

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Mizoram*	65	183	248	259	3	74	584
Nagaland	206	117	323	97	137	82	639
Orissa*	6303	149	6452	243	867	487	8049
Punjab	4210	36	4246	2	2	5	4255
Rajasthan	17021	1669	18690	1832	17	5165	25704
Sikkim*	95	4	99	9	5	1	114
Tamil Nadu	5790	1001	6791	1030	219	303	8343
Tripura*	277	4	281	1	27	1	318
Uttar Pradesh	17315	1126	18441	879	539	972	20831
West Bengal	5464	210	5674	34	77	62	5847
A & N Islands*	38	1	39	3	14	13	69
Chandigarh*	3	-	3	-	-	-	3
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	24	-	24	-	-	-	24
Daman & Diu*	4	-	4	-	1	2	7
Delhi	37	1	48	9	1	10	68
Lakshadweep	3	-	3	-	-	-	3
Pondicherry	27	2	29	2	1	2	34
All-India	142819	13533	156352	9766	3632	14206	183956

*In the absence of data for the year 1994-95 latest available information has been utilised.

Nexus between Extremists in M. P. and LTTE

2168. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh has communicated to the Ministry that there exists a nexus between the extremists in M.P. and LTTE of Sri Lanka which has been of great concern for them; and

(b) if so, the response of the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) The Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh had submitted a Memorandum to the Prime Minister during the visit of the Prime Minister to Madhya Pradesh on 17.6.1997, raising various issues related to the development of the State. In the Chapter relating to the Ministry of Home Affairs there was a

mention that the naxalite outfits of the State have learnt the technique of mine blast from LTTE Cadre secretly operating in Tamil Nadu. However, there is no report about the existence of any nexus between the extremists of Madhya Pradesh and LTTE.

Degradation of Coastal Eco System

2169. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the growing degradation of coastal eco system in the country ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(c) whether the sea erosion has been increasing every year ;

(d) if so, the details thereof for each of the last three years ; and

(e) the measures adopted or proposed to be adopted to stop sea erosion ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) to (e) Information is being collected and shall be placed on the Table of the House.

Misuse of Overhead Coloured Lights

2170. SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the blatant misuse of blue, red and coloured lights overhead on cars in Delhi ;

(b) if so, the norms and guidelines laid down for use of such lights ; and

(c) the steps taken to prevent such misuse and the resultant disturbance to road traffic in Delhi caused thereby?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHAMMAD MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Delhi Motor Vehicles Rules, 1993 provide that no motor vehicle owner, except certain specified categories, shall allow or fix any coloured light in the front and on top of the roof other than the rear of the motor vehicle provided that this provision shall not apply to the internal lighting indicator.

(c) A special drive was launched by Delhi Police to prosecute the violators for misuse of coloured lights which resulted in 53 cases of prosecution during first six months of 1997.

[Translation]

Gap between Support Price and Purchase Price

2171. PROF. RREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :

SHRI NITISH KUMAR:

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

(a) whether the gap between the support price and the consumer purchase price is constantly increasing in the country ;

(b) if not, the support price of the potato and apple in Himachal Pradesh and estimated minimum and optimum consumer purchase price of items in the country ;

(c) whether the interests of consumers are being affected adversely due to this gap ; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and the measures proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b) The Minimum Support Prices

(MSP) for agricultural commodities are announced by Government based on the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) which fixes the MSP on the basis of cost of production etc. for the entire crop year. MSP are in the nature of minimum remunerative prices payable to farmers in the event of significant fall in market prices of these commodities so as to protect the income of the farmers. MSP, therefore, may not move in tandem with consumer purchase prices, because the consumer purchase prices are retail prices, which are influenced by, *inter alia*, the overall supply and demand conditions of the commodity, trading costs and margins, prevailing market conditions etc. While MSP is a constant price for the entire period of the crop year, market prices keep fluctuating.

(c) and (d) Government has accorded the highest priority to protect the interests of the consumers. Apart from certain long-term measures to increase the production of essential commodities, imports of commodities which are in short supply are encouraged to augment the availability of these items. Some of the commodities are also supplied through the Public Distribution System and Cooperative Stores at prices which are below market levels. Further, stringent actions are being taken against hoarders and black marketeers and others indulging in unfair trade practices under the Essential Commodities Act and prevention of Black Marketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act etc. by the State/UT Governments.

National Live Stock Policy

2172. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government are contemplating to formulate any National Live Stock Policy ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the draft policy has been prepared and sent to the State Governments for their opinion; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the State Governments in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Formulation of a National Livestock Policy is being contemplated to steer the growth of the livestock sector in an organised and coordinated manner and to enhance production and overall efficiency. The policy approach include, *inter alia*

(i) participation of the small producers in the process of growth and globalisation

(ii) intensification of breeding services for genetic improvements