

mite and bauxite during 1990 and 1991 (till 30-6-91) and their disposal are indicated below:

	No. Received	No. Approved	No. under Process- ing
Limestone	27	18	9
Dolomite	20	16	4
Bauxite	5	3	2

No earlier proposals for grant of prospecting licence for these minerals are pending.

(d) No, Sir.

Area under Ramtil Cultivation

631. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VERMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether ramtil is major oil seed crop being grown by tribal farmers in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the total area under ramtil cultivation, total production and the area out of that which is in tribal areas;

(c) whether the support price for ramtil is fixed by the Union Government;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether there is a demand for ramtil in foreign countries; and

(f) if so, the steps taken by the Government for the export of ramtil?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Ramtil (Niger) is an important crop grown by tribal farmers in Madhya Pradesh.

(b) The total area under ramtil in Madhya Pradesh is estimated to be 2.25 lakh ha. during 1990-91. Out

of this approximately 2.05 lakh ha. is in eight major tribal districts in the State. The production of ramtil in Madhya Pradesh is likely to be 48,000 tonnes during 1990-91.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The price support scheme of the Government of India based on the recommendation of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices provides for fixation of procurement/minimum support prices for crops which are grown extensively. Ramtil being a minor oilseed, and its production being negligible in comparison with other oilseeds like groundnut, sunflower, soyabean, rapeseed, mustard and safflower, support prices for ramtil have not been fixed under the scheme.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) The export of ramtil has been canalised through NAFED to protect the interests of the tribals who cultivate the seed, to obtain better prices from foreign buyers and to promote export of this item.

[English]

Ongoing Major and Medium Irrigation Projects

632. SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ongoing major and medium irrigation projects, state-wise;

(b) the amount spent on these projects so far, State-wise; and

(c) the amount required to complete these projects, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) to (c) A Statement indicating the number of on-going major and medium irrigation projects, amount spent upto the end of Seventh Plan and amount required to complete these projects, State-wise, is attached.