

open for grassing purposes of cattle of Gujjars and Bakerwalas of district Baramullah and Kupwara;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) how much grass raising areas (bakes), in the district of Baramullah and district Kupwara has been used for the Gujjar, Bakerwala and local people ?

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). Yes, Sir. These places fall near LOC and the grazing facility, if allowed, can be misused by militants for egress and ingress.

(c) 18 'Bahaks' in Baramullah District and 10 'Bahaks' in Kupwara District are open to Bakarwals/ Gujjars and local people for grazing purposes.

Arsenic-Free Water

1610. SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have considered the proposal for supplying 'arsenic-free water' for various districts of Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the proposals of the State Government accepted by the Union Government; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) No such proposal has been received from the State Government of Gujarat.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Atomic Energy Commission

1611. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH :

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board is answerable to the Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to make the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board independent from the AEC;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b). Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB),

constituted under the Atomic Energy Act (33 of 1962) to carry out regulatory and safety functions envisaged under Section 16, 17 and 23 of the Act, shall be responsible to the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) and shall send reports periodically to the Chairman, AEC on safety status including observance of safety regulations and standards and implementation of the recommendations. It will also submit an Annual Report of its activities to Chairman, AEC. Appeals against decisions of the AERB shall lie with the Atomic Energy Commission whose decision shall be final.

(c) The Atomic Energy Regulatory Board already enjoys functional independence.

(d) The AERB has the authority to impose restrictions/enforce suspension of the operation of any facility for non-compliance of its directives.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Approval to U.P. Projects

1612. SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VARMA : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh has sent some schemes to the Planning Commission for approval;

(b) if so, the details thereof including their locations; and

(c) the time by which these schemes are likely to be approved ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (c). A Medium Irrigation Project i.e. Patharal Medium Irrigation Project at revised estimated cost of Rs. 31.66 crores located at District Jhansi covering Gross Command Area and Culturable Command Area of 3772 hectares and 3509 hectares respectively has been received in the Planning Commission through Ministry of Water Resources as Irrigation Projects are not directly sent to the Planning Commission. The Project had been duly recommended by Technical Advisory Committee. The concurrence of State Finance Department and other related details to be complied by the State Government are awaited in the matter. As soon as the compliance from the State Government is received, the project will be considered for investment approval by the Planning Commission.

Another Project on Rural Water Supply and Environmental Sanitation costing \$ 100 million to be posed for World Bank Assistance has also been received through Ministry of Rural Areas & Employment. The project is to combine the concept of health

education, safe drinking water supply and environmental sanitation facility (sullage drains and low cost sanitary latrines) and strengthening of various institutional set up to achieve the aim of living conditions of rural community. The location of the project area spread over 13 districts of U.P. which includes 8 hill districts, namely, Dehradun, Tehri, Chamoli, Pauri, Pithoragarh, Uttarkashi, Nainital and Almora and 5 Bundelkhand districts, namely, Jhansi, Lalitpur, Banda, Kamirpur and Jalaun covering total 1000 villages. The project has already been approved by the World Bank for \$ 59.6 million loan for this project on 26.6.1996.

An outlay of Rs. 2500 crores for roads and bridges under the category of external aided projects in the 9th Five Year Plan has been requested. The total length of selected package is 2680 kilometres, out of which 258 kilometres require widening, 1405 kilometres needs widening & strengthening and 1017 kilometres needs strengthening.

[English]

Central Assistance to Food Processing Industries

1613. SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH :
 PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT :
 SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVINCHANDRA
 MEHTA :
 SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :
 SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR :

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have drawn any plans to develop Food Processing Industry in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount of assistance sought by various States, separately, for setting up of Food Processing Industries during the last three years;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the assistance provided to various States during the above period; and

(f) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY) : (a) to (f). Ministry of Food Processing Industries are operating several developmental Plan Schemes for the overall development of food processing industries. Under the Plan Schemes financial assistance is extended to State Government Organisations, Joint Sector/Assisted Sector Units/Cooperatives/Voluntary Organisations etc. for upgrading or setting up or enlarging food processing facilities, developing backward linkages with farmers, marketing support, for setting up pork, poultry and other meat and meat processing facilities, tuna and other fish processing,

setting up of cold-chain, Research & Development in food processing and packaging and training of manpower in certain sectors etc.

The Plan Schemes being operated by this Ministry are not State specific and cover different segments such as Fruits & Vegetables Processing, Meat & Poultry Processing, Grain Processing, Fisheries etc. The financial assistance provided by this Ministry for the proposals received from different states of the country including assistance for Research & Development, Manpower development etc. during the last 3 years has been as under :

Year	Amount (Rs. in Crores)
1993-94	38.52
1994-95	29.74
1995-96	40.87

Integrated Rural Development Programme

1614. SHRI RAJU RANA :
 SHRI KASHIRAM RANA :

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received the report from the Committee appointed by the Reserve Bank of India on implementation of Integrated Rural Development Programme;

(b) if so, the main recommendations by the Committee;

(c) the details of recommendations accepted by the Government; and

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir. An interim reports has been submitted by the Committee.

(b) and (c). The main recommendations made by the Committee in its interim report and those accepted by the Government are :-

(i) Greater involvement of Panchayati Raj Institution in the implementation of the IRDP.

(ii) Selection of the families below poverty line for assistance under IRDP should be from those with skills, aptitude and experience in handling assets. Others could also be provided assistance under IRDP, subject to acquiring or upgrading their skills under TRYSEM or other related training programmes.