

Layers ILI-80
ILR-90
ILM-90
CARI-GOLD (Brown egger)

They all have a production level of around 280 eggs per annum.

Environmental Courts

*426. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have paid attention towards the directives of the Supreme Court in which the constitution of special environmental courts has been suggested to deal with violation of the environmental laws;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to strengthen the institutional mechanism at the Central and State level to implement the pollution control laws and ensure the responsibility of the chief of the unit agency for any error in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) After the observations of the Supreme Court in the Oleum gas leak case at Shriram Food & Fertilizer Industries Ltd., Delhi, suggesting setting up of Environmental Courts, the Government has enacted a legislation called the National Environment Tribunal Act, 1995 which provides for strict liability for damages arising out of any accident occurring while handling any hazardous substance. This Act provides for establishment of a National Environment Tribunal for effective and expeditious disposal of cases arising from such accidents.

(c) and (d) In order to strengthen institutional mechanism at the Central and State levels, Government have delegated powers of Section (5) of the Environment Protection Act, 1986 to Central Pollution Control Board and State Pollution Control Boards. According to the provisions of the Act, the Chief of the units where the offence has taken place will be prosecuted after the offence has been proved.

[English]

Creation of Uttranchal State

427. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT'BACHADA' :
SHRI R.B. RAI :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Bill regarding the creation of a separate Uttranchal State in the hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh has been referred to seek opinion of U.P. Legislative Assembly;

(b) whether the Government propose to introduce the Bill for the creation of Uttranchal State in the current session; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) to (c) Necessary action is being taken to refer the bill for the creation of a separate State of Uttarakhand/ Uttranchal to the State Legislature of Uttar Pradesh for expressing its views thereon as required under article 3 of the Constitution of India. As there are various legal and Constitutional formalities involved in the issue, it may not be possible to introduce the Bill in Parliament during its current session which is expiring on the 16th instant.

[Translation]

Works Done by CPCB

*428 DR. RAM LAKHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the works done by the Central Pollution Control Board during the last three years;

(b) the details of the works still going on; and

(c) the amount spent on various works during the said period, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) The Central Pollution Control Board has done the following works during the last three years;

1. Studies relating to assessment of water quality in identified polluted river stretches have been completed.

2. River basin studies have been completed for Narmada, Tapi and Kaveri. Guidelines for developing Green Belt have been prepared.

3. Monitoring progress of compliance in respect of 17 categories of industries was maintained.

4. Micro-Earth Station (MES) has been installed and stabilised to have on-line access to NICNET and international network.

5. Inventorisation of hazardous wastes generating units have been completed in the State of Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Assam and in Medak District of Andhra Pradesh.

6. Guidelines for preparing environmental Atlas for siting of industries have been prepared and training programmes and workshops organised for State Pollution Control Boards for its implementation.

7. Pollution Awareness and Assistance Centre has been established.

8. Inventory of Ozone depleting substances have been completed.

9. Necessary hardware and software have been procured for getting information on CPCB Homepage (on Internet through NIC) - to know water and air quality status of India and eco-labelling products.

10. Studies relating to re-cycling of plastic waste has been completed.

11. Inventory of industrial estates in the State of Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Assam, Bihar, Haryana, Rajasthan, Delhi and Maharashtra have been completed.

(b) The details of the works of CPCB still going on are as under:

Surveillance of air and water quality, inventory of marine outfalls, pollution potential in ports and harbours, study of coastal fragile areas, Bio-monitoring of rivers, development of emission standards for petro chemical industries and pesticides manufacturing industry, preparation and implementation of Action Plan for "critically polluted problem areas", preparation of Zoning Atlas for industrial estate planning and siting of industries, solid waste management in agro-based industry, inventorisation of hazardous wastes and organising various mass awareness programmes.

(c) The year-wise amount spent on various works during last three years by CPCB is as under:

S. No.	Project Head	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
(Rupees in lakhs)				
1.	Pollution Assessment	61.0	39.15	258.19
2.	Laboratory Management	92.60	104.51	128.16
3.	Development of Ecomark and standards	31.47	28.85	21.02
4.	Training	6.51	8.54	5.84
5.	Information (Data Base) Management	32.31	19.79	70.35
6.	Pollution Control Enforcement	76.69	119.36	135.45
7.	Pollution Abatement Technology	32.09	10.15	27.52
8.	Mass awareness	37.50	43.55	23.70
9.	Hazardous Waste Management	0.01	2.49	4.83
TOTAL		373.00	376.39	675.00

Subsidy on Foodgrains and Sugar

*429. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria fixed by the Government to provide subsidy on the foodgrains and sugar;

(b) the objective thereof and the details of achievements made in this regard; and

(c) the amount provided as subsidy to the Food Corporation of India (FCI) during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) The Government pays to the Food Corporation of India the difference between the economic cost of foodgrains (wheat and rice) and their sale realisation as consumer subsidy. Carrying cost of buffer stocks is also reimbursed to the Corporation in the form of food subsidy.

Sugar is distributed through Public Distribution System (PDS) at a uniform retailer issue price throughout the country. The subsidy becomes payable as the retail issue price does not cover fully the ex-factory price of levy sugar, various taxes, cess and the distribution cost.

(b) The objectives of providing subsidy on foodgrains and sugar are to (i) protect the interests of the consumers at large, particularly the vulnerable sections of society, and (ii) protect the national interest by maintaining buffer stocks of foodgrains as a measure of National Food Security.

These objectives are met (i) by supplying foodgrains and sugar for the consumers, and (ii) by reimbursing the Carrying Cost of Buffer Stocks to the F.C.I.

(c) The amounts disbursed to F.C.I. as subsidy during the last three years were as under:-

(Amount in Rs. crores)		
Year (s)	Subsidy on Foodgrain	Subsidy on Sugar
1994-95	4509	591
1995-96	4960	382
1996-97	5166	834

[English]

Purchase of Sub-Standard Potassic Fertilisers

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