

National Security Council

4867. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of meetings of the National Security Council held till date since its inception;

(b) the reasons for non-functioning of NSC at present; and

(c) whether the NSC would be revived?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) The National Security Council has met only on one occasion on 5th October, 1990. The National Security Council was constituted on 24th August, 1990, with the Prime Minister as its Chairman. The Ministers of Defence, Finance, Home and External Affairs are Members of this Council. The main endeavour of the National Security Council is to evolve an integrated approach to policy making as it affects national security, taking into account the linkages between the evolving external situation in the political, military and economic fields and our domestic situation. Proposals and suggestions to restructure the National Security Council with a view to making it a more effective body for achieving the purposes for which it was constituted, are presently engaging the attention of Government.

National Agricultural Technology Project

4868. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research propose to launch a National Agricultural Technology Project to reinforce the farm research and education system for meeting the increasing food production needs of the country;

(b) if so, whether World Bank has also decided to provide about Rs. 800 crore support to the NATP aimed at increasing the agricultural productivity and profitability on a sustainable basis;

(c) if so, the details of the scheme launched by the ICAR; and

(d) the time by which this scheme is likely to be implemented?

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) Yes Sir.

(b) The pre-appraisal of the project by the World Bank is over. The pre-appraisal Mission has tentatively projected a sum of US\$ 249 million.

(c) the immediate objectives of the scheme are :

- Strengthen national capacity in research and extension management, policy planning, priority setting, monitoring and evaluation to meet current and emerging needs of agricultural development;

- Strengthen and/or establish infrastructural and institutional supports to ensure adequate facilities for undertaking desired research and technology development activities;

- Foster linkage mechanisms (i) between research, extension and client groups (ii) between technology and development-oriented departments, programmes, institutions (including NGOs), (iii) between public and private sector initiatives in technology generation, assessment, refinement and transfer, and (iv) to introduce innovative means to share research and extension costs and responsibilities;

- Maximize nation's capacity to effectively benefit from biotechnology and advances in other agro-biological sciences in a global context and develop first-rate international information retrieval and dissemination mechanisms and systems;

- Develop human resource, particularly in frontier areas of science and technology, management skills and technology assessment; and

- Formulate and initiate research and technology development based on programme and matrix approach in priority areas using systems concept so that the overall efficiency of the NARS is improved.

(d) The final appraisal of NATP by the World Bank is expected to be undertaken in July, 1997 and thereafter the project would be finally launched on a regular basis. However, under retroactive financing some of activities would be initiated even before July, 1997 once communication as expected from the World Bank is received.

More Funds for Security

4869. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA:
KUMARI UMA BHARATI :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to spend more amount this year to provide strict security to the Prime Minister, Ex-Prime Ministers and their near family members;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the excess amount proposed to be spent on their security this year in comparison to the previous year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) During 1996-97 an amount of Rs. 37.49 crores was spent by SPG on the security of Prime Minister, Ex-Prime Ministers and their family members. The estimated expenditure proposed to be incurred by SPG will be to the tune of Rs. 45.49 crores during 1997-98. There will thus be an increase of Rs. 8.10 crores in the expenditure to be incurred by SPG.

Export of Sugar to Indonesia

4870. SHRI UTTAM SINGH PAWAR : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of sugar targetted for export to Indonesia during the year 1996-97;

(b) the actual export so far to that country by Indian Sugar and General Industry Export-Import Corporation; and

(c) the reasons for not meeting the target fixed earlier?

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) to (c) No target has been fixed for export of sugar to Indonesia during the financial year 1996-97.

However, a quantity of 1,56,774.0 mts. of sugar has been exported to Indonesia by M/s. Indian Sugar & General Industry Export Import Corporation Ltd. during the financial year 1996-97.

Traffic Cops

4871. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had taken up a study under its "Aeroallergns and Human Health Aerobiological studies" programme in Bangalore city on the traffic cops;

(b) if so, the result of the said study; and

(c) the steps suggested to protect the traffic cops from abnormal lung functions related to Asthma.

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Ministry of Environment and Forests has sponsored an All India Coordinated Project on Aeroallergens and Human Health at twenty six centres in the country including one centre at Bangalore. Between December 5, 1996 and January 25, 1997, a survey was conducted on 1045 traffic policemen in Bangalore and two Peak Expiratory Flow Rate (PEFR) reading was recorded in case of 273 persons. Further studies are required to identify causative sources and to suggest prevention of respiratory problems/allergy.

[Translation]

Centrally Sponsored Schemes

4872. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV :
DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR :
SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH :
SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI :

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to transfer the schemes run by the Union Government to State Governments and Panchayati Raj;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) 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) to (c) The Approach Paper to the Ninth Plan (1997-2002) approved by the National Development Council in its meeting held on 16.01.1997 *inter alia* states that "the Centrally Sponsored Schemes should be confined to schemes on an inter-State character; matters impinging on national security selected national priorities where Central supervision is essential for effective implementation; and multi-State externally financed projects where Central coordination is necessary for operational reason. Except for such schemes, all other schemes should be transferred to States alongwith corresponding funds. The exact details of the schemes which can be so transferred would have to be worked out in consultation with the Central Ministries as well as State Governments so as not to cause any disruption in the field."

The exercise for implementing the proposal is presently underway in Planning Commission and the same will be incorporated in the Ninth Plan.

Death of CRPF and BSF Personnel

4873. DR. RAM LAKHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state: