

Pollution Control Boards to issue notices to defaulting grossly polluting industries directly discharging their effluents in the rivers and lakes to instal effluent treatment plants within 3 months failing which closure notices shall be issued against such industries. A total of 15 common effluent treatment plants are being set-up in Delhi for clusters of small scale industries under the World Bank scheme for which Government of India has released an amount of Rs. 22.50 crore.

(c) and (d) An analysis of river water quality data for Yamuna in Delhi for the past three years does not indicate any significant change in terms of its improvement. The impact of the pollution abatement works undertaken will be visible only after all these works are completed by December, 1999.

[*English*]

Deep Sea Fishing Licences

3301. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :
SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI :

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether fishermen led by the National Fish Workers Forum and National Fisheries Action Committee have decided to launch an indefinite blockade Vizag, Kandla and Mumbai ports to press for cancellation of Deep sea Fishing Licences;

(b) if so, whether the Government have given a written assurance that licences would be cancelled as per the Murari Committee's recommendations;

(c) if so, the reasons for not implementing the Murari Committee's recommendations; and

(d) the time by which the recommendations of the Committee are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY) : (a) No intimation of any such decision has been received by the Government.

(b) and (c) In view of (a) above, does not arise.

(d) Action has already been taken for implementing the decisions of the Government on the recommendations of the Review Committee on Deep Sea Fishing.

Weed Pollution in Cereals/Paddy Crops in U.P.

3302. SHRI CHANDRABHUSHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether weeds are one of the major problems in most of the cereal crops especially paddy and to increase the production of cereals it is necessary to eradicate weeds at the primitive stage;

(b) if so, the cereal crops in Uttar Pradesh affected due to weeds during the last season;

(c) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh has sought assistance or subsidy for the use of weedicides under ICDP Scheme; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per reports available there is sporadic incidence of weeds in paddy during the last season.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) In view of reply to part (c), the question does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Procurement Price and Import of Wheat

3303. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reduced the loan amount of traders against the purchase of wheat thereby decreasing their purchasing power as a result of which the farmers are on the brink of ruin; and

(b) if so, the action proposed to be taken by the Government to tide-over the said situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b) With a view to increasing procurement of wheat for Central Pool, the Reserve Bank of India brought back wheat under the provisions of Selective Credit Control for a period of 3 months from 8th April, 1997. However, farmers' interests are protected by Price Support Operations, as FCI, State Governments and their Agencies procure wheat at Minimum Support Prices.

[*English*]

Tiger Farming

3304. SHRI SUBRAMANYAM NELAVALA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether three proposals for tiger farming by three South Asian Nations are still under consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, whether it was in 1994 Meet of the Global Tiger Forum that China, Indonesia and Thailand pleaded for the concept to be considered by Tiger range countries;

(c) the main reasons for not implementing the decision for the last three years; and

(d) the time by which the decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) No, Sir. There is no proposal for tiger farming by South Asian Nations under consideration of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India.

(b) No, Sir. No proposal for farming of tiger was pleaded by Indonesia and Thailand in the 1994 Meet of the Global Tiger Forum. Further, no delegate from China had participated in it.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Production of Fodder

3305. **SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE :** Will the Minister AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the present level of production of fodder and requirement thereof in the country;

(b) the steps taken to improve the quality (nutritive value) and productivity of fodder during the last three years and results achieved hereby particularly in Western States, State-wise;

(c) the details of Research and Development extension programme formulated to meet the growing fodder requirement of animals in milk producing States; and

(d) the details of action plan for fodder development and financial assistance likely to be made available under the Central schemes during 1997-98, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) As per estimates made in 1993 by Policy Advisory Group of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, the availability of dry and green fodder was 398.68 and 573.50 million tonnes respectively against the requirement of 583.62 and 744.73 million tonnes respectively.

(b) The Central Government disbursed Rs. 12.06 crores in the last three years to different States under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme "assistance to States for feed and fodder development" which has components

for improving the nutritive value of fodder. The States of Maharashtra and Gujarat were given Rs. 21.52 lakhs and Rs. 62.98 lakhs respectively during the period.

(c) The All India coordinated project on forage crops has developed several new high yielding fodder varieties which are not being grown by farmers. Some of the new varieties are Anand-2, Anand-3 and LL-5 (Lucern), BL 1, BL 10 (Berseem), AS 18 (Sorghum), J-1006 (Maize), TL-1 (teosinte) and PGG-19 (Guinea grass).

(d) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of assistance to States an outlay of Rs. 5 crores has been made for 1997-98.

[Translation]

Sugar in International Market

3306. **SHRI HARIVANSH SAHAI :** Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Sugar has been out of competition in the international market;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) the production of sugar in Uttar Pradesh and the percentage of sugar out of it sent to international markets;

(d) whether the price of sugar has been increased due to imposing of cess unit;

(e) if so, the estimated percentage of raw material and taxes/cess in the production cost of sugar; and

(f) the measures taken by the Government to bring down the prices of sugar in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b) The export of sugar is being undertaken by various private exporters as per their own best commercial judgement. It is not possible to quantify the increase or decrease in sugar exports, as a host a factors, including international sugar prices and demand determine export decision.

(c) During 1996-97 season, the production of sugar in U.P. was about 40.50 lakh tonnes (Provisional) upto 7.7.97.

A total quantity of about 1.35 lakh tonnes (Provisional) has been released for export out of 1996-97 season's production from the sugar mills in the State of U.P. upto 31.7.97.