

- (i) the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification has been amended to permit withdrawal of ground water for drinking purposes and to permit mining of sand in A & N Islands subject to certain restrictions;
- (ii) permission has been given for transfer of hazardous substances from ships to ports in the port areas;
- (iii) to permit drawal of groundwater for drinking and domestic purposes within 200m of the High Tide Line subject to certain restrictions;
- (iv) to permit modernisation of existing fish processing units in the CRZ area subject to certain safeguards;
- (v) to permit construction of dispensaries, schools, roads and jetties for local inhabitants of Sunderbans biosphere reserve area in West Bengal.

[Translation]

Relief to Earthquake Victims

3333. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ration cards, receipts of municipal corporation have been recognised as token identity for the Jabalpur earthquake victims and thousand of persons who have identity cards issued by the Election Commission are being denied the relief amount of Rs. 3,000;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the Union Government will issue orders immediately to the Government of Madhya Pradesh to release the relief amount to the persons who come under the second category?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) According to the information received from the Government of Madhya Pradesh, the house owners and tenants have been asked to produce some documentary evidence to establish their eligibility for the assistance.

[English]

Development of Fishing at Chilika Lake

3334. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL :
SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the tremendous fishing potential of Chilika Lake;

(b) whether the Government propose to develop fishery and also to protect the interest of the fisherman earning their livelihood from the lake;

(c) if so, whether any action plan has been initiated by the Government in the matter; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(c) and (d) As per the information furnished by the Government of Orissa, a comprehensive scheme for development of Chilika Lake with a total cost of Rs. 27 crores has been approved by the Government of India (Ministry of Environment & Forests).

Besides, the ongoing project on preservation of Chilika lake which is being implemented through the Forests and Environment Department with the funds from the Government of India includes fishery development, training and preventing fishing off the mouth of Chilika at an estimated cost of Rs. 150 lakhs.

Grants to Maulana Azad Education Foundation Trust, Delhi

3335. SHRI SATYAPAL JAIN : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have given any grant to Maulana Azad Education Foundation Trust, Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the accounts of this Trust were ever audited by the CAG;

(d) if so, the reports thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) the grant released to various educational and social minority institutions during the last three years; and

(f) whether the audit of such institutions was carried-out, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Union Government in the Ministry of Welfare has given a total grant-in-aid of Rs. 30.01 crores so far to Maulana Azad Education Foundation—Rs. 5 crore in 1992-93 and Rs. 25.01 crores during 1994-95 under a Plan scheme "Grants-in-aid to Maulana Azad Education Foundation".

(c) and (d) As per the rules and regulations of the Foundation the accounts of the Foundation are to be kept in the forms and on the lines laid down by the Governing Body of the Foundation and are to be audited regularly/annually by a firm of Chartered Accountants appointed by the Foundation. Accordingly, the accounts of the foundation are audited annually by a firm of Chartered Accountants appointed by the Foundation.

(e) The grant of Rs. 30.01 crores given by the Ministry of Welfare to Maulana Azad Education Foundation is to be the Corpus Funds of the Foundation meaning thereby that while the principal amount is to remain intact, the interest accruing therefrom is to be utilised by the Foundation for implementing this scheme of attain its objective which is to promote education amongst the educationally backward sections of the society—minorities in particular and other weaker sections in general. During the last three years the Foundation has released the following amounts to various Educational and Social Minority Institutions for this purpose:—

Year	Number of Institutions	Total amount released
1994-95	01 (one)	Rs. 10.00 lakhs
1995-96	09	Rs. 102.70 lakhs
1996-97	35	Rs. 303.47 lakhs
Total :	45	Rs. 416.17 lakhs

(f) There is a detailed procedure for sanction of grants to the institutions by the Foundation which, *inter-alia*, takes into account the fact that whether the audit of accounts of the institution has been carried out and whether the audit reports are available for the last three years.

Air Pollution threat for certain Crops

3336. LT. GEN. PRAKASH MANI TRIPATHI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the alarming level of air pollution can pose threat to certain crops reducing their yield by 40 per cent;

(b) if so, whether his Ministry has received any report on the research conducted by International Organisations in this regard; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) Studies carried out on effect of air pollution have indicated that the productivity of certain crops like wheat, soyabean, maize, rice etc. is affected. However, no conclusive data on the extent of damage caused to these crops is available.

(b) and (c) No report on the research conducted by International Organisations in this regard has been received in the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. However, Ministry of Environment and Forests has taken the following steps to check air pollution.

- Standards for brick kilns have been prescribed for particulate emissions and for stack height.
- Ambient air quality standards have been notified. A network of ambient air quality monitoring stations have been set up.
- Effluent and emissions standards have been notified for the major categories of polluting industries.
- Industries have been directed to install necessary pollution control equipment with in stipulated time-frame and legal action is taken against the defaulting units.
- Environmental guidelines have been evolved for sitting and operation of industries.
- 17 categories of highly polluting industries have been identified for priority action.
- A scheme on common effluent treatment plants for clusters of small scale industries has been taken up.
- Preparation of Zoning Atlas for sitting of industries has been taken up.
- More stringent norms for vehicular emissions have been notified under the Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989 and have come into effect from April, 1996.
- Unleaded petrol has been introduced in Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta and Chennai with effect from 1.4.1995. The same will be effective in all other capitals of States/UTs and other major cities with effect from 31.12.1998 and for the entire country with effect from 1.4.2000.