

(c) the details of the recommendations given by the Standing Committee so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL):

(a) The Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACPC) has recommended in its Report on Price Policy for Rabi Crops of 1998-99, that the Department of Food, the Food Corporation of India and the Railways may set up a High Level Standing Committee to discuss the problems of foodgrains movement on a regular basis. No such Committee has been set up by the Department of Food & Civil Supplies who feel that this would only duplicate the work already being done by them.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[*English*]

Rengali Canal

2288. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction work of main canal of Rengali irrigation project, Orissa has not been completed so far;

(b) if so, the reasons for the delay;

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for expeditious completion of the project; and

(d) the time by which the construction work of the canal is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main reasons for delay in completion of canal works are constraint of funds, land acquisition and priority accorded by the State.

(c) and (d) The right main canal upto a length of 95 km. has been included under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits programme and is likely to be completed by 2001. The left main canal upto a length of 71.3 km. is now receiving external assistance and is likely to be completed by 2003.

Central Ground Water Authority

2289. SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Ground Water Board has declared Faridabad and Ballabhgarh as "Critical Areas" as the ground water has traces of chemical contaminants and is not fit for human consumption; and

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to stop supply of ground water to various colonies of Faridabad and Ballabhgarh and alternative arrangements made for the supply of safe potable water to the residents of these colonies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL):

(a) The Central Ground Water Authority has notified the Municipal Corporation areas of Faridabad and Ballabhgarh in Haryana as "Critical Areas" in view of depletion in ground water resources due to over exploitation and presence of traces of chemical contaminants due to industrial activities in the region.

(b) Restrictions have been imposed on the drilling of any new ground water extraction structures by any person, agency, industry or Government organisation without prior permission of the Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA). As per directive issued by the Authority the Deputy Commissioner of Faridabad has been authorised to take action as deemed fit for imposing restrictions on the construction and installation of any ground water extraction structures in notified areas of Faridabad and Ballabhgarh.

As regards alternative arrangements for survey of potable water to the residents of Faridabad and Ballabhgarh, it is the responsibility of Municipal Authorities of these urban centres. However, the Central Ground Water Board is providing technical assistance to local authorities in locating sources of fresh ground water.

National Co-operative Development Corporation

2290. SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the achievements made by the National Co-operative Development Corporation (NCDC) in the co-operative sector during the last three years;

(b) whether NCDC has constructed storages/Cold storage in the country; 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) NCDC has provided financial assistance of Rs. 975.70 crores for various post-harvest agricultural and allied cooperative activities in the country during the last three years, i.e. from the year 1995-96 to 1997-98. The details of which are indicated in the Statement enclosed.

(b) NCDC does not itself set up cold storages or storage godowns. However, NCDC provides financial assistance to cooperative through State Govts. for construction of cold storages/storage godowns in the country.

(c) The details of financial assistance provided for construction of cold storages and storage godown by the Corporation till 31.3.98 is as under:

Cold Storage

250 cold storage units with a total capacity of 7.71 lakh tons have been sanctioned and an assistance of Rs. 90 crores provided to State Governments for establishment of cold storages by cooperatives.

Storage

As on 31.3.98, net programme for construction of 56258 rural and 9512 marketing godowns by cooperatives with a total capacity of 139.86 lakh tonnes has been approved and an assistance of Rs. 596.31 crores provided to State Governments for construction of storage godowns in the country.

Statement

Statement showing Activity-wise position of release made by NCDC during the last 3 years

(Rs. in lakhs)

Activity	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
1	2	3	4
<i>All India</i>			
1. Marketing	7350.243	4160.570	4362.920
2. Inputs	11.304	5154.850	420.380
3. Agro-Processing			
(a) Sugar	11693.240	4359.730	8955.885
(b) Spinning Mills	126.770	702.550	0.000
(c) Oilseed Proc.	0.000	0.000	223.370
(d) Other Proc.	3116.273	1957.442	5269.903
Total	14936.283	7019.722	14443.150

	1	2	3	4
4. Storage				
(a) Godowns		1311.103	895.559	903.840
(b) Cold Storage		281.215	460.349	574.156
Total		1592.318	1355.908	1477.996
5. Rural Consumers		125.050	175.218	188.928
6. ICDP		5103.476	4322.909	5460.811
7. Weaker Sections				
(a) Fishery		2687.269	3181.904	3861.170
(b) Dairy		374.710	263.100	171.317
(c) Tribal		1676.858	305.800	224.429
(d) Handloom		593.224	1293.128	431.991
(e) Others		1531.858	940.613	1190.287
Total		6863.919	5984.553	5879.194
8. Prom. & Misc.		295.592	148.151	130.369
9. Credits		0.00	0.000	0.000
TOTAL		36278.185	28921.881	32369.764