided to extend the scheme to cover some 'over-exploited' 'Dark' and 'Grey' blocks of some other States including Gujarat, at an estimated cost of Rs. 25 crore during the Ninth Five Year Plan.

(c) and (d) Improvement in the level of Ground Water in Gujarat depends on successful implementation of the scheme after finalisation of its details in consultation with the State Government.

#### Visit of Sikh Scholars

1651. SHRI AJAY KUMAR S. SARNAIK:

SHRI C.D. GAMIT:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak Committee through the Union Government has sought the Pakistan Government's permission to allow Sikh Scholars to study books and manuscripts pertaining to the Sikh history lying under lock and key in Lahore since 1947; and

(b) if so, the decision of Pakistan Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Yes, Sir. In April 1997, Government had received a request from the Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak Committee for cataloguing the Sikh books and manuscripts available in Pakistan. The matter was taken up with Government of Pakistan through our Mission in Islamabad.

(b) In October 1997, Government had received from Government of Pakistan a list of books and manuscripts on Sikh religion available in Pakistan. The same was forwarded to the Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak Committee.

[Translation]

#### Eradication of International Terrorism

1652. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister has made a proposal to root out terrorism at international level in collaboration with any country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the other countries thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (d) At the XIth NAM Summit at Durban, the Prime Minister called for an international conference to discuss and agree on measures to combat and defeat the menace of international terrorism through collective action. He reiterated the appeal in his address to the 53rd UNGA in New York when he urged that the proposed conference should launch the process of negotiations for an international convention to provide for collective action against States and organisations which initiate or aid and abet terrorism.

(c) The Prime Minister's initiative was well received at the NAM Summit. The Final Document of the NAM Summit reflected the Prime Minister's initiative by calling for an international conference in 1999 to develop a collective response of the international community to combat terrorism. The on-going 53rd Session of UN General Assembly has adopted by consensus a resolution on 'Measures to eliminate international terrorism', which has decided that an Ad Hoc Committee would consider, on a priority basis, the elaboration of a comprehensive convention on international terrorism.

[English]

#### Construction of Embankments

1653. SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Pak structure cause river diversion" appearing in the 'Hindu' dated July 14, 1998;

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

(c) whether the Government have discussed this issue with the Government of Pakistan;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the action being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Due to construction of flood exbankments and spurs on the Pakistan side, due to general country slope from north-west to south-east and also due to meandering of river Ravi, there is more concentration of flow of river Ravi towards Indian side causing soil erosion and damages to crops and other border installations. But for marginal shift due to meandering action of the river, there is no major shift in the course of the river during the current year.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Counter protective works are undertaken by Government of Punjab as and when needed from their own financial resources as well as from the financial assistance provided by Government of India. A "Committee on Special Remedial Works for Flood Protection Embankments on Ravi and Sutlej" constituted in 1989, examines the proposals of the Government of Punjab and recommends specific works to be executed after visit of the affected areas since 1990.

[*Translation*]

#### **Production of Fruits**

1654. DR. RAM VILAS VEDANTI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the largest fruit producing State in the country;

(b) whether the Government are taking any step to increase the fruit production in other States also; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) As per the latest production figures of fruits available for the year 1995-96, Bihar is the largest fruit producing State in the country with an annual production of 5.47 million tonnes.

(b) and (c) The Government is implementing a Central Sector Scheme on Development of Tropical, Temperate and Arid zone Fruits covering all States and Union Territories in the country. The outlay for the scheme during 1997-98 with an outlay of Rs. 17.00 crores. The scheme is being continued in 1998-99 with an outlay of Rs. 25.00 crores. Under this scheme assistance is being provided for establishment of nurseries and tissue culture units for distribution of quality planting material, area expansion, rejuvenation of senile orchards, training of farmers and taking up publicity measures.

#### **Water Management Programme**

1655. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA:

SHRI FRANCISCO SARDINHA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have approved some sub-schemes for implementation under the National Water Management and Command Area Development Programme;

(b) if so, the estimated cost likely to be incurred thereon; and

(c) if not, the time by which the schemes are likely to be approved and implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Yes, Sir. The Union Government has approved a number of schemes under the World Bank assisted National Water Management Project (NWMP) and Centrally Sponsored Command Area Development Programme (CADP).

(b) and (c) The NWMP has closed on March, 1995. An expenditure of Rs. 504.11 crores was incurred under the project till its closure, out of which Rs. 359.8 crores were reimbursed by the World Bank. The CADP is a continuing scheme. A Central assistance of Rs. 1814.68 crores has been released to the States upto March, 1998 under CADP since its inception in FY 1974-75.

[*English*]

#### **Command Area Development Programme**

1656. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL:

SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds released by the Union Government to State Governments under the Centrally Sponsored Command Area Development Programme during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) the details of the target fixed and achievement made by the Government in this regard during this period;

(c) whether several State Governments have sent any suggestion to the Union Government in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) The details of funds released State-wise during last three years as central assistance by the Union Government under the Centrally Sponsored Command Area Development Programme, are given in the attached statement-I.

(b) The details as received from State Governments in respect of targets fixed and achievements made by them under Core items of On-Farm Development works i.e. construction of field channels, warabandi, construction of field drains and land levelling are given in the statement-II enclosed.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.