

(c) Both sides expressed support for the establishment of a joint working group on energy and mining and examined the possibilities of establishing a joint working group on information technology. Possible cooperation in several other sectors such as Railways, trade information etc. was also discussed.

Transit Treaty

2280. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Nepal have signed a new transit treaty;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) the date till which the new treaty will remain valid?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONIC (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) A renewed Transit Treaty between India and Nepal was signed on January 5, 1999 in Kathmandu by Commerce Minister Shri Ram Krishna Hegde and his Nepalese counterpart, Mr. Purna Bahadur Khadka.

(b) and (c) The renewed Treaty contains liberalised procedures for the transit of Nepalese goods. It is valid for a period of seven years up to January 5, 2006, and shall, thereafter, be automatically extended for a further period of seven years at a time, unless either of the parties gives to the other a written notice, six months in advance, of its intention to terminate the Treaty, provided further that the Protocol and Memorandum to the Treaty, containing modalities and other arrangements, would be subject to review and modification every seven years or earlier, if warranted.

Development of Agriculture

2281. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:
DR. PRABHA THAKUR:
SHRI VITHAL TUPE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the funds released to each State for the development of agriculture during the year 1989-99;

(b) whether share of investment is being given to States in accordance with any norms; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) The details of funds released to each State during the year 1998-99 is given in Statement.

(b) and (c) Funds are released to the State Governments under various Central/Centrally Sponsored Schemes based on proposals received from the States, total allocation in the budget of the Department and the amount remaining unutilised out of earlier releases made.

Statement

Statewise Releases of Funds for Development of Agriculture under Central/Centrally Sponsored Schemes during 1998-99.

(Rs. lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of State	Fund Released during 1998-99 as on 1.10.98
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3513.50
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	216.34
3.	Assam	256.90
4.	Bihar	335.91
5.	Goa	122.40
6.	Gujarat	3105.54
7.	Haryana	1111.06
8.	Himachal Pradesh	451.43
9.	J & K	896.77
10.	Karnataka	5641.11

1	2	3
11.	Kerala	2413.33
12.	Madhya Pradesh	3238.15
13.	Maharashtra	8357.51
14.	Manipur	292.52
15.	Meghalaya	180.05
16.	Mizoram	619.55
17.	Nagaland	349.77
18.	Orissa	1943.76
19.	Punjab	1146.04
20.	Rajasthan	7341.39
21.	Sikkim	260.82
22.	Tamil Nadu	3864.15
23.	Tripura	360.85
24.	Uttar Pradesh	3557.51
25.	West Bengal	530.36
Total		50106.72

NAFED

2282. SHRI ASHOK NAMDEO RAO MOHOL:
SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Agricultural Marketing Federation of India Limited is facing financial crisis;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the employees of NAFED has gone on strike recently;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith demands of the employees; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL):
(a) No, Sir. National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED) is earning profits for the last several years.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. Some of the employees of NAFED had a grievance with the then Managing Director and their main demand was for his removal. Shri B.L. Bhadu has been relieved from his duties of the post of Managing Director, NAFED w.e.f. 30.1.1999.

National Hydrology Projects

2283. DR. SAROJA V.: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of projects being implemented under the "National Hydrology Project" in the country, State-wise particularly in Tamil Nadu;

(b) the total funds provided by the Government to each State under the above project since its inception;

(c) whether the funds allocated by the Government has been fully utilised by each State Government;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government for the optimum utilization of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL):
(a) The Government of India has launched Hydrology Project of six year duration in September, 1995 with the World Bank credit assistance to improve the institutional and organisational arrangements, technical capabilities and physical facilities available for measurement, validation,