

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) Government is not aware of any study on noise pollution conducted by the Indian Medical Association. However, studies carried out by the National Institute of Occupational Health, Ahmedabad have indicated that high levels of noise pollution may cause temporary or permanent hearing impairment and psychobehavioural problems.

(b) and (c) Steps taken by the Government to prevent noise pollution and increase public awareness are enumerated in the Statement enclosed.

Statement

STEPS TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT

1. Noise has been notified as a pollutant under Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1991. Ambient standards in respect of sound for the different categories of areas (residential, commercial, industrial and silence zones) have been notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
2. Noise limits have been prescribed for automobiles; domestic appliances and construction equipments at the manufacturing stage.
3. A code of practice for controlling noise at source, other than industries and automobiles, has been evolved by the Central Pollution Control Board. These include Public Address System, Aircraft Operations, Railway Operations, construction activities and bursting of crackers. State Government have been asked to employ these code of practices under the relevant local rules.

Use of Prohibited Colours in Foodstuff

2266. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :
SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are aware of the widely use of prohibited flavoured colours in foodstuff and soft drinks which causes serious damage to the human health;
- (b) whether any study has been conducted by the Government in this regard;
- (c) if so, the outcome of the study;
- (d) whether the Industrial Toxicological Research Centre had also submitted a report to the Government about the harmful affects of the use of prohibited colours;

and

(e) if so, the action taken by the Government to check the use of prohibited colours in foodstuff and soft drinks and the reasons attributed for not achieving the desired results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Lok Sabha.

Diversion of Fund

2267. SHRI UTTAMSINGH PAWAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether a substantial part of money meant for development of the Jammu and Kashmir State finds its way into the hands of the insurgents;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto;
- (c) the quantum of amount provided to Jammu and Kashmir Government for development work during the last three years;
- (d) whether any assessment has been made about the actual development made;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) and (b) No Sir. Whenever specific complaints of misuse of funds are received, appropriate enquiries are conducted including enquiries by the Vigilance Department. The State Government has further strengthened and intensified the activities of the Vigilance Department. The State Government has constituted District level Inspection Committees under the Chairmanship of the Deputy Commissioners to inspect and verify works and programmes on the ground. Corrective measures are taken by the State Government whenever necessary.

(c) A statement is annexed.

(d) to (f) Several teams of senior officers from the Central Government have also visited the State and physically inspected development works and found execution of development schemes on the whole satisfactory.

Statement

Release of funds by the Ministry of Finance for developmental works under plan was as under:

(Rs. in crores)

Item	Years		
	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
(i) Normal Central Assistance	1707.48*	1379.08*	1782.78***
(ii) Additional Central Assistance for EAP	11.10	6.51	12.42
(iii) Spl. Central Assistance for BADP	17.50	20.68	20.68
(iv) Rev. Deficit grant (Plan)	3.72	-	-
(v) Spl. plan loan		44.00	100.00

* Includes Special Central Assistance of Rs. 973 crores.

** Includes Special Central Assistance of Rs. 383.50 crores.

***Includes Special Central Assistance of Rs. 663 crores.

Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty

2268. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the characteristic features of "Fissile Material cut-off Treaty"

(b) the relation between the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty and the Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty; and

(c) the role of Pakistan in relation to the Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA) : (a) and (c) In 1993, the UNGA adopted a consensus resolution (48/75L), calling for the commencement of multilateral negotiations for a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile materials for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices. Pakistan joined in the consensus. However, due to lack of agreement, the CD has not yet been able to commence negotiations on an FMCT.

(b) Does not arise.

Out of Turn Allotment of Flats

2269. SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of DDA flats allotted on out of turn basis during the last three years;

(b) the number of allottees actually residing in those flats;

(c) the action taken by the Government against those who have either sold or sublet the flats allotted to them on out of turn basis;

(d) whether the Government propose to conduct a survey of all the flats allotted on out of turn basis; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) As reported by DDA, 74 flats were allotted on out of turn basis during the last three years.

(b) and (c) No such survey has been conducted.

(d) and (e) There is no such proposal at present.

[Translation]

Indian Foreign Service

2270. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHLE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total strength of officers of Indian Foreign Service category post-wise;

(b) the number of SCs/STs/OBCs among them, post wise;

(c) number of backlog vacancies of these category/post-wise; and

(d) the efforts made by the Government to clear the backlog?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b) Grade-wise strength of Indian Foreign Service officers as of end July, 1997, alongwith the number of SCs/STs/OBCs among them is as follows :-

Grade	Total No. of Officers	SCs	STs	OBCs
1	2	3	4	5
Grade-I of IFS	25	01	02	-
Grade-II of IFS	34	02	Nil	-
Grade-III of IFS	158	24	09	-