

(c) to (e). Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited (HFC) and Fertilizer Corporation of India (FCI) are two fertilizer producing public sector undertakings (PSUs) which had been declared as sick companies by the Board for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) in November, 1992 in accordance with the provisions of the Sick Industries Companies (Special Provision) Act 1985. In its efforts to rehabilitate these companies, the Government has approved in principle the revival packages which envisage the revamp of Sindri, Ramagundam and Talcher units of FCI and Drugapur, Barauni and Namrup units of HFC entailing a fresh investment of Rs. 2201.13 Crores (Rs.1736.20 crores for FCI and Rs. 464.93 crores for HFC) apart from capital restructuring and other financial reliefs to these undertakings. An expert Group has been constituted to reformulate the revival packages from the stand point of funding by the Financial Institutions (FIs). Pending a final implementation of the revival packages, the Government has been providing budgetary support to these undertakings, to the extent possible, to sustain production in their functional units. During 1995-96, budgetary support of Rs. 108.60 crores to HFC and Rs. 217.60 crores to FCI was provided.

[English]

Cotton Development Board

2204. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to set up a Cotton Development Board for research and other promotional activities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

Road Over Bridge Project

2205. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a budgetary support was made in the railway budgets during 1987 to 1989 for 'Road Over Bridge' project at Liluah-Howrah Division;

(b) if so, the reasons for the delay in executing the same; and

(c) the role to be played by the Railways and State Government in the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir. Work included in Railway's Works Programme 1988-89.

(b) Delay is due to change in approved alignment and General Arrangement Drawing by State Govt. on account of inability to remove High Tension Cables

(c) Works of construction of Road Over Bridges in replacement of Level crossings are proposed by State Governments giving priorities. Such of those proposals for which State Governments completes the preliminary prerequisites are included in Railway's Works programme. Cost of the work is shared by the Railway and State Governments as per laid down rules. Railways carry out construction of the bridge, the portion over Railway tracks, and the State Governments the construction of approaches.

[Translation]

Conversion of Kathgodam-Bareilly-Mathura-Agra Rail Line

2206. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the time by which the work of conversion of Kathgodam-Bareilly-Mathura-Agra meter gauge line into broad gauge is likely to be started;

(b) whether some suggestions have been received in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) In the 9th Five Year Plan period.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) This work is included in the first phase of the action plan and is planned to be taken up in the 9th Plan period.

[English]

Indoor Air Pollution

2207. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the quantum of the indoor air pollution is ten times higher than outdoor air pollution;

(b) whether the Government have conducted any research in this regard;

(c) if so, the details and findings thereof; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the government to check such pollution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) to (c). The nature and magnitude of the indoor air pollution would depend upon the number of occupants and their activities, ventilations system, nature and quality of fuel used for cooking and heating purposes, impact of outdoor pollution etc.

According to the indoor air quality survey conducted by the American Society for Heating, Refrigeration and

Airconditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) - India Chapter covering various establishments in dense and select areas of Delhi using carbon dioxide as the measurable variable, the indoor levels of carbon dioxide encountered were two to three times higher than the levels outside.

(d) The steps taken to check indoor and outdoor pollution include the following :

1. The Government is implementing two Central sector schemes, namely, National Programme on Improved Chulha and National Project on Biogas Development which caters to family-size biogas plants. The Government is also providing subsidy and other incentives for promotion of these devices in the rural areas with the objective to reduce/eliminate level of smoke in/from the indoor environment.
2. Ambient air quality standards have been prescribed for major pollutants for the different areas.
3. Emission standards have been notified for the major categories of polluting industries.
4. Industries have been directed to install necessary pollution control equipment within a stipulated time-frame and legal action is taken against the defaulting units.
5. Environmental guidelines have been evolved for siting and operation of industries.
6. Environmental clearance based on impact assessment and associated studies has been made compulsory for major specific projects.
7. Vehicular emission standards have been notified under the Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989.
8. Unleaded petrol with catalytic converter fitted vehicles has been introduced in four metropolitan cities to begin with.

Reservation Counters for Ladies

2208. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN :

SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT BACHDA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of stations between Ahmedabad and Bombay where separate Reservation Counters have not been provided for the ladies, and

(b) the time by which such a facility is likely to be provided for convenience of the ladies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). Separate reservation counters for ladies can be earmarked at only those reservation offices which have been computerised and where adequate number of reservation counters and demand justifying earmarking

of one full counter exist. Between Ahmedabad and Mumbai there are 7 stations namely Mumbai Central, Churchgate, Andheri, Borivli, Surat, Ahmedabad and Vadodara where computerised reservation facility is available and the ladies in these centres can seek reservation from the supervisory counters. In addition, instructions have been issued to the Western Railway to open separate counters for ladies at Ahmedabad, Mumbai Central, Surat and Churchgate.

Environment Friendly Chemicals

2209. SHRI SOUMYA RANJAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have embarked upon preparation of a list of environment friendly chemicals; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) and (b). The Government have not embarked upon preparation of a list of environment friendly chemicals but have launched a scheme in 1991 for labelling products including certain chemicals which are environment friendly. The label is known as "Eco Mark". The objective was to encourage production and consumption of products which met stipulated environmental criteria along with quality requirements of the Bureau of India Standards.

Under the Eco Mark scheme, the Government have so far evolved and notified final criteria for the following categories of products:

1. Toilet Soaps
2. Detergents
3. Paper
4. Architectural Paints
5. Laundry Soaps
6. Food Items Part-I (edible oils, tea and coffee)
7. Food Items Part-II (beverages, infant food, processed food, and vegetable products)
8. Lubricating Oils
9. Packaging Part-I (paper boards and plastic excluding laminates)
10. Packaging Part-II (laminates and products thereof)
11. Automotive Lead Acid Batteries
12. Electric and Electronic Goods
13. Food Additives
14. Wood Substitutes
15. Dry Cell Batteries