

(a) whether the proposal to release 100 acres forest land from the forest range in Hesaldagh area in Garhwa district of Bihar is lying pending with the Government for operation of dolomite mines by the Steel Authority of India Limited;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in according approval to this proposal; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) No such proposal has been received in the Ministry under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

#### Karnataka Milk Federation

3161. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the first ice cream plant of the Karnataka Milk Federation (KMF) has been commissioned in Bangalore recently;

(b) if so, whether the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) would be incharge of technical supervision till the federation become self-reliant;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) has assisted this ice-cream plant; and

(e) if so, the amount of assistance given by NDDB along with the terms and conditions thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Karnataka Milk Federation would take care of the technical supervision.

(d) and (e) A financial assistance of Rs. 205 lakhs was given by the NDDB for this project. Of this, Rs. 60 lakhs had been provided under Operation Flood-III on 70% loan 30% grant basis, carrying interest @10% per annum on the loan portion and the remaining Rs. 145 lakhs was financed as spill over project after the termination of OF-III on 100% loan basis carrying interest @14% per annum.

#### Subsidy on Fertilizers

3162. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of subsidy paid by the Government on fertilizer during the year 1994-95 and 1995-96 till date, State-wise;

(b) whether any subsidy was also paid on nitrogenous fertilizers; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (c) At present Urea is the only nitrogenous fertilizer subject to Statutory Price Control and for which subsidy is borne by Government. The subsidy is paid to the Urea manufacturing units/pool handling agencies and not to the States. Hence details are not available State-wise. In addition Government gives a concession on decontrolled phosphatic and potassic fertilizers, mainly Di-Ammonium Phosphate, Singal Super Phosphate, Muriate of Potash and Complexes. This is paid to the manufacturers/importers, and details are not available State-wise. Subsidy paid on fertilizers under Statutory Price Control and concession paid on phosphatic and potassic fertilizers during 1994-95 and 1995-96 is indicated below:

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Subsidy paid on controlled fertilizers	Concession paid on decontrolled fertilizers
1994-95	5241.00	527.95
1995-96	6235.00	500.00

#### Change in Crop Pattern

3163. SHRI N. DENNIS :  
SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is great change in the cropping pattern in the country from foodgrain crops in non-foodgrain crops in recent years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether this rapid change in the cropping pattern may ultimately lead to the shortage of foodgrains production;

(d) whether many State Governments and Union Government are taking steps to adopt better crop pattern and any survey/analysis has been conducted in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if so, the measures taken/proposed to be taken to arrest to shortage in foodgrains production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) There is no major change in the cropping pattern in the country from foodgrain crops *vis-a-vis* non-foodgrain crops in the recent years. However, the total area under foodgrain crops which was 68.9 percent in 1990-91 has marginally declined to 66.9 percent in 1994-95 as against the increase in non-foodgrain crops from 31.1 percent in 1990-91 to 33.1 percent in 1994-95.

(c) This marginal change in the cropping pattern is not expected to lead any shortage of foodgrains has been rising over the years due to increase in productivity.

(d) and (e) There is no Survey report of States directing any specific cropping patterns. However, the analysis of the data available from land utilisation statistics shows that the farmers in respective States have generally adopted the judicious cropping pattern as per agro-climatic and soil conditions.

(f) To increase the production and productivity of foodgrains, the Government is implementing various crop specific development programmes/schemes, *viz.*,

- (i) Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Rice, Wheat and Coarse Cereals based Cropping System Areas.
- (ii) Accelerated Maize Development Programme.
- (iii) National Pulses Development Project, etc.

#### **Production of Grapes**

3164. SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased state:

(a) the total production of grapes in the country during 1995 and 1996, State-wise;

(b) the area under cultivation of grape orchards in the country;

(c) whether any programme has been chalked out to increase the area under its cultivation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) The

production figures of grapes for 1995 and 1996 are not available. The latest data available for 1994-95 in this regard is as follows:

States	Production in metric tonnes (1994-95)
1. Andhra Pradesh	45700
2. Haryana	19600
3. Karnataka	157140
4. Maharashtra	350437
5. Punjab	61803
6. Tamil Nadu	31030
7. Others	7183
	672893

(b) As per latest information available, the area under grape cultivation in the country is around 42.1 thousand ha. during 1994-95.

(c) and (d) In order to increase area under grape cultivation, the Government of India is implementing a central sector scheme on integrated development of fruits including grapes under which assistance is being provided for area expansion, improving productivity through input supply, establishment of nurseries for providing quality planting material, training of farmers besides State Government plan schemes. In this connection, assistance is also given to instal drip irrigation system under the scheme 'Use of plastics in Agriculture'. In addition, NHB through State Government is extending assistance to farm families to grow fruit plants including grapes in rural areas under the scheme 'Establishment of nutritional garden in rural areas'. Board is also giving soft loan assistance for establishment of infrastructure for post harvest handling and marketing of horticultural produce including grapes to encourage farmers for its cultivation.

[*Translation*]

#### **Agriculture Production**

3165. SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for the agriculture production for the current year and the achievements made in this regard;