

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The survey report is under examination in consultation with the Zonal Railway.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) During IXth Plan.

#### Delay in off Loading Cost

1548 SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item appearing in 'Financial Express', dated July, 1996 under the caption "Delay in off-loading cost \$25,000/ day";

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government to the observations made these in and facts of the matter regarding the mess caused by blocking of 3 Vessels carrying urea at Tuticorin, Madras and Rosi ports due to reported lack of coordination and delay in appointment of handling agent by the Ministry; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken to ensure that in future Government does not have to pay heavy demurrage charges for lack of coordination and administrative lapse on the part of Government agencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SHEES RAM OLA) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. On the date of news item appeared in the Financial Express, two vessels, "Prabhu Gopal" and "Jag Ravi" which arrived on 15.6.96 and 22.6.96 respectively at the ports of Tuticorin and Rozy were awaiting commencement of discharge for want of designated handling agencies. The Government had started the process for appointment of handling agencies well in time. But unlike in the past, the rates received through tenders for handling urea at the ports during 1996-97 were uniformly higher over the previous year. As the higher rates have an implication on the quantum of urea subsidy, the finalisation of the 1996-97 contracts merited detailed scrutiny by different agencies of the Government and took longer time. The handling agents have since been appointed at all ports and unloading has already commenced.

[Translation]

#### Visiting Abroad on Fake Visas

1549. DR. G. R. SARODE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons arrested for going abroad on fake visas during the last three years.

(b) the action taken against them and the measures taken by the Government to curb such illegal acts;

(c) the details of conditions prescribed for issuance of the visas; and

(d) whether the Government propose to simplify those conditions so as to make them easier?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d). According to information available, the number of persons detected for holding fake visas during the last three years at Bombay, Delhi, Calcutta and Madras airports and Attari railway station, was as follows:-

	1993	1994	1995
Bombay	79	83	134
Delhi	75	55	38
Calcutta	02	01	-
Madras	01	12	09
Attari	103	90	38
	260	241	219

The persons holding forged visas were handed over to police authorities for taking further necessary legal action.

After taking into account various considerations based on their national interest, foreign missions decide about the grant of visas to nationals of other countries. The essential conditions for obtaining visas vary from country to country.

Some countries issue visa stickers incorporating security features, while many countries are continuing with robber stamps which are easy to duplicate. Wider use of visa stickers with security features will be useful in tackling the problem of fake visas.

[English]

#### Animal Diseases

1550. SHRI S. D. N. R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government are aware of the increase in the livestock mortality rate due to spreading of the rinderpest and other animal diseases in the country particularly in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the preventing and curative measures taken and proposed to be taken to eradicate these diseases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b) There was no significant increased mortality due to rinderpest and some of the important diseases in the country including Karnataka comparative figures of mortality due to rinderpest and some of the important diseases for 1992 and 1995 are enclosed as statement.

(c) Prevention and control of livestock diseases come under the purview of the State Governments.

However, the Government of India is supplementing the efforts of the State Governments in controlling/eradicating some of the important diseases like rinderpest foot and mouth disease, tuberculosis, brucellosis, canine rabies and pullorum disease under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme, namely, National Project on Rinderpest Eradication and Assistance to States on Control of Animal Diseases.

#### STATEMENT

*Mortality due to some of the important livestock disease*

S. No.	Name of the Disease	Country		Karnataka	
		1992	1995	1992	1995
1.	Rinderpest	114	40	Nil	1
2.	Foot & Mouth disease (Bovine & Other Species)	117	476	Nil	52
3.	Haemorrhagic Septicemia (H.S.)	1851	5427	566	407
4.	Black Quarter	960	1894	422	258
5.	Sheep & Goat Pox	1458	228	8	28

#### Promotion of Agriculture Sector

1551. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Federation of India Chamber of Commerce and Industry has urged the Government to initiate multi form comprehensive strategy for the promotion of agriculture sector.

(b) if so, the details of the study papers prepared and sent by the FICCI to the Government, and

(c) the reaction of the Government on the views expressed by the FICCI?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (c). No communication has been received from Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry urging the Government to initiate multi-form comprehensive strategy for the promotion of agriculture sector.

#### Trains for Kanyakumari and Howrah

1552. SHRI SOUMYA RANJAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the request of Orissa Government for introduction of new trains for Kanyakumari and Howrah from Bhubaneswar is lying pending with the Government since long;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which the new trains are likely to be introduced on the said route?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). The proposals for new train to Kanyakumari from Howrah and Bhubaneswar were examined but not found feasible due to operational and resource constraints.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Plantation Programmes

1553. DR KURAPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to expand plantation programmes through different forestry projects during the current financial years; and

(b) if so, the programme drawn and the total hectares of land proposed to be brought under plantation programmes during the current financial year. State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAP JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) and (b). Targets of 1.13 million hectares of plantations on public lands and 111.36 crores of seedling distribution for planting on private lands have been fixed during 1996-97. On the basis of information furnished by the State Governments so far the achievements during 1995-96 have been 0.81 million hectares of afforestation on public lands and 86.57 crores of seedling distribution. Afforestation/plantation programme are to be carried out during the current financial year under various schemes of Central Ministries/State Governments. The State/Union Territory-wise targets in respect of afforestation and tree plantation for 1996-97 are enclosed as statement.

#### STATEMENT

*Targets for afforestation/tree planting activities under 20-point programme during 1996-97*

S. No.	Name of State/UT	Area in hectares Seedling in lakhs	
		Seedling Distribution (For Plantation on private Lands)	Area (Public Lands including Forest Lands)
		Final Targets for 1996-97	
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1100 00	50000 00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	6 00	9500 00
3.	Assam	25 00	27500 00
4.	Bihar	500 00	40000 00
5.	Goa	30 00	1800 00