

(c) The planting of Neem Tree is being encouraged as part of agro-forestry, social forestry and other forestry programmes. State Governments and Union Territory Administrations are taking up plantation of Neem tree under miscellaneous plantations and also as avenue tree. In addition, there is a 100% Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Minor Forest Produce including medicinal plants which includes neem as a species to be planted in the mixed plantations under the scheme. This scheme is being handled by the National Afforestation and Eco-Development Board (NAEB) in the Ministry of Environment & Forests. There is no proposal to declare neem as National tree at present.

Grant of Ration Money

748. SHRI B.L. SHARMA PREM : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposal recommended by Delhi Administration for grant of ration money to non-gazetted employees of Delhi Police has been accepted by the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof and when it is likely to be implemented; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c). The proposal of the Delhi Police for the grant of ration money to its non-gazetted employees has been referred to the Fifth Pay Commission.

Gauge Conversion in Andhra Pradesh

749. SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of kilometres of narrow gauge railway line converted into broad gauge and the targets set for the same during the last three years in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) the reasons for not achieving the targets, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Except for a small portion of Naupada-Gunupur narrow gauge line, totalling 36 kms only, there are no other narrow gauge line in Andhra Pradesh.

Survey for conversion of Naupada-Gunupur narrow gauge line to broad gauge has just been completed and results are under finalisation.

(b) Does not arise.

Development of Fisheries

750. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of various Central schemes being implemented in Assam for the development of fisheries;

(b) the amount allocated during each of the last three years, scheme-wise; and

(c) the target fixed and achievement made during the said period, scheme-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) The Following schemes are being implemented in Assam for the development of fisheries :

(i) Development of fresh water aqua-culture.

(ii) Fishery training and extension.

(iii) Welfare of fishermen - Establishment of model fishermen villages

(iv) Inland fisheries statistics.

(b) Prior allocation of funds is not made to the States for implementation of the schemes. Central assistance is released on the basis of the proposals received from the States and progress of implementation of the Schemes. The amount released during each of the last 3 years, schemewise, to Assam is as under .

Amount released to Government of Assam

(Rs in lakhs)

Scheme	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1. Development of fresh water Aqua-culture	82.00	23.00	23.00
2. Fishery training and extension	-	-	1.70
3. Welfare of fishermen : Establishment of model fisherman villages	-	19.95	-
4. Inland fisheries statistic	2.45	3.00	1.50