

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to do away with this discrimination;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government propose to increase the per capita availability of sugar for the public distribution keeping in view the increased sugar production; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (d). The allocation of levy sugar to State Governments/UT Administrations with effect from 1.1.1996 is made on uniform norms of ensuring 425 gms. per capita per month as per 1991 Census. Central Government does not make any distinction between rural and urban population in this respect.

(e) and (f). Taking into consideration the higher availability of sugar on account of higher level of production during 1995-96 and 1996-97, the Central Government has doubled the festival quota for the calendar year 1996. Besides, the levy quota of all States/UTs for December, 1996 has also been enhanced by 10 per cent.

Journey By B.S.F. Plane

1656. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Prime Minister and other Union Ministers had undertaken some journeys in the aeroplanes of the Border Security Force;

(b) if so, the details of the air journeys performed by them separately from July 1, 1996 onwards;

(c) whether some of them included non-official air journeys also;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the fare outstanding against them for the non-official journeys, separately;

(e) whether some amount of Border Security Force or hiring aeroplanes is also outstanding against some former Prime Ministers including former Union Ministers;

(f) if so, the details thereof and the dates from which the said fare is outstanding against them separately; and

(g) the action taken so far or being taken for the recovery of outstanding fare for non-official journeys on all of them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (f). In addition to the Ministers of Ministry of Home Affairs, the Minister of Finance has also undertaken

journey by BSF aircraft for official purpose in October, 1996. The bill for the journey will be raised against Ministry of Finance. The Prime Minister has not undertaken journey by BSF aircraft so far.

(e) to (g). In the past, BSF aircrafts were made available to the then Union Ministers for official purposes. The bills for such journeys for the year 1995-96 and 1996-97 will be raised against the concerned Ministries/Departments after finalisation of the cost of operation of the aircrafts.

Ozone Depletion

1657. SHRI PINAKI MISHRA :
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST be pleased to state:

(a) whether steps have been taken by the Government to prevent the Ozone depletion and promote eco-friendly technologies in industries and other areas of economy and social life;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the further steps being taken and programmes and campaigns carried on or launched in pursuance of these conventions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) To comply with the Montreal Protocol, a Country Programme was prepared after detailed all round consultation for phasing out Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS). Steps have been taken to phase out ODS by funding project through the Multilateral fund created under the Montreal Protocol, providing technical assistance, and fiscal incentive to industry.

(c) Further the following steps have been taken:

(i) Awareness Campaigns have been carried out through workshops, film and print media.

(ii) Action has been initiated to formulate rules under Environment Protection Act, 1986.

(iii) Eco-friendly technologies are promoted through implementation of standards for issuance for Ecomark to qualified non-ODS as well as certain selected consumer products.

Under Trials in Jails

1658. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the report submitted by the National Commission for Women;