

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) Tata Energy Research Institute has carried out a study entitled "Environmental aspects of energy use in large Indian metropolises" which has suggested that introduction of cleaner technologies are not enough to reduce the energy and environment problems associated with the transport sector. The report, inter alia, states that with the growing traffic congestion and inadequate road development, demand management is critical and needs to be more vigorously used.

The Government has already taken preventive and control measures to reduce vehicular pollution, which includes the following :

- Stipulation of emission norms;
- Unleaded petrol was introduced in the four metropolitan cities on 1.4.95 for catalytic convertor fitted vehicles. The second phase would cover all capitals of States and Union Territories by December, 1998. This is likely to be progressively implemented throughout the country by 01.04.2000;
- Enforcement of standards for control of vehicular emission through State Transport Authorities;
- Government of Delhi has been impressed upon to induct more buses (preferably high capacity buses) to augment its fleet strength and to phase out the old buses;

[Translation]

Bhassagar Reservoir Plan

2606. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHLE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bhassagar reservoir plan has not been sanctioned as some forest land is coming under the reservoir;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to accord permission for digging of the forest land; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Cases in Consumer Courts

2607. SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases registered in the consumer courts/fora during each of the last two years, State-wise;

(b) the steps being taken or propose to be taken to dispose of these cases expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) Information regarding number of cases registered in the District Fora, year-wise, is not maintained. However, the number of cases registered in District Fora, since inception, State-wise, is enclosed as statement.

(b) For speedy disposal of cases by the consumer courts, Central Government has launched a scheme of one-time financial assistance of Rs. 61 crores to the States/U.Ts. to strengthen the infrastructure of the Consumer Courts. The Department of Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution also monitors the progress of disposal of cases by the Consumer Courts in consultation with the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC) and the respective State Governments. NCDRC has issued appropriate instructions to Consumer Courts for improving their performance in disposing the cases.

Statement

State/UT	Filed since Inception	At the end of
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	79675	9/96
Arunachal Pradesh	140	10/96
Assam	3831	4/96
Bihar	26227	10/96
Goa	2139	10/96
Gujrat	41736	9/96
Haryana	40186	9/96
Himachal Pradesh	7232	9/96
Jammu & Kashmir	6882	6/96
Karnataka	41953	6/96
Kerala	71464	10/96
Madhya Pradesh	34935	12/95
Maharashtra	60603	9/96
Manipur	611	9/95
Meghalaya	137	6/96
Mizoram	159	11/96
Nagaland	13	9/94
Orissa	14535	9/96
Punjab	15085	9/96
Rajasthan	84071	9/96
Sikkim	67	10/96
Tamil Nadu	33616	9/96

Tripura	568	9/96
1	2	3
Uttar Pradesh	135881	8/96
West Bengal	19773	9/96
Andaman and Nicobar	119	9/96
Chandigarh	7996	6/96
D and N Haveli	20	8/96
Daman and Diu	32	9/96
NCT of Delhi	35710	10/96
Lakshadweep	26	11/96
Pondicherry	1149	11/96
Total	766571	

Purchase of Urea at Higher Price

2608. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the farmers are purchasing urea at higher prices as the officers of the State Government do not have the information about the supply of the fertilizers;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether the Government propose to formulate any scheme to improve the situation; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (d) Urea is allocated to each State under Essential Commodities Act for Kharif and Rabi seasons separately in consultation with the State Governments. Supply Plan indicating the quantities of urea to be supplied by different manufacturers in each season to every State/ Union Territory is prepared and notified. State Governments have been regularly monitoring the availability and sales of Urea. Ceiling on sale price of urea which is uniform throughout the country is fixed under Fertilizer Control Order, 1985.

Levy Sugar Price Equalization Fund Scheme

2609. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has sent any proposals to the Union Government in regard to the issues relating to Levy Sugar Price Equalization Fund Scheme in the State during the last three years till date;

(b) if so, the details thereof, year-wise;

(c) the number of proposals accepted/rejected/ pending out of them, year-wise; and

(d) the reasons for rejection/pendency of the proposals?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of Gujarat have requested for ad-hoc payments of subsidy from the levy Sugar Price Equalisation Fund (Non-statutory) vide their letter of 9.10.1996.

The Government of Gujarat have also requested for a revision of the margins for the distribution of levy sugar vide their letter of 26.8.1996.

(c) and (d) Funds have been made available to the FCI for payment to States including Gujarat. The margins will be revised in consultation with the State Government.

Loss of Cattle

2610. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

(a) the loss of cattle in the country during the current year till date, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government are aware that several cattles died due to unidentified disease; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to identify the disease alongwith the preventive measures being taken to check the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVAN PRASAD SINGH) : (a) to (c) The information is being gathered from the State and Union Territory Government and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Central Rice Research Institute

2611. SHRI MAHABIR LAL BISHVAKARMA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Rice Research Institute, Cuttack has celebrated its Golden Jubilee from 23-25 September, 1996;

(b) whether for this occasion the international tenders were invited by Central Rice Research Institute in July, 1996 through the national and international newspapers;

(c) whether all these tenders were awarded to the local contractors and sellers in violation of the audit rules;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the action taken by the Government on the report of the B.L. Jangeera Committee which was set up to