

- (ii) A Technology Mission on Oilseeds was established in May, 1986 for harnessing the best of production, processing and management technology.
- (iii) Intensification of research efforts for increasing production of oilseeds.
- (iv) Increasing the areas under non-traditional oilseeds crops like soyabean and sunflower, exploitation of oilseeds of tree and forest origin, ricebran etc.

Palm Oil

3011. DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to set up processing plant for palm oil in Gujarat in view of enough potential;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) The Technology Mission on Oilseeds, Pulses and Maize (TMOP&M), Ministry of Agriculture has recognised adequate potential for production of oil palm crop in the Gujarat. An area of 61000 hec. has been identified in South Gujarat and some coastal areas of Gujarat. The plantation of oil palm in Gujarat started since 1993-94. An area of 495 hec. has been covered so far under the crop.

TMOP&M has been financially supporting the setting up of demonstration processing units of oil palm. The Mission has sanctioned the establishment of a demonstration unit of palm oil mill in Gujarat on a cost-sharing basis.

(b) It was agreed to set up the demonstration unit of 2.0 T FFB/Hr. capacity palm oil mill under cooperative sector in Gujarat. The State Government has identified Shri Kalyan Agriculture Crops Processing and Sales Cooperative Society Ltd., Mahuvar, Taluka in district Navsari, for this purpose. The site of the processing unit is yet to be finalised.

(c) Not applicable in view of the reply at (a) & (b) above.

Encounter/Bomb Blast in Jammu and Kashmir

3012. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT:
SHRI ADITYANATH:
SHRI E. AHAMED:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of encounters/bomb blasts took place in Jammu and Kashmir during the period from January 1, 1998 to February 28, 1999;

(b) the number of persons/jawans/extremists killed in each encounter and blast;

(c) the details of incidents in which Pakistan's Intelligence Agency has been found involved;

(d) the amount of property damaged by the terrorists; and

(e) the details of the compensation given by the Government to dependents of the persons killed by the terrorists during each of the last three years by the terrorists?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (c) According to available information received from the State Government, 1327 incidents of militant violence directed against security forces and 501 incidents of explosions took place in Jammu & Kashmir during the period 1.1.1998 to 28.2.1999. 975 civilians, 266 security force personnel and 1139 militants were killed in terrorist related violence during the period. Militancy in Jammu & Kashmir is being aided and abetted by Pakistan and its official agency ISI.

(d) As informed by State Government, 11 Government buildings, 313 private houses, 4 places of worship, 16 educational institutions, 1 bridge were destroyed, and one incident of timber burning took place during the period.

(e) Payment of ex-gratia relief to victims of militant violence is an ongoing process and is given as per the norms of the State Government. The Central Government reimburses to the State Government the amount paid towards such relief/compensation as part of the security related expenditure. The expenditure incurred by the Government of Jammu & Kashmir on release of ex-gratia relief to the victims of terrorist violence for which State

Government has claimed reimbursement during the last 3 years is as under:—

1996-97	Rs. 30.90 crores
1997-98	Rs. 24.17 crores
1998-99 (upto December 1998)	Rs. 28.20 crores

Price of Onion

3013. SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR:
DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the price of onion has sharply fallen and the farmers are in great crisis;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to arrest the decline of onion price;

(d) whether the Government have taken a decision to compensate the farmers facing crisis;

(e) whether the Government propose to fix minimum support price of onion like other agricultural commodities; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYAPAL SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b) The wholesale prices of onions have declined during the last three weeks at the producing centres due to arrivals of fresh crop. The estimated production of late kharif and rabi crops of onions is likely to be much higher as compared to those of last year.

(c) and (d) The Government has permitted the export of 1.50 lakh MTs of onions up to May, 99 to help the farmers to get reasonable prices for their produce.

(e) and (f) No, Sir.

Contaminated Drinking Water

3014. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether drinking water of many States contain fluorine beyond permissible limit of 1.5 ppm leading to various ailments;

(b) if so, the details of study conducted in this regard; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A nation wide survey was conducted by the Ministry during 1991-93 to identify the status of water supply in the rural habitation and the validation survey was conducted during May-July, 1994. As per the information received from the States, currently, there are 32211 habitations affected by fluoride in 16 States of the country.

(c) Provision of safe drinking water is a State subject and States are to design water supply systems suited to the State, Government of India support the efforts of the State Governments both technically and financially through the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP), Powers to sanction projects relating to quality of water have since been delegated to the State Governments. However in the past, 427 Defluoridation plants have been installed for removal of excess fluoride from the drinking water. Government of India has also sanctioned 707 schemes designed to cover a population of 18.74 lakh spread over 4625 habitations in 9 States under the Submission programme. Five Pilot Projects have also been initiated in the States of Andhra Pradesh (3), Rajasthan (1) and Gujarat (1) wherein all the proven technologies are being tried out. State Governments have been advised to constitute State Level "Fluorosis Control Cells" aimed at organising large scale training, awareness generation and capacity building programme.

Import of Wheat

3015. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL:
SHRI RAM NARAIN MEENA:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state: