

MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL):

(a) and (b) The crates are cleaned by using crate washers. The crates with harder deposits of milk are segregated and separately cleaned by manual pressure/using high-pressure water nozzle. Some times due to mechanical failure in the process, some crates may escape with the deposited milk solids. But however, there is no possibility of spread of an epidemic through milk crates, which are basically used for storage of milk pouches and milk does not come in contact with the surface of the plastic crates at all.

(c) Question does not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.

(d) The process for introducing crate washer with the latest technology has been initiated.

Fund for Bihar

3336. SHRI H.P. SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the amount out of the total funds allocated to Bihar under the Ninth Five Year Plan spent along with the heads under which it has been spent;

(b) whether the Bihar Government have furnished necessary figures to the Union Government in this regard;

(c) if so, the efforts made to obtain these figures from the State Government; and

(d) whether the balance amount is likely to be added to the amount proposed to be allocated under the Ninth Five Year Plan in case the amount provided in the Ninth Five Year Plan has not been spent in full?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) An outlay of Rs. 16,680 crore (at 1996-97 prices) for the Ninth Plan (1997-98 to 2001-02) of Bihar has been approved. This comprises Rs. 6512.65 crore of State's Own Resources and Rs. 10167.35 crore of Central Assistance.

(b) Against the approved outlay of Rs. 2268.42 crore for Annual Plan 1997-98, it has been reported by the Government of Bihar that expenditure incurred during this period is of the order of Rs. 1663.87 crore. The expenditure was incurred under the heads of Agriculture & Allied Activities, Rural Development, Irrigation & Flood Control, Energy, Industry & Minerals, Transport & Communication, Science & Technology, General Economic Services and Social Services.

(c) As per the existing procedure, the State Government is required to furnish necessary information on plan expenditure after the close of the corresponding financial year.

(d) No, Sir.

Tirade by Pakistani Foreign Minister

3337. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR :

SHRI RAMKRISHNA BABA PATIL :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistani foreign minister had recently launched a tirade against India at a luncheon briefing for the visiting Indian Parliamentarians in Islamabad;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) to (c) The Foreign Minister of Pakistan addressed Indian Parliamentarians during their recent visit to Pakistan on 12-13 February 1999 to participate in an Indian-Pakistan Parliamentary Conference organised by the Jang Group of newspapers. The Foreign Minister made a number of allegations against India. He was critical of India's policies with regard to issues that are being discussed as part of the composite dialogue process.

The composite dialogue process is aimed at building trust and confidence, exploring avenues of mutually beneficial cooperation and addressing outstanding issues. During the course of the first round of the dialogue process, India presented reasonable, practical and realistic proposals on all the subjects under discussion. Government hope that the Government of Pakistan will respond constructively to these proposals.

Development Board for Vidharbha Marathwara

3338. SHRI JOGENDRA KAWADE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Development Board for Maharashtra was set up by the Union Government in 1994;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Union Government have noticed any developmental backlog in the State at the time of setting up of Board;

(d) if so, the details of developmental backlog removed out of the total backlog; and

(e) details of developmental backlog to be removed in Vidharbha region of Maharashtra State at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (e) Three Development Boards for Vidharbha, Marathwada and Rest of Maharashtra were set up in 1994 under Article 371 (2) of the Constitution to ensure equitable allocation of funds for developmental expenditure over the said areas, subject to the requirements of the State as a whole; and to provide an equitable arrangement for adequate facilities for technical